



In the Borana zone of southern Ethiopia, people are having to walk long distances and queue for many hours with extra domestic labour hours for women and children to collect water. Limited operating water sources put them under considerable pressure resulting in increasingly frequent breakdowns, and raising tensions between competing communities. © ERCS

Appeal No: MDRET027	To be assisted: 500,000 people	Appeal launched: 29/03/2022
Glide No: DR-2022-000168-ETH	DREF allocated: 507,108 CHF¹	Disaster categorization: Orange
Operation start date: 02/03/2022	Operation end date: 28/02/2024	

IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: 8 Million CHF
Federation-wide funding requirement: 12.5 Million CHF





¹ Swiss francs



Drought conditions in southern Ethiopia have disproportionately impacted the lives of women and girls because they often bear the main responsibility for collecting water. They must travel further and spend more time collecting water, meaning that girls are unable to attend school and are also placed at greater risk of protection-related issues.

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TIMELINE

-  **10 February 2022:** The Somali Regional Government submits a request to ERCS appealing for support to respond to the drought.
-  **January 2022:** Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) conduct an in-depth assessment following the worsening of drought conditions in Somali region and in Borana and Moyale zones of Oromia region.
-  **1 March 2022:** IFRC released [507,108 Swiss francs from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) to support the ERCS response in Somali region, and Borana and Moyale zones of Oromia region.
-  **29 March 2022:** IFRC issues a [Federation-wide Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal](#) for 12.5 million Swiss francs to support 500,000 people in the worst affected zones of Oromia, Somalia and in Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) regions, for a period of 24 months.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

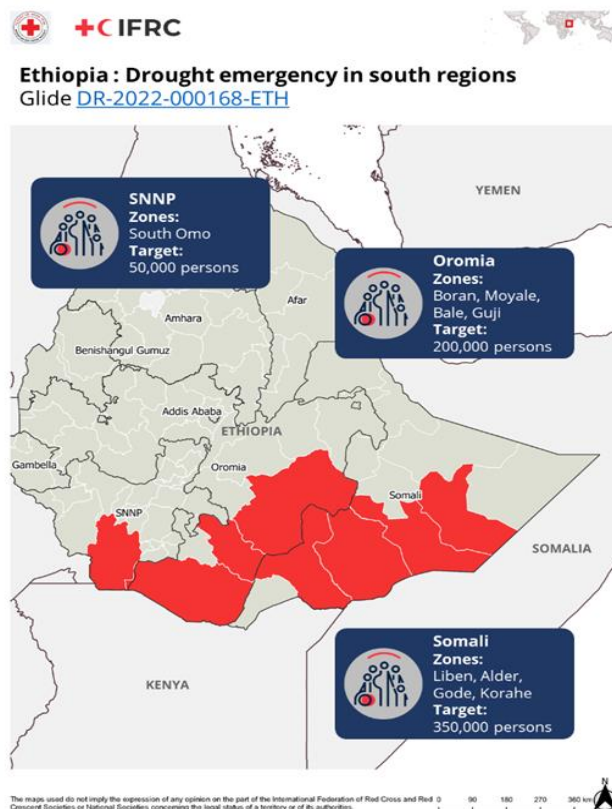
The Horn of Africa

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 rain season will bring further devastation to the lives of people who have already endured multiple climate disasters. Drought crises are unfortunately not a new event in the Horn of Africa, and similar situations have been happening with frequency – 2006, 2010 and again in 2016. In this last one, the international community was able to avert famine by investing strongly in the preparedness of communities, which played a major role in strengthening resilience and coping mechanisms in face of a serious drought. This was not the case in 2022, and most people are now bearing the consequences of the drought with exhausted coping strategies. Furthermore, given the constant population growth and the expansion of dry spells, the number of this crisis is impressive, with 14 million people in urgent need of support in the Horn of Africa, and acute malnutrition rates have increased, affecting 5.5 million children.

Intertwined with the drought, the sub-region was also 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 in 75 years in Kenya. This 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 food access due to concerning food production shortages, increases in staple food and water prices, and erosion of livelihoods, which in turn are driving an upsurge in food insecurity and malnutrition.

Finally, the Ukraine Crisis has had a major impact on the Horn of Africa. This is due to the high reliance on cereal imports from Ukraine and Russia, which have since been disrupted due to the conflict. Prices of staple foods are already going up, and it will only get worse, as this supply cannot easily be replaced.

While the sheer humanitarian needs are visible and must be addressed through life-saving



humanitarian support in the shortest time possible, there is a recognition that their drivers are deeply rooted in a larger climate-induced hunger crisis that requires a holistic and coordinated approach to build preparedness and resilience. Therefore, IFRC Emergency Appeals responding to the Horn of Africa hunger crisis (Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia) will transition into the IFRC-wide Zero Hunger Pan-Africa approach, which is designed to integrate emergency and early recovery assistance, alongside preparedness and resilience-building activities, in coordination with other humanitarian and cooperation stakeholders, and in support of government's existing policies to address the climate crisis and food insecurity.

In Ethiopia

People in Ethiopia have endured multiple crises in recent years, such as epidemics, locust infestations, civil unrest, and conflict in the north. In addition, COVID-19 has stopped the country's economy with a serious impact on the most vulnerable. The humanitarian situation and prevailing outlook remain of grave concern. Latest reports indicate that 23 million people in Ethiopia are now in need of humanitarian assistance across the country, due to the combined consequences of the different crisis.

Therefore, prior to the drought crisis, Ethiopia was already in a downward spiral.

The drought situation escalated in scale and impact during the first quarter of 2022, resulting in an unprecedented displacement of people and livestock in search of grasslands, and an increase in the number of livestock deaths due to diminishing health conditions, fatigue, lack of water, and long trekking distances.

Crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3) are widespread, with the worst drought-affected areas at emergency levels (IPC Phase 4) since February 2022.² The most affected regions are in the south of the country, including Somali (3 million people in need of assistance), South Oromia (2.8 million people), and SNNPR (1 million people). People living in these same areas barely managed to recover from the severe drought in 2017 only to endure once again harsh conditions, the first signs of which started appearing toward the end of 2020 and which then continued to worsen with the successive failed seasons in 2021. Household food security is extremely constrained as well now, as food production has dropped considerably, and staple food prices remain above the five-year average. And in addition to the pre-existing shocks, the crisis in Ukraine will mean disrupted supply chains of wheat to the Horn of Africa – a region highly dependent on imports from Russia and Ukraine – and even higher prices, which could have far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people who are already facing acute hunger.

Severity of humanitarian conditions

Compounding impacts of conflict, climatic shocks, devastating desert locust infestation, the continued economic consequences of COVID-19, and below-average rainfall, particularly in the south and south-eastern parts of the country, have led to a deterioration in food insecurity. Today, there are 23 million people in need of assistance in Ethiopia, and an estimated 6.8 million people across the country are now facing acute severe food insecurity, of which 600,000 people are experiencing catastrophic conditions.

² [IPC Acute Food Insecurity Classification](#)

³ The findings are extracted from ERCS and partners' assessment conducted in February 2022. The figures are exemplary of specific zones, districts or communities.

In other regions of the country, Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia, and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regions (SNNPR), violence has continued to flare up creating humanitarian needs.

In January 2022, the ERCS, with support from the IFRC and Red Cross and Red Crescent Partner National Societies (PNS), conducted a joint assessment in the most drought-affected areas of southern Ethiopia. The findings demonstrated the severity of the situation.³

1. Impact on accessibility, availability, quality, use and awareness of goods and services

Water reserves are completely depleted or nearly depleted, making access to water for household consumption extremely expensive, with an increase in the cost of more than 60 per cent reported in agro-pastoral livelihood zones. In the Somali region, 3.15 million people face water shortages and 2.28 million people need emergency water assistance. This is also making it impossible to maintain livestock, resulting in an increased number of livestock deaths, with 260,000 reported by January 2022, and over 2 million more animals at risk. In some *woredas*⁴, the severity of the drought is to the extent that all residents lost 90 per cent of their cattle due to lack of fodder, lack of water, and increased incidence of animal diseases.

The higher concentration of people and animals using the limited available water sources is also placing these sources under considerable pressure, resulting in frequent machinery breakdowns and increased servicing costs. Affected communities are not able to contribute to borehole maintenance costs, as they have lost income and animals have lost market value.

Food production losses are as high as 79 per cent with households increasingly relying on such coping strategies as reducing the number of daily meals and eating less preferred foods; limiting adult intake to prioritize children; borrowing food from friends and relatives, and livestock sale at a much lower price. Households are increasingly expressing grave concern over the lack of income for food and increased prices.

⁴ *Woredas*, or districts, are Ethiopia's third-level of administrative division.

2. Impact on physical and mental well-being

Malnutrition in children is a major concern in the affected areas now: out of 813,000 children screened, 14,000 had severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 137,000 had moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Similarly, out of the 222,000 pregnant and lactating women screened about 72,000, or 32 per cent, were suffering from some form of malnutrition.

Women and girls are affected most in this crisis because the burden of water collection, which they are primarily responsible for, has increased exponentially. In some communities, they are forced to walk for up to eight hours each day in search of water, with reports of women fainting on the way due to lack of water and food. And when they arrive they may still have to queue for up to 12 hours due to the severe shortage, which naturally increases the number of people in the queue. This has resulted in increased child labour and school dropouts, further compromising children's well-being.

3. Risks & vulnerabilities

Livestock herders and their families must trek long distances in search of water and appropriate

rangelands as a matter of course, which already heightens the potential for resource-induced conflict. Thus there are naturally increasing risks of inter-communal clashes around the control of water points, pasture and trade routes in this crisis.

Furthermore, hygiene and overall sanitation are seriously compromised, which is leading to localised disease outbreaks, while lack of water treatment was also observed in 60 per cent of the households visited.

Also, children's education has been disrupted due to the lack of water in schools and the halt of school feeding programmes. Children and adolescents are increasingly taking charge of the process of searching for food and water, which exposes them to protection risks.

Thus, if action is not taken on these issues there will be an overall steady increase in food insecurity and malnutrition levels, related opportunistic diseases, as well as increased exposure to epidemics.

CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

1. National Society response capacity

1.1 National Society capacity and ongoing response

Ethiopia Red Cross Society (ERCS) maintains equal, independent and neutral responsibility to reach all people in need in all parts of the country and has been called upon to respond in its capacity as an auxiliary to the Government. Immediate support to communities affected by the hunger crisis is part of its mandate, enshrined in the amended charter revised on 26 January 2018 for assisting people affected by natural disasters and conflict throughout the country. ERCS is a key national humanitarian actor and is present in all regions of Ethiopia through its network of 37 branches and 44,138 active volunteers, including 215 staff and volunteers trained in cash and voucher assistance, 5 million members, and 6,000 Red Cross committees at the community level.

At the National Headquarters, operations are led by the Deputy Secretary-General, and an experienced technical team in the disaster preparedness and response department. ERCS has 16 trained National Disaster Response Teams (NDRTs) and 229 Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRTs). Its auxiliary status ensures faster access and outreach to areas that are sensitive and where other humanitarian actors cannot easily access and reach. ERCS has been privileged by its local network, which fosters wide acceptance and reputation in the different communities and has not been constrained in terms of access across the entirety of affected regions of Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society is also one of the national societies in Africa prioritised under the Africa Red Ready Initiative and has continued to strengthen its preparedness with the support of partnership engagement with the Netherlands Red Cross Society through the Response Preparedness II programme focusing on the

development of the Early Warning/Early Action systems and the Innovative Approaches to Response Preparedness (IARP).

ERCS has previous experience in responding to complex emergencies as well, including drought. Past operations that have been supported by the IFRC through the DREF and Emergency Appeal, and ERCS has been responding to the drought in Oromia and Somali regions since January 2022, conducting assessments, followed by response interventions supported by an [allocation of 507,108 CHF from the DREF](#). This comes after another response to conflict-derived food insecurity in the Amhara region of Ethiopia, [also supported by the DREF](#) between August and December 2021. The appeal operation strategy is aligned to the regional government of Somali and Oromia response plans as well as the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) drought response plan and is therefore articulated to government priorities. The Movement drought assessment also relied upon secondary information from regional level integrated seasonal assessments conducted by the regional governments as well as from OCHA updates. The response is further coordinated with local governments at the grass root and country-level clusters with active Federation-wide participation in CVA and WASH clusters

1.2 Capacity and response at the national level

The Emergency Appeal is aligned with the Federal Government of Ethiopia's estimation of need and will focus operations and programming in the most drought-affected zones in southern Ethiopia: Oromia; Somali; and SNNPR regions.

ERCS coordinates with the **National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC)** in the planning and implementation of emergency response actions and is a member of the National Operations Centre. Through its regional and zonal branches, ERCS works with the Federal Government in the delivery of humanitarian services as well.

At the regional level, the drought response is led by the respective regional structure of the Federal Government, and for the Somali region, the regional government completed an assessment in November 2021, resulting in a response plan, with which this Emergency Appeal is synchronized.

The regional government has prioritised the following interventions:

- water trucking and access to safe, high-quality water
- basic household food needs to prevent malnutrition
- animal feed and fodder to save the livestock assets
- health needs

The government of the Somali region appealed to ERCS, through the NDRMC, to support the gaps in the joint response efforts in a letter dated 10th February 2022 ref. DRMB/1050/2014 and this was the initial trigger of the DREF, which later, due to the escalation of the situation and scope of needs, was upscaled to an Emergency Appeal. The national and regional coordination structures are active and a multi-agency approach is being applied in a complementary manner. The Government and partners are also now supporting the emergency phase of the response, including water trucking, cash interventions, food distribution, and fodder for the livestock. However, the gaps are still large and this Emergency Appeal intends to contribute to bridging this.

2. International capacity and response

2.1 Red Cross Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

IFRC and membership:

IFRC has a Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in Ethiopia that also covers Djibouti and is supported by the African Regional Office in Nairobi. The delegation has technical staffing including an Operations Manager, Senior Partnerships and Resource Development Advisor, and a Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) Officer. It also supports staff functions in the National Society, including an Operations Officer, Protection,

Gender and Inclusion (PGI) Coordinator, and Finance Officer. IFRC cluster provides technical support and capacity enhancement for the operations technical capacities through in-country technical staff and facilitation of surge delegates where necessary to ensure efficient, effective, and accountable implementation; A communication delegate (British Red Cross) is already deployed with a prospect for a CVA surge delegate. IFRC cluster In addition to technical support to ERCS across the response, the cluster expands its contribution to strategic coordination with in-country Participating National Societies, the ICRC, and external actors, and actively engages in humanitarian diplomacy and resource mobilization efforts underpinning the response. The IFRC Regional office operates as a platform for operational coordination and support services including finance, PMER, risk management, HR, logistics, communication, and resource mobilization

Red Cross Red Crescent Participating National Societies (PNSs) are an integral part of the response to the drought in Ethiopia. and are expected to contribute either bilaterally or multilaterally under a Federation-Wide approach. There are several PNS present in the country, that support various operational areas across the country, including through the pre-existing Federation-wide Emergency Appeal on *Ethiopia Crisis and its Humanitarian Consequences Emergency* as coordinated by IFRC and targeting other parts of Ethiopia (as well as Sudan and Djibouti) affected by the Tigray Crisis and which are not covered by this drought operation. The in-country PNSs include the Austrian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross Society, and Swiss Red Cross. The British and Canadian Red Cross are remote, active partners to ERCS and work in cooperation with the IFRC and other PNSs.

The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation in Addis Ababa and five sub-delegations, Gondar, Jigjiga, Mekelle, Nekemte, and Shire. In addition to its specific operations, it supports ERCS in different regions of the country through its annual Cooperation Programme. In response to the drought, ICRC has complemented its livestock vaccination programme with the provision of animal feed for 20,000 vulnerable households.

2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholder capacity and response

ERCS is part of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). It is represented in clusters and participates in inter-agency working group meetings for various sectors including Cash, Food Security, Nutrition, ES/NFI, Protection, and Education. It works with NHQ and at regional levels, works as well as with the NDRMC, and has led a national early warning task force and Cash Working Group. ERCS participation in HCT, cluster system, and a working group is supported by IFRC and Red Cross Red Crescent partner focal points at technical and strategic levels In particular, the National Society is active with complimentary participation in WASH cluster co-attended by Netherlands Red Cross, and Austrian Red Cross; the Cash working group is co-attended by IFRC and Swiss RC, the Protection cluster by Danish RC

The humanitarian country team structure in Ethiopia is covering all coordinating bodies due to the protracted multi-hazard crisis in the country. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), and the Government through the NDRM co-lead the overall in-country coordination.

Multiple other international organizations are active in the response to the drought as well, and coordination by the regional government is very robust. All clusters are activated and their regional governments have developed a drought response plan which has informed IFRC Emergency Appeal.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is a major partner of the Government in this operation as well. It carries out both relief and resilience interventions through cash and food aid modalities, and these are scaled up during the drought. ERCS has partnerships with other UN organizations in emergencies as well (some of which may not be specific to the drought) including UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and also with non-UN organizations including Save the Children. These organizations have supported ERCS in operations including in northern Ethiopia (Afar, Amhara, and Tigray) and for COVID-19, as well as in recovery programmes in Benishangul-Gumuz and SNNP regions. These partnerships also offer potential support to ERCS in the drought response.

3. Gaps in the response

Sector	Analysis
Livelihoods	<p>Assessment findings have indicated that access to food is a priority. FEWS NET places most parts of the southern regions of Somali, SNNPR, and the southern Oromia region in IPC 4.</p> <p>Household food access is expected to remain constrained as staple food prices continue to increase, and livestock selling prices, the main income for agro-pastoralist households, remain low.</p> <p>As a result, food insecurity will continue to persist and likely worsen with the poor March-to-May season being observed. Households are also likely to increase consumption-based coping strategies like reducing the number of daily meals, eating less preferred foods, limiting adult intake so that children can have more, borrowing food from friends and relatives, and sale of more livestock than normal. Critical nutrition outcomes will persist in children under five years of age, pregnant and lactating mothers, and the elderly, who are the most vulnerable. The current regional response plan appeals for immediate food relief for affected populations and the numbers are progressively increasing as the drought grows and more populations lose pastoral livelihoods.</p> <p>The lack of pasture and sufficient water points for livestock is also resulting in emaciated animals, exhaustion, and eventual death. Those herders with large stocks are making all efforts to sustain them, including migrating in search of new grasslands. But given the long distances, this increases exhaustion for already weak animals. Herders with small stocks are just trying to feed their animals, sometimes sharing with them what the family had for their domestic sustenance, another desperate response that compromises the family's nutrition.</p>
Health & Care	<p>The drought has had a direct effect on the health sector as well, with some facilities completely closed due to lack of water and migration of the original population in search of water and pasture, as cited by the Somali regional seasonal assessment. Water scarcity also increases the risk of, and susceptibility to, several water-borne diseases like cholera, acute watery diarrhea (AWD), and scabies.</p> <p>Ailments related to malnutrition are another threat. Drivers of acute malnutrition include reduced livestock productivity, reduced milk consumption, poor infant and young child feeding practices (IYCF), poor hygiene and sanitation, stock-outs for essential therapeutics in the management of acute malnutrition, and other morbidities.</p> <p>A nutritional screening conducted by the Regional Health Bureau across Somali Region in December 2021 revealed a proxy Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 18 per cent higher than the global threshold of 15 per cent. Some 225,000 malnourished children, and over 100,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women, in Somali and Oromia currently need nutrition support according to UNICEF.</p>
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	<p>The failure of the last three rainy seasons has resulted in extreme water shortage, migration of pastoral communities, and widespread reliance on water trucking. High-water prices have been reported in most pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihood zones. With the movement of livestock to strategic water points and limited access to productive land for farming and grazing, there are also increasing local tensions, which could trigger further inter-communal conflict as a result of inward migration</p>

	<p>and competition for pasture and water. The cost of water has increased 60 per cent in some areas, and in general people must now go further to find water.</p> <p>The regional inter-agency assessment report states that 2,279,609 people now face constrained access to water and water trucking is now needed in 657 sites across 86 <i>woredas</i> in the Somali region. Water shortages are also impacting community services, including health facilities, leading to closures, which further exacerbates the well-being of the affected population.</p> <p>The few sustainable water sources that exist are now under immense pressure from the inward migration of people and livestock as other sources are depleted. This results in increased running hours for borehole pumps hence frequent breakdown and high cost of maintenance. There is thus an urgent need to support and maintain the operation of these particular sources.</p>
<p>Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)</p>	<p>Women and girls in areas affected by drought face the risk of multiple forms of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), intimate partner violence, and forced marriages. Other vulnerable groups include people living with HIV, people living with disabilities, children, and pregnant and lactating mothers, among others. The drought has also placed an additional burden on women in terms of responsibilities around household food consumption, water collection, and household care responsibilities, which exposes them to greater risks.</p> <p>Older men and women must now cover greater distances to find food, firewood, and water for themselves and their families as well. With entire communities affected, traditional support networks are unable to cope, and older people and those with disabilities are left isolated and in need, causing great emotional distress.</p> <p>In many cases, children and adolescents have had to drop out of school and engage in informal labour to support the household in search of food.</p>
<p>Risk reduction, climate adaptation, and recovery</p>	<p>Climate change and other environmental issues such as deforestation, soil erosion and land degradation also cause both flooding and drought that are frequent and cyclical, increasing the vulnerability of populations and compromising rural livelihoods and the general household economy.</p> <p>These affected communities lack adequate awareness to connect the effects of drought to the causal hazard, which is the influence of climate change. Communities fail to see their role in deforestation and soil erosion and thus fail to diversify and manage their assets in a climate-smart way. The assessments also showed that there is no adequate early warning mechanism within these affected communities for the hazards that frequently impact their livelihood.</p> <p>There is thus a clear overall need to mobilize communities, build their capacities, engage them as agents of transformation and build more climate-resilient and sustainable livelihoods. Linking this kind of resilience-building initiative to the humanitarian response is critical to breaking this cycle of vulnerability.</p>

OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

Potential constraint	Analysis	Mitigation
Funding coverage	<p>In Southern Ethiopia, the situation is increasingly dire, with considerable humanitarian needs. With initial resources nearly depleted, the crisis has become life-threatening for millions of people.</p> <p>The IFRC Emergency Appeal will create expectations for the provision of humanitarian services. Considering the experience of underfunding in the preceding crises, and other competing emerging global crises, lack of funding might potentially limit the scope of operations.</p>	<p>Increase communication, humanitarian diplomacy, partnership, and resource mobilization, including in-country, non-traditional donors.</p> <p>Engage communities and authorities to provide feedback on the community over expectations, assumptions, and relative reputation risks.</p>
Branch capacity	<p>The Somali region is served by one ERCS branch in a geographical area of 328,068 km². This vastness makes reach difficult, especially in this case, where the region is affected equally. Moyale Branch, which also covers the affected zones of the Oromia region, is distant from both the regional centre and headquarters.</p>	<p>The National Society will strengthen the ERCS Godey sub-branch with response capacities.</p> <p>IFRC has supported the Moyale branch through previous operations, including office equipment. But currently operational and technical capacities will be supported more through this Emergency Appeal. Moyale branch will then support the neighboring population in both Somali and Oromia regions.</p>
Logistics and terrain	<p>The coverage area in all affected regions is vast, with rough terrain and limited communication infrastructure. The logistical requirement is large both for the delivery of supplies and for personnel movement. This will put pressure on ERCS branches involved in the response.</p>	<p>The National Society will consider the deployment of an additional fleet to the implementing branches to cope with the additional caseload and ensure the efficiency of response.</p>
Access to CVA service providers	<p>In most cases, financial service providers (FSPs) are distant, usually only in major town centres, which limits access to pastoral communities, who have challenges practicing fixed financial arrangements.</p>	<p>ERCS will assess the situation and adapt flexibly. It will work with its current service provider, Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, to diversify delivery mechanisms to suit situations.</p> <p>The National Society will also consider procuring alternative feasible service providers should the situation require, to ensure that access to service is not compromised.</p>

FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

The Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-wide approach based on the priorities of the operating National Society and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The Operational Strategy ensures linkages between all activities, including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically, and assists to leverage the capacities of all members of the Federation in the country, to maximize the collective humanitarian impact.

From 1 February 2022, a Federation-wide emergency operation coordination forum was activated for the drought response, appointed by the Movement emergency coordination committee. This comprised technical delegates from IFRC, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross Society, and Swiss Red Cross, and was led by the ERCS Director of Disaster Risk Management (DRM). The team was dispatched to conduct in-depth assessments in the Oromia, Somali and SNNP regions, with findings used to inform this Operational Strategy.

The Emergency Appeal also includes all PNS present in Southern Ethiopia. It builds on their expertise, capacities, and resources as active members in the targeted areas, and supports ERCS. The Federation-wide funding requirement for this Emergency Appeal comprises all support and funding to be channeled to the Operating National Society in the response to the drought. This includes the operating National Society's domestic fundraising requirement of 500,000 Swiss francs, the fundraising requirement for supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies of 4 million Swiss francs, and the fundraising requirement of the IFRC Secretariat of 8 million Swiss francs.

ERCS and PNSs have activated their internal coordination and engagement mechanisms at technical and operational levels for the design of the Federation-wide emergency appeal as well as for the planning, monitoring, and reporting processes. To date, the Federation-wide response has mobilised more than 1.3 million Swiss francs, reaching 59,100 people (11,820 households) as per the below table. **All current PNS interventions are focused on Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) through multipurpose cash delivered through the current ERCS CVA -FSP structure and modalities.**

Partners	Households assisted	Target Districts	People assisted	Total value CHF ⁵
Ethiopian Red Cross	2,970	Fafan and Moyale zone of Somali region, Bale and Moyale zones, Oromia Region	14,850	228,624
German Red Cross	2,500	Moyale zone, Somali region, and Moyale zone, Oromia region	12,500	276,150
IFRC	3,000	Shabelle zone, Somali region, and Boran zone, Oromia region	15,000	507,108
Netherlands Red Cross	2,350	Fafan zone, Somali region, and Guji in Oromia	11,750	259,581
Swiss Red Cross	1,000	Moyale zone, Somali region, and Moyale zone, Oromia region	5,000	110,460
Total	11,820		59,100	1,381,923

Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) structures are in place and being implemented in Ethiopia with the central role given to the ERCS and active participation of representatives from IFRC, ICRC, and in-country PNSs. Strategic and operational meetings are held regularly to plan and coordinate Movement

⁵ Swiss francs

support to ERCS's emergency response operations and longer-term programming. This structure will be used for coordinated planning and interventions under this Emergency Appeal, to ensure effective articulation of partner support to ERCS as well as strategic complementarity in Movement resource mobilization to collectively respond to the needs of vulnerable people and communities affected by the Hunger Crisis in Southern Ethiopia.

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Vision

The IFRC is launching this Emergency Appeal to mobilise resources for ERCS to expand immediate humanitarian assistance to 500,000 of the most affected people in this crisis, specifically targeting 200,000 in Southern Ethiopia for 24 months with early recovery and climate adaptation support. A multi-sectoral approach combining immediate humanitarian, recovery and resilience-building initiatives will assist communities to adapt to evolving climate and environmental conditions, in line with IFRC's Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative.

Anticipated climate-related risks and adaptation

This Operational Strategy considers both immediate and medium-term strategies in the event of prolonged dry periods and failure of the next rainy season, leading to exacerbation of drought conditions. In the immediate term, life-saving interventions aimed at meeting basic needs will be prioritised, and in the medium-term climate adaptation and resilience interventions will be emphasised.

ERCS, in partnership with IFRC, will also liaise with the [Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre](#) and local actors to establish early action protocols for drought, which will ensure continuous monitoring and early warning mechanisms, will strengthen readiness and risk reduction and will support contingency planning processes. Climate-smart and environmentally sustainable activities will also be prioritised, while efforts will be made to create awareness and support initiatives that reduce future climate risks and allow communities to adapt to existing climate change, in line with the current ERCS strategic plan 2020-2025, the IFRC Pan-African Tree Planting and Care Initiative 2021-2030 and the global IFRC concept of Green Response.

Priority initiatives to be supported to reduce impacts on the environment and adapt to climate change will include:

- conduct tree-planting initiatives especially in areas of deforestation, specifically fruit trees, and erosion control tree cover to be advocated and prioritised;
- mainstream messaging on environmental conservation, balanced use of natural resources, and peaceful coexistence in awareness-raising activities at the community level;
- support community-based risk reduction initiatives; and
- conduct community greening activities, such as the growing of kitchen gardens, which can also improve nutrition and food security outcomes.

Sustainability and linkages to longer-term programming

This strategy is aligned with the IFRC-wide Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative, which 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 to achieve zero hunger and more sustainable development.

Through this Emergency 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 will be articulated in proposals for longer-term funding requirements and implemented in coordination with this Appeal, to maximise the impact of funds available for the emergency through this Appeal and long-term resilience programming.

Through this Appeal, ERCS will engage relevant Government and development partners to prioritise longer-term resilience activities within existing programmes. This response is aligned with the Ethiopian Government's

policies and strategies to address climate change, such as the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) and its Climate Resilient Strategy, which highlight options for building resilience in agriculture and forestry. Livelihood protection and adaptation activities supported by this Appeal will consider the goals set out in the Productive Safety Net Programme⁶, which guides expanding mitigation actions for drought impacts and for alleviating food insecurity.

Targeting

1. People to be assisted

The Emergency Appeal is aligned with the Federal Government of Ethiopia's estimation of need and will focus operations and programming in the most affected zones in Southern Ethiopia: Oromia, Somali and SNNP regions. The geographic and household targeting is based on the findings of the joint assessment carried out by ERCS, IFRC, and Red Cross Red Crescent partners, and on discussions held with authorities and local communities regarding geographic locations and sectoral interventions. It also considers the specificities of the southern Ethiopia context, namely vulnerable households whose income is dependent on farming and livestock with no alternative coping mechanisms, or who have exhausted their resources.



It should be noted that the geographic coverage of this Emergency Appeal does not overlap with other IFRC-supported operations, namely the [Ethiopia Crisis and its Humanitarian Consequences Emergency Appeal](#) (formerly called the Tigray Crisis Population Movement Appeal), as most of the interventions of that Emergency Appeal are in the Afar and Amhara regions, not in Southern Ethiopia and the specific target zones of this drought operation.

Targeting will be guided by needs and by applicable humanitarian standards, with attention to community customs and traditions. Combined criteria will be applied in the targeting including levels of vulnerability, food insecurity, and coping capacities including income sources. Social parameters will equally be considered. The IFRC's Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach, as well as protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) standards, will help further refine the targeting methodology, with attention to particularly vulnerable and/or most-at-risk groups, including:

- extended households with pregnant and lactating mothers and/or children under age five;
- households nursing older people, and/or people living with HIV/AIDS or other chronic conditions;
- children or adolescent-headed households;
- households with specific social protection needs;
- people with disabilities; and
- households internally displaced due to the drought.

2. Considerations for protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI):

During emergencies women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities are the most affected and are exposed to potential protection risks including sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), trafficking, sexual exploitation, and abuse. Acknowledging that women, girls, men, and boys with diverse ages, disabilities, and backgrounds have different needs, risks, and coping strategies, ERCS will mainstream PGI throughout the


⁶ PSNP increased ability of Ethiopian institutions and communities to react to the signs of drought in 2015, significantly reducing exposure and vulnerability. Ethiopia Drought Risk, 2021 – United Nations University


response to ensure communities' dignity, access, participation, and safety and will provide for specific attention to these vulnerable groups throughout the response.

Response teams will be comprised of both male and female staff and volunteers, and the operation will ensure the promotion and participation of men and women of different age groups and diverse backgrounds through orientation and consultation. During the initial and in-depth needs assessment, specific questions to capture data and information on PGI needs will be incorporated into the assessment tools, and sex, age, and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analyzed, informing the emergency response. A continuous dialogue among the different stakeholders will be continued, to ensure that programmes mainstream the Dignity, Access, Participation, and Safety (DAPS) approach relevant to the needs and priorities of humanitarian imperatives on the ground.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

 Multi-purpose cash	Female > 18: 52,500	Female < 18: 52,000	4,730,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 52,500	Male < 18: 52,500	Total target: 210,000
Objective:	Ensure access to food and other basic needs through the provision of multipurpose cash grants to households		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 42,000 households reached with a multi-purpose cash grant. Multipurpose cash transfers (and/or vouchers) will be used as a short-term safety net approach to deliver this strategy and act as a short-term buffer against the multiple shocks faced by affected populations. <p>Multi-purpose cash and voucher programmes will be informed by cash feasibility studies, and market assessments; as well as coordination with cash working groups, and other actors to determine the MEB. Post-distribution monitoring will be conducted after each disbursement. Financial assistance will be disbursed through a contracted financial service provider (FSP). ERCS has an existing service agreement with the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia. ERCS during the drought assessment has integrated cash feasibility and market assessments and confirmed that the cash mechanism was feasible, and markets were functional. However, the assessment did not do a household needs assessment to determine the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) and the National Society will carry out a sample assessment to determine the MEB and or harmonise it with existing, adopted cash working group transfer values.</p>		


 Livelihoods	Female > 18: 8,200	Female < 18: 8,200	1,639,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 8,200	Male < 18: 8,200	Total target: 41,000
Objective:	Communities affected by disaster and crisis are provided with assistance to recover or strengthen their livelihoods and improve their food security		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,000 farmers/households (25,000 people) provided with livelihoods recovery assistance. Livelihood programming will be informed by in-depth recovery and market assessments, as well as coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, and Regional Bureaus of Agriculture, to determine the modality of support – either the in-kind distribution of seeds, tools, and fertilisers and/or disbursement of conditional cash grants if the market functionality is suitable. Post-harvest assessments will be carried out to determine output. • 1,000 farmers, or 10 irrigation farming groups, supported by irrigation schemes. This intervention will target farmers who are carrying out irrigated agriculture in permanent rivers to increase output. This intervention will be informed by in-depth recovery and market assessments, as well as coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, and Regional Bureaus of Agriculture. • 1,000 pastoral households (5,000 people) provided with a stock of 5 milking goats each. Beneficiary targeting will be conducted through the criteria defined by the operation in discussion and participation of the community. Procurement will be done by a contracted agent. Distribution will be carried out by ERCS staff and volunteers and community committees. • 10,000 farmers trained in agricultural production. Targeted farmers will receive skills and vocational training based on their selected livelihoods and income generation preference. This skill training will be conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture extension workers. The training modality will be through practical field training modalities. 		

HEALTH & CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

(MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT / COMMUNITY HEALTH)

 Health & Care <i>Mental Health and Psychosocial Support / Community Health / Medical Services</i>	Female > 18: 75,000	Female < 18: 75,000	77,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 75,000	Male < 18: 75,000	Total target: 300,000

Objective:	The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced through integrated health services
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300,000 people reached with community-based disease control and health promotion. Through trained volunteers, ERCS will conduct mass awareness to promote preventive health and vaccine uptake. Volunteers will use different Risk communication and community education(RCCE) approaches to reach large numbers. • 20,000 mothers will be trained, and capacity supported in infant and young child feeding practices (IYCF). This will ensure behaviour and practice change to ensure best practices including optimal breastfeeding to improve child nutrition. • 1,000,000 sachets of oral rehydration salts (ORS) will be distributed to referral facilities. The operation to support the referral mechanism will support the referral facilities with ORS, other rehydration fluids, and infusion sets. The national society will do central procurement and supply the kits. • 100,000 people will be reached with integrated emergency health services: This service includes Community-based Health & First Aid (CBHFA), Risk Communication & Community Engagement, First Aid, and psychosocial support (PSS). Volunteers will carry out activities using individual and group approaches depending on the need.


 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	Female > 18: 125,000	Female < 18: 125,000	360,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 125,000	Male < 18: 125,000	Total target: 500,000
Objective:	Communities affected by disaster and crisis have increased access to appropriate and sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene services		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200,000 people are provided with access to safe drinking water that meets Sphere and WHO standards in quantity and quality. The operation will carry out emergency interventions through emergency water trucking and distribution of household water treatment products and storage containers; as well as the provision of durable solutions such as pipeline and well rehabilitation, with help building infrastructure to support recovery. Water treatment and testing will be conducted by trained volunteers at the source, storage, and household levels. The operation will also train water committees in the management of water supplies and the operation/maintenance of infrastructure to build sustainability. • 40,000 households provided with water treatment chemicals/filters; training on their use: Trained volunteers 		

will carry out distribution and train target households in the use of water storage, water filters, and/or water treatment (aqua tabs) through household and public sessions.


- **20,000 Households (100,000 people) provided with Emergency WASH materials:** including items such as hand sanitizer, body soap, shampoo, water storage containers, and treatment chemicals. These will be distributed alongside other items from other sectors (Shelter and PGI) as a consolidated package of support, with a demonstration of proper use provided at the point of distribution.
- **100,000 households provided with hygiene promotion to support reduction in the risk of waterborne and water-related diseases:** Initial needs assessments will be conducted to define hygiene issues and assess the capacity to address the problem. This will result in hygiene communication plans, which will be implemented by volunteers. There will also be involvement of the affected population including their participation in environmental clean-up and waste management campaigns.
- **10,000 households educated on community-level household sanitation and waste disposal practices.** Support removal of the carcasses of livestock that died near water points and homesteads. Sensitise communities through CLTS approaches to promote the construction of household toilets to enhance sanitation.
- **500,000 people will be reached with integrated wash activities** including hygiene promotion and water treatment. These will be cascaded activities that will be carried out by multi-skilled volunteers at the community level.
- **WASH assessments conducted: (Target 3 communities).** A relative sample of one community per region where the community refers to the geographical area; the operation will conduct an integrated initial assessment at the start, and a second after 18 months, in the sector, for WASH, in targeted communities, to determine needs and modality of service.

PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

PGI, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION, RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RECOVERY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION

	Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)	Female > 18: 125,000	Female < 18: 125,000	67,000 CHF
		Male > 18: 125,000	Male < 18: 125,000	Total target: 500,000
Objective:		Communities affected by disaster and crisis become more peaceful, safe and inclusive through the provision of		

	services that meet the needs and rights of the most vulnerable
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10,000 individuals provided with dignity kits including items such as soap, sanitary pads, panties, toothbrushes and toothpaste, torch, etc. Initial needs assessments will define the targeting of individuals with specific needs. This will categorically target women and adolescent girls • Distribution of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials related to child safeguarding, Prevention against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and prevention and response to SGBV; will be translated into local languages and distributed. • Assessments conducted on the specific needs of the affected population based on criteria from the IFRC PGI Minimum Standards and toolkit to understand and respond to individuals and groups, based on their specific risks, needs, and concerns, which will inform the adaptation of operational strategies as needed. Special consideration will also be given to integrating measures for child safeguarding including piloting the child safeguarding risk analysis; prevention and response to SGBV including PSEA and situations of trafficking. • Collect and analyse Sex, age, and disability disaggregated data (SADDD). Establish protocols to ensure data protection and individual confidentiality; this will include coordination with Community Engagement and Accountability sector in sensitively handling complaints and information.

 Community Engagement and Accountability	Female > 18: 125,000	Female < 18: 125,000	Integrated across planned operations
	Male > 18: 125,000	Male < 18: 125,000	Total target: 500,000
Objective:	Adopt standardised approaches for community engagement and accountability – including the collection of community feedback to understand their perspectives, as well as promote their participation in decision-making, and implementation of the response		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct periodic contextual assessments that include questions about preferred channels of communication, information consumption habits, needs, and preferences for raising complaints and asking questions. This data will be used to inform CEA strategies within the response. Perception surveys and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) will also be conducted to obtain feedback on the assistance provided and the level of satisfaction and will inform the continual adaptation of activities as needed. • Engagement and involvement of all stakeholders, especially the affected communities, through close 		

consultation throughout the response, and conducting regular surveys with communities to assess their views and satisfaction with the services provided and adapt the response accordingly. CEA will be integrated into all sectors.

- **Establish mechanisms to ensure two-way feedback**, such as toll-free phone lines or any other customised mechanism, so that information can be shared with the affected population on the assistance being provided, selection criteria, and distribution processes, and to register complaints/feedback. Community feedback and assessment information will be used to guide the adaptation of the response based on the evolving situation and priority needs; as well as inform strategies focused on putting in place longer-term durable solutions as funding allows.
- **Working with a diverse community group**, committees, and representatives elected by the community will serve as additional alternatives for engagement.



Risk reduction, climate adaptation, and recovery

Female > 18: 50,000	Female < 18: 50,000	127,000 CHF
Male > 18: 50,000	Male < 18: 50,000	Total target: 200,000

Objective:

Communities in disaster and crisis-affected areas adopt climate risk-informed and environmentally responsible values and practices and are better prepared to respond to disasters

Priority actions:


Sustainability and linkages to longer-term resilience programming to 200,000 people. This strategy is aligned with the IFRC-wide Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative, which 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 toward zero hunger and more sustainable development. Through this Emergency 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 Ethiopia plan and will lead to proposals for longer-term funding requirements, to maximise the impact of funds available for the emergency through this Appeal and long-term recovery and resilience programming. This response is aligned with the Federal Government's policies and strategies to address climate change, such as the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) and its Climate Resilient Strategy, which highlight options for building resilience in agriculture and forestry. Livelihood protection and

adaptation activities supported by this Appeal will consider the goals set out in the Productive Safety Net Programme⁷, which guides expanding mitigation actions for drought impacts and for alleviating food insecurity.

- **Mobilization of communities to conduct community-based risk reduction targeting 200,000 people**, supporting community resilience through the identification of risks and mitigation/plans of action for disaster risk reduction (DRR) by conducting community-led vulnerability and capacity risk assessments. Households will be able to make their livelihoods and food production more resilient by identifying prevalent risks and taking advantage of mitigation strategies. Supporting communities with risk mapping, holistic monitoring, and integrated analysis of agriculture and livelihood indicators. Implementing risk reduction technologies and practices with communities that will enhance food security e.g., crop breeding and seed production, conservation agriculture, fodder conservation, and adjustment of cropping calendars. Emphasis would also be on initiatives that are 'climate-smart', factoring in the risks of future climate change, and can also improve overall environmental sustainability in line with the IFRC Green Response concept. Reforestation activities and the development of kitchen gardens are two 'green' options that can also improve food security and resilience. Efforts to improve community awareness of environmental issues and climate change; and their link to livelihoods, health, and well-being will also be integrated.
- **Awareness of/engagement in micro activities and community messaging:** Communities will be provided with targeted messaging to build their information level, knowledge, and practice toward environmental conservation, climate hazards, and social and economic practices including smart agriculture practices and building resilience to frequent hazards. Tree planting, especially fruit trees, and trees to prevent soil erosion, household gardening and any other micro-community activities that reduce hazards will be supported.

⁷ PSNP increased ability of Ethiopian institutions and communities to react to the signs of drought in 2015, significantly reducing exposure and vulnerability. Ethiopia Drought Risk, 2021 – United Nations University

Enabling approaches

 National Society Strengthening	Female > 18: NA	Female < 18: NA	448,000 CHF
	Male > 18: NA	Male < 18: NA	Total target: NA
Objective:	Ensure that National Societies have the capacities and resources required to deliver and sustain humanitarian assistance to communities affected by disaster and crisis		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Society preparedness, readiness, and response capacity: Programming implemented in multiple operational areas will be complemented and contextualised based on emergency needs that have arisen from the current crisis; lessons learned from previous operations and preparedness initiatives will also be considered. National Society Preparedness for Emergency response (PER) includes branch readiness check and strengthening supply chain management, fleet procurement (trucks and vehicles), pre-positioning of stocks, and security risk management. This includes strengthening the capacity of the EOC through the installation of connected facilities in regions supported through the Emergency Appeal. • Supporting National Society readiness: Supporting organizational contingency planning response and coordination planning with national and regional authorities and stakeholders. • Capacity strengthening of four strategically located branches in drought-affected regions to build their readiness capacity: The target branches are the Somali branch, Gothey sub-branch, Moyale branch, Borana branch, Guji branch, and Bale branch. The package could include executing and preparing for effective response (PER)/branch organisational capacity assessment (PER/BOCA) Workplan activities, contingency planning, installation of rubble halls, pre-positioning of stocks, and activities around bridging the digital divide through the improvement of communication infrastructure (HF, VHF, etc.), logistics, CEA/PGI mainstreaming, as well as capacity strengthening of Branch Disaster Response Team (BDRT) and Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) through support with equipment and refresher training. • Volunteer training: Volunteers will be trained in thematic sector skills to support the delivery of the operation strategy. The following training will be supported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 200 volunteers will be mobilised and trained on cash and voucher assistance programming (adapted modules from the Cash in Emergencies Toolkit). ○ 300 volunteers trained in integrated health skills: community-based health and first AID ((CBHFA9, Basic first aid (B9FA, Risk communication and community education (RCCE), psycho-social support(PSS). The trained volunteers will be deployed to the operation, to 		

cascade knowledge and awareness for good practices and behaviour change among target communities.

- o **300 volunteers will be trained** on MUAC screening, assessment of dehydration symptoms, and referral pathways advisory. The trained volunteers will deploy in the operation areas and among target communities to carry out surveillance screening, awareness, and referral. They will strengthen community screening approaches through capacity and skills transfer to target communities.
- o **5,000 first aid kits supplied:** The operation will strengthen the emergency health capacity of the branches. This will ensure preparedness and readiness to respond to current and eventual emergencies.
- o **300 volunteers will be mobilised and trained in integrated WASH skills:** Household water quality and testing, Emergency WASH and hygiene promotion, and essential WASH kits. Volunteers will be deployed to cascade integrated WASH activities to influence behaviour change.
- o **100 volunteers mobilised and trained on PGI Minimum Standards:** (including refreshers) with a practical emphasis on practical application standards (Dignity, Access, Participation, and Safety), and concepts related to basic child protection and safeguarding, SGBV, including safe and dignified referral, and Psychological First Aid.
- o **100 volunteers and staff involved in the operation to receive briefings on PSEA and Code of Conduct,** and they sign it.
- o **300 volunteers and staff mobilised, trained, and deployed on minimum CEA actions:** Volunteers will be trained on adapted modules from the CEA Guide (including refreshers). Volunteers will be engaged during the implementation of the response, including identification and household registration, information sharing regarding response activities, coordination with local FSPs, and collecting feedback from community members regarding the assistance.



Coordination and Partnerships

Female > 18: **NA**

Female < 18: **NA**

552,000 CHF

Male > 18: **NA**

Male < 18: **NA**

Total target: **NA**

Objective:

Ensure that the response is coordinated with members under the Federation-wide approach; with the ICRC and external partners including respective regional governments, and other humanitarian stakeholders (UN and INGOs).

Priority actions:

- **Coordination of the response through a Federation-Wide approach:** The IFRC secretariat will act per its role to coordinate and support the response under the Federation-wide approach. This will include the implementation of Federation-wide tools – Federation-wide Picture, Indicator Tracking Table, and reporting to support the positioning of the IFRC and members in the response; as well as promote external engagement and visibility, which will inform the operation strategy, updates, and revisions.
- **Strengthening Movement Cooperation and Membership Coordination:** The host National Society, IFRC, member National Societies, and ICRC will coordinate via established Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) mechanisms. These are comprised of the Movement Platform, Movement Operations Committee, and Technical Committees, which provide mechanisms for Red Cross and Red Crescent planning, and coordination. and information sharing.
- **Strategic partnerships, communication, and humanitarian diplomacy:** The IFRC, ICRC and host National Societies have agreed on country communication guidelines, which define rules of engagement among Movement partners for external engagement and visibility. Through this operation, there will be enhanced efforts to:
 - engage with donors and diplomatic missions, and position the Red Cross and Red Crescent with the United Nations and other stakeholders in the response;
 - participate in relative sector clusters at all levels and establish modalities to work with governments in the regions involved to link the response with existing government-led response mechanisms for climate and drought, social safety nets, and food security; and
 - implement communication strategies aimed at generating content on the Hunger Crisis in Ethiopia and inform advocacy and campaign messaging to drive resource mobilisation for the operation.



IFRC Secretariat Services

Female > 18: **NA**

Female < 18: **NA**

Integrated across enabling approaches

Male > 18: **NA**

Male < 18: **NA**

Total target: **NA**

Objective:

Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured

Priority actions:

- **Strategic partnerships and coordination:** IFRC coordination services will be strengthened through the head of the delegation, focusing on membership and Federation-wide response, movement coordination, and strategic partnerships and resource mobilization including

communication, humanitarian diplomacy, visibility, and accountability of operations.

- **Operations coordination, implementation, and reporting;** Operations manager will support ERCS and partners in the implementation and coordination of activities and reporting with the support of sectoral experts including CVA and PMER. The operation will also support staffing at the National Society level to ensure core staffing is not stretched/overwhelmed and ongoing programmes are not compromised.

Risk management

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating steps
Increased number of people requiring assistance	High	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with partners and donors to the Federation-wide Emergency Appeal to mobilise increased resources to allow for scale-up (financial and in-kind). • Coordination with the ICRC and other humanitarian stakeholders to advocate for addressing unmet needs. • Engage communities to manage expectations and reputation risks.
Lack of appropriate FSPs in rural target locations	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERCS will procure diversified FSPs to ensure a range of modalities are available. • Delivery mechanisms compatible with affected communities' culture and way of life will be applied to ease access.
Security and safety (include ethnic clashes and the effect of unknown armed groups)	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERCS will increase advocacy and leverage its community acceptance. • ERCS will strengthen its standard operating procedures for security. • ERCS will strongly uphold its due diligence for staff and volunteer safety and operations will be adjusted to alternative business continuity plans.
New variants or outbreaks of COVID-19 threaten the health and safety of personnel and affected populations	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPR) will be provided for personnel involved in the operations. • Advisory information will also be circulated in terms of precautionary measures to be taken to protect the health, and early warning and early action systems identified (by the authorities' contingency plans).

Quality and accountability





Federation-wide reporting mechanisms will be developed to ensure linkages between the secretariat and bilateral support to the Emergency Appeal, and act as a model for coordination in presenting the collective impact of the Red Pillar in Ethiopia for this response. This is comprised of financial, narrative, and indicator tracking tools, which are completed against an agreed set of indicators, and of timelines to inform standard and donor reports. Benchmarking and lessons learned from previous Federation-wide operations will be considered to ensure all reporting tools are appropriate to the needs of stakeholders, and the process will be led by ERCS with support from IFRC.







Federation-wide, thrice-monthly narrative reporting will be provided per IFRC minimum reporting standards, against the Operational Strategy and indicators, and will be published on the IFRC Appeals Database.

Federation-wide assessments led by ERCS, and with support from IFRC and PNSs, will be conducted as the situation evolves, and will support a three-month operational planning cycle, which will be embedded in the Emergency Appeal. Assessment results and monitoring of the situation will be used to ensure that the response remains appropriate to the priorities and needs of the affected population, and to gauge the resources needed. This will be based on (1) humanitarian analysis of the situation, (2) scenario-based contingency plans, (3) priorities of the host National Societies and affected populations, and (4) Funding Coverage. This will also be complemented by workshops conducted with other partners involved in the drought response in southern Ethiopia to inform a coordinated, immediate, and medium-longer-term approach to address the underlying drivers of the hunger crisis, including integration of interventions into One-Country plans.

Mid-term after-action reviews will be held on progress made through the response and a final evaluation and audit will be conducted at the end of the Emergency Appeal.

As part of the Federation-wide reporting, the following indicators will be monitored by IFRC and by members involved in the response:

Planned operations	Indicators
INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE	
 Livelihoods	# households provided with livelihood recovery assistance
	# farmers trained in agricultural production
	# irrigation schemes/groups organised and supported
	# pastoral households supported with a stock of five milking goats each
 Multi-purpose cash	# households assisted with multi-purpose cash
HEALTH & CARE (INCLUDING WASH)	
 Health and Care	# people reached with community-based disease control and health promotion
	# mothers trained and supported in young infant and child feeding skills
	# sachets of ORS distributed to referral facilities
	# people reached with integrated emergency health services
 Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	# people provided with access to safe drinking water
	# households provided water treatment chemicals/filters and sensitised to their use
	# households provided with emergency WASH materials
	# households provided with hygiene promotion to support the reduction in risk of waterborne and water-related diseases

		# households educated on community-level sanitation & waste disposal practices
		# people reached with integrated wash activities
		# WASH assessments conducted
PROTECTION AND PREVENTION		
	Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)	# people reached with dignity kits # Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials distributed # PGI assessments conducted on the specific needs of the affected population
	Community Engagement and Accountability	# conduct periodic contextual assessments # engagement and involvement session with stakeholders conducted # feedback mechanisms/systems established Work with diverse community groups; # committees and representatives elected
	Risk reduction, climate adaptation, and recovery	# people sustained and linked to longer-term resilience programming # people mobilised to conduct community-based risk reduction # community members supported in micro-activities and DRR engagement
Enabling approaches		Indicator(s)
	National Society Strengthening	# National Society preparedness, readiness, and response plan developed # Strategically located branches in drought-affected regions offered capacity building # volunteers mobilised and trained on cash and voucher assistance programming # volunteers trained on integrated health skills (CBHFA, BFA, RCCE, PSS). # First Aid materials distributed or supplied # volunteers mobilised and trained in integrated WASH skills # volunteers mobilised and trained on PGI Minimum Standards # volunteers and staff involved in the operation to receive briefings on PSEA # volunteers and staff mobilised, trained, and deployed on minimum CEA actions
	Coordination and Partnership	# coordination of the response through a Federation-wide approach # Session conducted on Strengthening Movement Cooperation and Membership Coordination # Strategic Partnerships Communication and humanitarian diplomacy conducted
	IFRC Secretariat Services	# Strategic Partnerships and coordination sessions conducted # operations coordination, implementation, and reporting session conducted

FUNDING REQUIREMENT

Federation-wide funding requirement*

Federation Wide Funding Requirement including the National Society domestic target, IFRC Secretariat and the Partner National Society funding requirement	IFRC Secretarian Funding Requirement in support of the Federation Wide funding ask
12.5 million CHF	8 million CHF

*For more information on Federation-wide funding requirement, refer to section, Federation-wide Funding Approach

Breakdown of the IFRC secretariat funding requirement



OPERATING STRATEGY

MDRMG018 - Ethiopia Hunger Crisis

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS⁸

Planned Operations	7,000,000
Livelihoods	1,639,000
Multi-purpose cash	4,730,000
Health	77,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)	360,000
Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)	67,000
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	127,000
Enabling Approaches	1,000,000
Coordination and Partnerships	552,000
Secretariat Services	NA
National Society Strengthening (NSS)	448,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	8,000,000

⁸ All amounts in Swiss francs.

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Ethiopian Red Cross Society

- **Secretary-General:** Getachew Ta'a, Email: ercs.sg@redcrosseth.org
- **Director, Disaster Risk Management:** Engida Manfredo, Email: engida.mandefro@redcrosseth.org

In the IFRC

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa:** Dr. Michael Charles, Atg. Head of Health, Disasters, Climate and Crisis; Email: michael.charles@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Country Delegation, Addis Ababa:** David Campfens, Head of Country Cluster Delegation, Email: david.campfens@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Geneva:** Nicholas Boyrie, Senior Officer, Operations Coordination, Email: nicholas.boyrie@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa:** Louise Daintrey-Hall, Head of Partnerships and Resource Development Regional Office for Africa, Email: louise.daintrey@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **Logistics Coordinator:** Rishi Ramrakha, Head of Africa Regional Logistics Unit, email: rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org

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

- **IFRC Africa Regional Office:** IFRC Africa Regional Office: Philip Komo Kahuho, Regional PMER Manager; email: philip.kahuho@ifrc.org; phone: +254 732 203 081

Reference



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)