

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Ethiopia: Food Insecurity

Emergency appeal n° MDRET005

GLIDE n° DR-2008-000043-ETH

Operations update n° 5

27 January 2009

Period covered by this Operations Update: 14 November to 19 December 2008;

Appeal target (current): CHF 8,157,607 (USD 7,920,006 or EUR 5,035,560);

[<click here to view the attached Interim Financial Report>](#)

Appeal coverage: 81% - 20% multilaterally; 61% from ECHO and Austrian Development Agency through Finnish and Austrian Red Cross, and from Ethiopiaid

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 14 May 2008 for CHF 1,847,444 (USD 1,776,388 or EUR 1,143,928) for 4 months to assist 40,000 beneficiaries.
- A Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocation of CHF 300,000 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the National Society response to the situation.
- The revised appeal seeking CHF 8,157,607 was launched on 19 August 2008 to assist 76,075 beneficiaries for 6 months.
- [Operations Update No.1](#) focussing on the start up of relief activities and first round of food distributions was issued on 7 July 2008.
- [Operations Update No. 2](#) focussing on agriculture early recovery activities and second round of food distributions was issued on 1 September 2008.
- [Operations Update No. 3](#) focussing on the third round of food distributions and expansion of activities to Damot Galle woreda was issued on 5 November 2008.
- [Operations Update No. 4](#) which extended the timeframe of the appeal by 3 months, to 14 February 2009, and focussed on the fourth round of food distributions was issued on 5 December 2008.
- A regional Emergency Appeal for food security in the Horn of Africa ([MDR64003](#) – Horn of Africa: Exceptional Food Security Crisis), including related activities for Ethiopia was launched on 11 December 2008.

Appeal Operation Period

This update extends the appeal by a further three months until 14 May 2009. This is to allow for the longer duration recovery activities to take place, particularly the water and sanitation hardware components. The process of tendering for contractors, hiring local artisans and carrying out the work itself will take some time.



Beneficiaries transport food from the distribution centres by donkey, Photo: Jose Cendon/IFRC

The extension will also provide an opportunity for the planning of longer-term food security interventions in Wolaita zone to take place within the framework of this appeal, as well as finalizing livestock and capacity building interventions. The understanding of the donors to this appeal in agreeing to this extension is greatly appreciated as it will improve the ongoing impact of the project activities

Summary: The International Federation, on behalf of the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS), launched a preliminary emergency appeal on 14 May 2008 to assist 40,000 beneficiaries in Damot Pulasa district, SNNP region for a period of 4 months. After requests from the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency (DPPA), the local government and the ERCS branch, the ERCS began the relief operation with the collaboration of the International Federation, using items available on the local market. Following the findings of the emergency need assessments conducted by the National Society, ERCS was obliged to revise the initial appeal to reach a larger population affected by the food insecurity. The total number of beneficiaries in the revised appeal is 76,075 people living in both Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle districts of SNNP region. In order to produce longer term benefits for the local community, the food distribution is accompanied by recovery activities such as seed distribution for the farmers who have enough land to cultivate and provision of livestock for families with poor or no access to agricultural land. Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) training and water point rehabilitation will be carried out to mitigate the health impacts of the food shortages.

To date, five rounds of food distribution have been carried out in Damot Pulasa. Beneficiaries in Damot Galle district received their third distribution between November and December 2008, at the same time as the fifth distribution in Damot Pulasa. Numerical data on nutrition status in the districts is not available, with a nutritional survey of the affected population in the districts to be carried out at the start of 2009, but the rate of admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes in the two districts has slowed markedly since the start of activities in June 2008. The rate of admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes in SNNP region as a whole has also dropped. There have been no major disease outbreaks to this point.

The main rainy season has largely provided adequate rainfall in the area. Bean seeds and sweet potato cuttings distributed to replace livelihoods assets lost in earlier adverse weather have caught the rain and are growing well. In late October and early November 2008 there was heavier rain than normal, which, it was feared could have a negative impact on crop production. However, this rainfall abated and did not appear to have a major negative impact on the crops in the area of operation. There are light rains expected in December 2008 but these are yet to materialise in Wolaita. Failure of these rains would also significantly affect production of a wide variety of staple crops including root crops, cereals and pulses. This illustrates how, even with currently improving indicators for their status, the beneficiary population remains particularly susceptible to even the smallest departures from typical weather patterns. The population is extremely vulnerable, emphasizing the need for increased support to early recovery activities to help the beneficiaries minimize the impact of future shocks.

EUR 2,700,000 (approximately CHF 4,239,000) was pledged bilaterally by ECHO through the Austrian Red Cross and Finnish Red Cross, with an additional EUR 200,000 (approximately CHF 314,000) pledged bilaterally by the Austrian Development Agency towards the Emergency Appeal. Ethiopiaid contributed GBP 200,000 (approximately CHF 394,000) towards the Emergency Appeal. British Red Cross recently contributed £81,081 specifically targeted to the water and sanitation component of the recovery phase.

The situation

The failure of the Belg rains at the beginning of the year coupled with a soaring inflation rate and a global rise in food prices has caused a severe food shortage affecting large parts of Ethiopia. The worst hit regions are Amhara, Oromia, SNNP, Somali and Tigray. The precarious situation led the Government of Ethiopia to issue a Humanitarian Requirement Plan on 10 April 2008 to assist 2.2 million people. In July 2008 the numbers of people requiring emergency food assistance were revised to 4.6 million, and were officially revised upwards again to 6.4 million in October 2008. The failure of the Belg rains came on top of flooding which destroyed crops during the middle of 2007, and absence of the light rains in the last quarter of 2007, leading to the failure of three harvests in a row.

The food insecurity situation led in many areas to increased child mortality rates, students leaving school in order to support their families, and households selling off assets and resorting to eating the seeds intended to be planted during the next planting period, thus reducing their resilience for future emergencies.

The Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit states that admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes in SNNP region are decreasing, though this is from very high levels¹. A total of 2,297 were admitted in the week to the 19 October 2008, the most recent week for which data disaggregated by region are available.

The total number of people targeted for food assistance within Ethiopia is 9.6 million, including relief beneficiaries, approximately 3.6 million supported through the Government of Ethiopia and/or WFP Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) (designed to cope with the structural food shortage in the country and servicing the chronically food insecure), and those in Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programmes². However, there has been a severe rupture in the pipeline for food assistance in the country. As well as a shortfall in funds experienced by WFP, there are also severe delays currently being experienced in Djibouti port. As a result of this shortfall in food, WFP has agreed with the government to cut rations by 1/3 for the month of December 2008³.

In response to a request from the Ethiopian Red Cross Society, the International Federation launched a preliminary Emergency Appeal on 14 May 2008, seeking to assist 40,000 people over a period of four months in Damot Pulasa woreda, Wolaita zone, SNNP region. As the situation continued to deteriorate a revised Emergency Appeal was launched on 19 August 2008 seeking to assist 76,075 beneficiaries in Damot Pulasa and neighboring Damot Galle district over a period of six months. Wolaita zone is one of the most densely populated areas in the country with a total of 1,699,085 people living in the zone. The density ranges from 370 to 600 people per square kilometre.

Food prices have spiked dramatically this year, partly as a result of the failures of successive harvests, but also as a result of the dramatic increases in global food prices. WFP report that nationally prices are stabilizing. In Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle⁴ districts, the prices of some crops have returned to near their normal levels, with the price of maize only 26 percent higher in November 2008 than the previous year. Prices of teff are still high, more than double the price of a year before, and wheat prices are 80 percent higher than a year ago. In Wolaita zone generally, WFP reports that although in October 2008 prices stabilized or decreased relative to previous months, they remained extremely high compared to one year before. Compared to September 2008, there was no change in the price per 100kg of wheat, whilst the price of maize declined by 46 percent. Compared to October 2007, though, the prices of both have approximately doubled.⁵ Overall, forecast inflation remains high in the country with a prediction of +41 percent nationally for the Consumer Price Index⁶ in 2008.

The main rains (Meher rains) were normal and the estimates are that harvest production will be normal from the crops planted during that time. However, this needs to be seen in the context of the overall severe food shortages, including reserve stocks, in the country. A single normal harvest will not remove the need for food oriented interventions before the end of 2008, and populations will remain insecure for some time after that. The Federation's regional food security assessment team concluded that there were ongoing food availability problems among rural populations in Ethiopia, and identified that in many areas support will be urgently necessary in 2009⁷. In Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle districts, discussions with beneficiaries indicate that the children who had dropped out of school due to food shortages before the operation began are now back in school. In general the population is able to go about their business as normal.

The unseasonal heavy rains in late October to November 2008 that were discussed in [Operations Update No. 4](#) abated without significant damage to crops. Informal information from agricultural experts indicates that the damage will not reduce production of the affected crops by more than 20 percent, still a significant amount. However, the light rains (known as "sappia" in the Wolaita area) expected in December 2008 to January 2009 have yet to arrive. If these fail or provide insufficient rainfall, then there will be likely negative impacts on a variety of important crops such as potatoes and sweet potatoes as well as cereals and pulses that are currently being planted. In Wolaita it was reported that potatoes were one of the crops most badly affected by the heavy rain, although within Ethiopia in general WFP reports a positive effect on potatoes from these heavy rains⁸. Absence of the sappia would have a particularly serious impact on farmers producing these, as both events will have negatively impacted on their production. Currently, the condition of crops in general is good.

¹ OCHA Situation Report: Drought/Food Crisis in Ethiopia, 04 Nov 2008

² OCHA, Situation Report: Drought/Food Crisis in Ethiopia, 01 Oct 2008

³ OCHA, Humanitarian Bulletin, 09 Dec 2008

⁴ Ministry of Agriculture, Damot Galle/Pulasa Office, and ERCS field staff

⁵ WFP, Ethiopia Market Watch – October 2008, 25 Nov 2008

⁶ Economist Intelligence Unit, Ethiopia Monthly Report, October 2008

⁷ IFRC, Multi-disciplinary assessment mission, Report on the Horn of Africa Food Crisis, Dec 2008

⁸ WFP, Ethiopia Country Office Food Security Update, 15 Dec 2008

There is little sign of acute water stress, despite the absence of the rains to date, a result of the earlier heavy rains. However, a total absence of the sabbia rains will bring additional problems with water supply.

Food distribution activities have been prioritized both in terms of operational activities and financially. The ongoing food insecurity and projections of acute food crisis up to June 2009 forced IFRC to launch a wider Food Crisis Appeal for the Horn of Africa in December 2008. A significant part of this appeal is for food aid operations in Ethiopia. While the ongoing Wolaita operation will benefit from the additional human resources and a more strategic approach to food security programming in the country the operations will continue to be managed separately to ensure that specific results identified for Wolaita are achieved and reported on correctly

Coordination and partnerships

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society decided to intervene through the provision of food to avert the humanitarian crisis with the support of the IFRC country office and bilateral partners.

In June 2008 a taskforce was set up to coordinate the Movement response to the food shortages in SNNP region. Regular coordination meetings continue to be held at the ERCS national headquarters to oversee the implementation of the programme and give the necessary direction to the operational units.

Funds were transferred in August 2008 from ECHO and the Austrian Development Agency through the Finnish and Austrian Red Cross Societies based on the Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) signed with the National Societies. ECHO's Regional Food Coordinator conducted a monitoring mission, visiting the programme sites in late October 2008, and agreed that the implementation was satisfactory from an operational perspective. Auditors for ECHO visited the operation in November 2008, and the preliminary report was generally positive.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

During the reporting period the principle activity remained food distributions. In total **75,214** beneficiaries were reached in the fifth round of food distributions, and almost **1,330 MT** of food distributed. In Damot Pulasa district, two warehouses had been obtained free of charge from the local government until the completion of the operation. Each warehouse has a capacity of 300 MT. The fifth round distribution in Damot Pulasa started on 17 November 2008 and was completed on 2 December 2008. A total of 39,450 beneficiaries received the relief items at the distribution centres in Damot Pulasa.

Damot Galle's third round distribution was carried out, from 14 November to 10 December 2008. Two distribution centres for Damot Galle with warehouses with capacities of 500 MT and 300 MT were secured at Boditti and Buge. The total number of beneficiaries who received the food items is 35,764.

The total number of vulnerable people requiring supplementary feeding is less than anticipated in both districts at 30 percent and 27 percent respectively of the total beneficiary group. Whilst improved targeting has improved the performance compared to the first distributions, this trend has not continued. Partly this is a result of integrating former beneficiaries from WFP's programme into the operation at the request of the government. This issue is discussed in more depth in the challenges section below.

With respect to early recovery activities, in previous rounds of distributions 100 MT of beans and 18 million sweet potato cuttings have been distributed to 8,500 selected farmers from both Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle. The government agricultural offices at both districts are providing technical support. The selection criteria for seed provision were women headed households, farmers with available agricultural land and farmers who are the poorest group of the community. Farmers who totally lost seed stocks and have no other coping mechanism were also prioritized. Sweet potato cuttings have grown well, and now those who received them have been able to propagate the sweet potatoes (taking new cuttings from the plants which grew from the original cuttings) and plant out a greater area. Provided that funds are available, provision of livestock is planned for beneficiaries with poor or no access to farm land. Supplying maize seed to beneficiaries for planting in early 2009 is also being considered.

Water and sanitation activities have begun, with PHAST training starting on 16 October 2009, training 234 people, 119 in Damot Pulasa and 115 in Damot Galle.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Objective 1: To improve the household food security status of vulnerable household.	
Expected result 1.1	Activities planned
Household access to food increased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchasing and distribution of 5,760 MT of maize, 528 MT of beans and 192,000 litres of cooking oil. Procuring and distributing 548.5 MT of supplementary food and/or CSB.

Progress

Five rounds of food items distribution have been completed for beneficiaries in Damot Pulasa and a third round for Damot Galle beneficiaries. In the first round 39,216, in the second 39,382, in the third 75,209, in the fourth 75,175 and in the fifth round, 75,214 selected beneficiaries have been reached. As discussed previously the near doubling of beneficiaries in the third round was a result of including beneficiaries from Damot Galle. Each beneficiary received 15 kg of maize, 1.5 kg of pulses and 0.5 lt cooking oil. Children under the age of 5 years, lactating and pregnant women or elders receive 4.5 kg of supplementary food (Famix and/or CSB).

The actual distribution took place in the compounds of the warehouses. In both Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle, distribution was made to heads of households, with the amounts per household pre-calculated on the basis of beneficiary lists in order to facilitate distributions. Arrangements for the distributions are made before the arrival of the beneficiaries and on arrival they are informed about the type and amount of food items to be received, based on family size. Beneficiaries are also advised on how to use the supplementary food appropriately for the children. Participation of representatives of the community in the targeting and distribution planning process created confidence in the transparency of the process. Beneficiaries transport the food items to their villages collectively and then divide them between themselves there. Informal monitoring indicates that there is no problem with unfair allocation at this stage.

Table 1 – Food Distribution

District	Maize (MT)	Beans (MT)	CSB (MT)	Oil (1,000l)	Total
Damot Pulasa	591.75	59.175	13.4775	19.722	682.5495
Damot Galle	528.03	52.802	44.646	18.205	642.229
Total (round 5)	1,119.78	111.977	58.1235	37.927	1,324.7785
Total to date	4,548.425	388.5975	287.1935	143.961	5,356.68028
Total (target)	5,760	528	548.5	192	7,028.5

The totals for distribution of oil show a slight increase compared to previous reporting periods. This is a result of the fact that in previous reports the weight of oil in metric tonnes had been reported as the quantity in 1,000 litres. This has now been rectified and the amounts shown (both for this distribution and cumulative totals) are now in 1,000l units, allowing an accurate comparison against the target.

Table 2 – Population coverage (round 5)

District	Number of villages	Households	Beneficiary	Vulnerable
Damot Pulasa	23	8,827	39,450	11,881
Damot Galle	31	9,220	35,764	9,945
Total	54	18,047	75,214	21,826
<i>% of target</i>			98.9%	82.9%

Table 3: Damot Galle stock level

Type of food items	Ending balance November (round 5) distribution (MT)
Maize	11.52
Pulses	56.458
CSB	97.505
Oil (1,000l)	19.76

Table 4: Damot Pulasa stock level

Type of food items	Ending balance November 2008 (round 5) distribution (MT)
Maize	72.045
Pulses	3.756
CSB	65.16
Oil (1,000l)	1.587

Achievements

Data from GOAL's therapeutic feeding programmes in the two woredas show a significant decline in admissions since the operation began in June 2008. Note that the data previously given for admissions were incorrect, due to an error regarding when data from the Damot Galle centre began. This has now been corrected. However, the pattern contained in the previous data has not been affected – a clear decline over the period of the operation.

Table 5: Total admissions between July and October 2008

	July	August	September	October
Total admissions	1,259	811	364	339

Total admissions includes admissions to both in-patient and out-patient therapeutic feeding programmes in Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle districts. Source: GOAL Ethiopia, Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle.

Whilst this pattern exists most clearly in the figures for total admissions, a similar pattern is repeated for both Damot Galle and Damot Pulasa districts, though there are some variations in the pattern for in-patient feeding programmes (which show an increase in October relative to September 2008). If this continues for November 2008 then it will be necessary to look again at how the supplementary food is being distributed and used.

Whilst the post-distribution monitoring has now taken place, sampling 100 beneficiary households from each district (200 total), the analysis of the data is currently still being completed. However, informal review of the data indicates that the large majority of the beneficiaries found the distributions timely, transparent and convenient. In addition many reported that prior to distributions commencing, they were unable to cultivate their land due to lack of energy, but this changed dramatically following the food distributions, allowing them to return quickly to supporting themselves. Results of a formal analysis of the monitoring data will be included in the next operations update.

Challenges

One earlier challenge that has been addressed is that in earlier distributions the percentage of beneficiaries belonging to vulnerable groups was much lower than the target of 35 percent. An improved selection process involving local authorities, members of local communities, representatives from women, young people and the elderly has helped to better identify the households with vulnerable members. However, whilst the percentage has improved in this round compared to the previous round, there is still a shortfall, with the distributions reaching only 83 percent of the target. This resulted from a combination of factors (discussed in previous Operations Updates) including taking over beneficiaries from WFP in Damot Pulasa and some beneficiaries not returning to claim their allocations of CSB. It seems unlikely at this stage that further targeting will deliver a significant improvement in the achievement of this target. As a result there is some build up of stocks of CSB. Excess CSB will be distributed by increasing the amounts allocated to the already identified vulnerable beneficiaries.

With distributions now taking place in two districts it can be seen that the achievement of the food distribution targets is now quite good, but there may be some excess at the end of the distributions. This is due to the fact that most distributions have been a small amount off meeting the target for beneficiaries, causing a small surplus to build up over time. When distributions are completed, any excess will be distributed to the most affected villages. Target population coverage remains good.

As can be seen there is a lag between distribution times and the original plan for distribution of several weeks. Key constraints have been procurement (with little availability and high prices on the national market) and transport (heavy rains during the first months of the operation making road access difficult and sometimes impossible – leading to a change of distribution site in one instance). This has caused knock-on delays in the other sectoral interventions. There were additional delays in the distributions at Damot Galle during this reporting period. The distribution was run in two phases, with the first running from 14 November until 18 November 2008,

at which point distributions had to be suspended due to a shortage of maize. Shipments from overseas took longer to arrive than anticipated due to a delays in Djibouti port, partly resulting from insecurity in the shipping lanes entering the Red Sea. Once this was resolved, the second phase of distributions was carried out from 4 to 10 December 2008.

For internal reasons the Ethiopian National Food and Nutrition Institute withdrew from the agreement to conduct the nutritional survey. Although this is a difficult adjustment to make at this stage in the operation several other options are being considered, including contracting GOAL Ethiopia to carry out the survey.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion	
Objective 2: To improve access to safe drinking water and to promote personal hygiene in Damot Pulasa and Damot Galle.	
Expected result 2.1	Activities planned
Personal hygiene improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training 250 youth volunteers for hygiene and sanitation promotion. • Procuring and distributing 18,830 bars of soap. • Procuring and distributing 9,415 hand jugs.
Expected result 2.2	Activities planned
Household access to safe water improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of 22 shallow wells. • Rehabilitation of 5 boreholes. • Procuring and distributing 94,150 sachets of water maker.

Progress

PHAST training started in both districts on 16 October 2008. To date, 119 volunteers have been trained in Damot Pulasa and 115 in Damot Galle, a total of 234. This is 94 percent of the target of 250 youth volunteers. Volunteers are drawn from every kebele (village) in the two districts and it is felt that this represents good coverage of the population. Should an opportunity for further PHAST training present then it will be implemented in order to reach the target of 250.

Volunteers are now working with village level health extension workers to promote not only good hygiene practices but also give information on prevention of malaria, stopping the spread of contagious diseases and food utilization. This information is given through home visits, information at village gatherings and also during the food distributions. Because of the variety of methods used to deliver health and hygiene information, it is not possible to put an accurate figure (without double counting) on the number of people reached by the volunteers, however the village coverage is excellent, reaching, as mentioned above, all kebeles in the district.

Surveying of water points, including both boreholes and shallow wells has experienced delays whilst food oriented interventions are prioritized. Surveying was due to start on 10 December 2008 but this has been pushed back until 26 December 2008 due to staffing constraints. Based on these results it will be possible to arrive at an accurate picture of the work required, which can then be planned out, in turn allowing the likely timescale for completion to be seen more clearly. Work or tendering (as required) should commence in January 2009.

Challenges

The heavy rains that fell in October to November 2008 have had a significant positive impact on the availability of water. Water is available in all the local springs. However, a large majority of the population continue to use untreated, unimproved sources with the consequent risks to themselves. This further underlines the continuing need for the planned water and sanitation interventions, as well as the timeliness of the PHAST training.

The continued non-arrival of the sappia rains is a cause for concern regarding the availability of water in the coming months. These light rains typically arrive in November 2008, continue through December 2008 and finish in January 2009. The fact that by the second half of December 2008 they had still not arrived could very well indicate that there will be reduced total rainfall during the period, and increase the problems with water supply in the coming months.

Livelihoods	
Objective 3: To protect further erosion of livelihood asset bases	
Expected result 3.1	Activities planned
Disrupted food crop production activities restarted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchasing and distributing assorted seeds (100 MT haricot bean seeds and 18 million (sweet potato cuttings).

Expected result 3.2	Activities planned
Livelihood assets base restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing 10,000 sheep to selected households. • Provision of assorted agricultural hand tools.
Objective 4: To enhance sustainable livelihoods and/or food security situation of the targeted population through long-term approach.	
Expected result 4.1	Activities planned
Relief-recovery activities linked to long-term development intervention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct baseline food security and/or livelihood assessment. • Developing long-term food security proposal.

Progress

100MT of beans and 18 million sweet potato cuttings (100 percent of the target) were distributed to the selected farmers, as described in [Operations Update No.2](#). These have grown well as the *meher* (main rainy season) rainfall was sufficient. As described above, reports from ERCS field staff indicate that the sweet potato crop is growing well, to the extent that farmers have been able to take further cuttings from the plants that had grown from the cuttings distributed by the Red Cross. This propagation has allowed them to plant out a greater area which should give significantly greater yields. Crop performance monitoring of the haricot beans has been completed and the reports are being finalized. Initial indications are that the crop has been particularly good, with farmers reporting above average yields which they ascribe to the high-quality of the seed (which had a germination rate in excess of 90 percent). Harvests of sweet potato are expected in late February 2009.

Challenges

The possibility of attack by pests seems to have receded as the October to November 2008 rains arrived. It remains the case that regular monitoring of the level of pests will take place, and if a serious infestation is observed, then the procurement of pesticides will be considered. However, to date there have been no indications of serious infestations, and so it seems likely that pesticide interventions will not be required to protect the crops grown from the seeds distributed in August 2008.

Some funding for the provision of livestock for beneficiaries with little or no agricultural land has been received and some livestock activities will start soon. However the ERCS is in the process of re-planning for priority activities within the recovery operation, given the generally low coverage of the appeal for this component. There is now an additional consideration of whether to provide a distribution of maize seed. Due to the failure of previous harvests, there is a significant shortage of maize seed in the area. Farmers have been unable to collect seed from previous crops, and also do not have the financial resources to purchase seed on the market, having run down their resources to survive during the food shortages. Even in good periods, due to the extremely small size of the plots households often do not produce enough to store a percentage for seed. This is another consideration that needs to be taken into account in relation to the final distribution of funds among the activities.

Capacity building	
Objective 5: Capacity building for ERCS both at Wolaita branch and National level	
Expected result 5.1	Activities planned
Enhanced capacity of the National Society and the branch office to better respond to future disasters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of information technology and communication equipment to branch office. • Training to ERCS headquarters, branch personnel and volunteers on disaster management, logistics, finance and administration.

Progress

Office items, information technology and communication materials will improve the branch capacity, and procurement of the same is still pending. Appropriate support will depend on final decisions regarding allocation of the available funds. The materials allocated to the operation so far are two land cruiser vehicles and two generators for the two warehouses. On the job training has been provided to branch office staff in logistics, and further training is to follow, planned for the final two months of the programme. The component of water and sanitation activities of training volunteers as PHAST trainers will greatly enhance the branch's capacity in hygiene promotion and allow them to respond to future emergencies as well as engaging in ongoing hygiene promotion activities. It is intended to integrate as many elements as possible from the capacity building assessment previously conducted for Wolaita branch into this part of the programming.

National Society Capacity Building

Staff deployed for the relief operation at field level are Wolaita zone Branch Secretary, Accountant, Operation coordinator, two Distribution coordinators, two Store keepers, two Clerks and six Guards. The Branch Secretary is assisted by Disaster Response team leader from the Head Quarter and by the Oromia Regional Branch programme Coordinator.

The intervention has given the branch the opportunity to gain experience for future similar situations. The number of youth volunteers is expected to increase throughout the intervention period as many are required to facilitate the food distribution process. Involvement in the operation itself has benefited the existing volunteers in gaining knowledge on emergency food distribution, beneficiary targeting, monitoring works and dissemination of Red Cross principles. In addition, under Objective 2, volunteers have been trained as PHAST trainers, increasing the pool of hygiene promoters that the ERCS can draw on across the country for regular health and hygiene programming.

Furthermore, although the ERCS has extensive previous experience with food distribution and food security operations, this has given the organization an opportunity to ensure that relevant staff are fully up-to-date with the challenges of running food operations, prior to a significant scale-up in operations under the regional appeal. It is thought that the scaled up operation will provide an immediate opportunity for the ERCS to learn and internalize lessons from this response.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

A news release on the emergency operation was issued from the ERCS communication and information service. It is updated on every food distribution programme. Both local and international media gave coverage of the intervention, including a journalist from France 24 TV news in mid October 2008. A documentary film on the programme implementation is being prepared.

For more information and photos of this operation, please refer to the links below:

Drought in Ethiopia:

<http://www.ifrc.org/index.asp>

Ethiopia:

Battling the green drought (article and links to photo gallery, including Food Security):

<http://www.ifrc.org/news/index.asp>

Ethiopia:

The true meaning of grass root volunteer service (article):

<http://www.ifrc.org/Docs/News/08/08062702/index.asp>

Ethiopia:

Food security, June 2008 (photo gallery):

<http://www.ifrc.org/photo/ethiopia0608/index.asp>

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<Click here to return to the title page>](#)

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal (Earmarked/Non Earmarked)

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	8,157,607					8,157,607
<i>Earmarked</i>						
<i>Non Earmarked</i>	8,157,607					8,157,607
B. Opening Balance	0					0
<i>Earmarked</i>	0					0
<i>Non Earmarked</i>						

Earmarked Income**Cash contributions**

American Red Cross	101,396					101,396
British Red Cross	553,160					553,160
Danish Red Cross	154,338					154,338
Irish Red Cross	71,790					71,790
C1. Cash contributions	880,684					880,684

Outstanding pledges (Revalued)

British Red Cross	128,802					128,802
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	128,802					128,802

Inkind Personnel

British Red Cross	11,573					11,573
C5. Inkind Personnel	11,573					11,573

Non Earmarked Income**Cash contributions**

Canadian Red Cross	101,000					101,000
Danish Red Cross	96,644					96,644
Japanese Red Cross	195,552					195,552
Monaco Red Cross	16,350					16,350
On Line donations	4,666					4,666
Swedish Red Cross	410,280					410,280
Unidentified donor	50,000					50,000
C1. Cash contributions	874,492					874,492

Outstanding pledges (Revalued)

Danish Red Cross	-0					-0
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-0					-0

Inkind Personnel

C5. Inkind Personnel						
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C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	1,895,551					1,895,551
<i>Earmarked</i>	1,021,059					1,021,059
<i>Non Earmarked</i>	874,492					874,492
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,895,551					1,895,551
<i>Earmarked</i>	1,021,059					1,021,059
<i>Non Earmarked</i>	874,492					874,492

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRET005 - Ethiopia Food Insecurity

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

II. Balance of Funds (Earmarked/Non Earmarked)

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
Earmarked						
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	1,021,059					1,021,059
E. Expenditure	-859,933					-859,933
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	161,126					161,126
Non-Earmarked						
B. Opening Balance						
C. Income	874,492					874,492
E. Expenditure	-707,761					-707,761
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	166,731					166,731
All types of funding						
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	1,895,551					1,895,551
E. Expenditure	-1,567,694					-1,567,694
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	327,857					327,857

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRET005 - Ethiopia Food Insecurity

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure (Earmarked/Non Earmarked)

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B

Earmarked

BUDGET (C)								
Supplies								
Food		11,600				11,600	-11,600	
Seeds,Plants		22,466				22,466	-22,466	
Total Supplies		34,066				34,066	-34,066	
Transport & Storage								
Storage		1,280				1,280	-1,280	
Transport & Vehicle Costs		135				135	-135	
Total Transport & Storage		1,415				1,415	-1,415	
Personnel								
International Staff		11,580				11,580	-11,580	
National Staff		107				107	-107	
Total Personnel		11,686				11,686	-11,686	
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		749,138				749,138	-749,138	
Total Contributions & Transfers		749,138				749,138	-749,138	
Programme Support								
Program Support		63,627				63,627	-63,627	
Total Programme Support		63,627				63,627	-63,627	
Earmarked Expenditure (D)		859,933				859,933	-859,933	
Earmarked Variance (C - D)		-859,933				-859,933		

Non-Earmarked

BUDGET (C)		8,157,607					8,157,607	
Supplies								
Food	4,265,565	35,392				35,392	4,230,173	
Seeds,Plants	565,180	-69,150				-69,150	634,330	
Water & Sanitation	629,772						629,772	
Other Supplies & Services	200,000						200,000	
Total Supplies	5,660,517	-33,758				-33,758	5,694,275	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	4,400	2,689				2,689	1,711	
Others Machinery & Equipment		1,306				1,306	-1,306	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	4,400	3,995				3,995	405	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	40,183	3,867				3,867	36,316	
Distribution & Monitoring	5,280	7,068				7,068	-1,788	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,347,723	11,132				11,132	1,336,591	
Total Transport & Storage	1,393,186	22,067				22,067	1,371,119	
Personnel								
International Staff	267,308	122,586				122,586	144,723	
National Staff		2,539				2,539	-2,539	
National Society Staff	60,340	824				824	59,515	
Consultants		6,903				6,903	-6,903	
Total Personnel	327,648	132,852				132,852	194,796	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	37,830	3,250				3,250	34,580	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRET005 - Ethiopia Food Insecurity

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure (Earmarked/Non Earmarked)

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
Total Workshops & Training	37,830	3,250					3,250	34,580
General Expenditure								
Travel	24,960	15,413					15,413	9,547
Information & Public Relation	27,556	86					86	27,470
Office Costs	24,582	99					99	24,484
Communications	9,630	1,807					1,807	7,823
Professional Fees	5,702							5,702
Financial Charges	4,860	82					82	4,778
Other General Expenses	106,491	5,003					5,003	101,488
Total General Expenditure	203,781	22,490					22,490	181,291
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		510,862					510,862	-510,862
Total Contributions & Transfers		510,862					510,862	-510,862
Programme Support								
Program Support	530,244	46,004					46,004	484,240
Total Programme Support	530,244	46,004					46,004	484,240
Non-Earmarked Expenditure (D)	8,157,607	707,761					707,761	7,449,845
Non-Earmarked Variance (C - D)		7,449,845					7,449,845	

All types of funding

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
TOTAL BUDGET (C)		8,157,607					8,157,607	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	8,157,607	1,567,694					1,567,694	6,589,912
TOTAL VARIANCE (C - D)		6,589,912					6,589,912	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRET005 - Ethiopia Food Insecurity

IV. Project Details (Earmarked/Non-earmarked)

Project	Name	Earmarked				Non-Earmarked				Opening Balance
		Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	
		A1	B1	C1	D1 = (A1 + B1 + C1)	A2	B2	C2	D2 = (A2 + B2 + C2)	A = A1 + A2
Goal 1: Disaster Management										
PET020	Ethiopia Food Insecurity	0	1,021,059	-859,933	161,126		874,492	-707,761	166,731	0
Sub-Total Goal 1: Disaster Management		0	1,021,059	-859,933	161,126		874,492	-707,761	166,731	0
TOTAL - All projects		0	1,021,059	-859,933	161,126		874,492	-707,761	166,731	0

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

All types of funding			Budget	Variance
Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance		
B = B1 + B2	C = C1 + C2	D = (A + B + C)	E	F = E - D
1,895,551	-1,567,694	327,857	8,157,607	6,589,912
1,895,551	-1,567,694	327,857	8,157,607	6,589,912
1,895,551	-1,567,694	327,857	8,157,607	6,589,912

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRET005 - Ethiopia Food Insecurity

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	8,157,607					8,157,607
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>	101,396					101,396
<i>British Red Cross</i>	553,160					553,160
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>	101,000					101,000
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>	250,982					250,982
<i>Irish Red Cross</i>	71,790					71,790
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	195,552					195,552
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>	16,350					16,350
<i>On Line donations</i>	4,666					4,666
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	410,280					410,280
<i>Unidentified donor</i>	50,000					50,000
C1. Cash contributions	1,755,176					1,755,176
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>	128,802					128,802
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>	-0					-0
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	128,802					128,802
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>	11,573					11,573
C5. Inkind Personnel	11,573					11,573
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	1,895,551					1,895,551
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,895,551					1,895,551

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	1,895,551					1,895,551
E. Expenditure	-1,567,694					-1,567,694
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	327,857					327,857

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRET005 - Ethiopia Food Insecurity

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		8,157,607					8,157,607	
Supplies								
Food	4,265,565	46,992				46,992	4,218,573	
Seeds,Plants	565,180	-46,684				-46,684	611,864	
Water & Sanitation	629,772						629,772	
Other Supplies & Services	200,000						200,000	
Total Supplies	5,660,517	308				308	5,660,208	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	4,400	2,689				2,689	1,711	
Others Machinery & Equipment		1,306				1,306	-1,306	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	4,400	3,995				3,995	405	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	40,183	5,147				5,147	35,036	
Distribution & Monitoring	5,280	7,068				7,068	-1,788	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,347,723	11,267				11,267	1,336,456	
Total Transport & Storage	1,393,186	23,482				23,482	1,369,704	
Personnel								
International Staff	267,308	134,165				134,165	133,143	
National Staff		2,646				2,646	-2,646	
National Society Staff	60,340	824				824	59,515	
Consultants		6,903				6,903	-6,903	
Total Personnel	327,648	144,538				144,538	183,110	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	37,830	3,250				3,250	34,580	
Total Workshops & Training	37,830	3,250				3,250	34,580	
General Expenditure								
Travel	24,960	15,413				15,413	9,547	
Information & Public Relation	27,556	86				86	27,470	
Office Costs	24,582	99				99	24,484	
Communications	9,630	1,807				1,807	7,823	
Professional Fees	5,702						5,702	
Financial Charges	4,860	82				82	4,778	
Other General Expenses	106,491	5,003				5,003	101,488	
Total General Expenditure	203,781	22,490				22,490	181,291	
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		1,260,000				1,260,000	-1,260,000	
Total Contributions & Transfers		1,260,000				1,260,000	-1,260,000	
Programme Support								
Program Support	530,244	109,631				109,631	420,613	
Total Programme Support	530,244	109,631				109,631	420,613	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	8,157,607	1,567,694				1,567,694	6,589,912	
VARIANCE (C - D)		6,589,912				6,589,912		

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRET005 - Ethiopia Food Insecurity

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/5-2008/12
Appeal	MDRET005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

IV. Project Details

Project	Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Budget	Variance
		A	B	C	A + B + C	D	D - C
Goal 1: Disaster Management							
PET020	Ethiopia Food Insecurity	0	1,895,551	-1,567,694	327,857	8,157,607	6,589,912
Sub-Total Goal 1: Disaster Management		0	1,895,551	-1,567,694	327,857	8,157,607	6,589,912
Total	Ethiopia Food Insecurity	0	1,895,551	-1,567,694	327,857	8,157,607	6,589,912