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# Emergency appeal operation update

## Ethiopia: Drought

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

### Emergency appeal n° MDRET010 GLIDE n° DR-2011-000101-ETH Operation update n°7 15 August, 2013

**Period covered by this Ops Update:** 5 February 2013 to 30 June 2013.

**Appeal target (current):** CHF 12,258,425

**Appeal coverage:** 85%; [click here to go directly to the updated donor response report](#), or [here to link to contact details](#)

#### Appeal history:

- A [Preliminary Emergency Appeal](#) was initially launched on 5 August 2011 for CHF 10,978,250 for 6 months to assist 165,000 beneficiaries.
- In the same month, CHF 200,000 was allocated from the IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to start this operation. Unearmarked funds from the Appeal have been used to reimburse this DREF allocation.
- An [Operations Update n°1](#) was published on 30 August 2011 informing on the deployment of a multi-assessment team to the affected region of Moyale. The deployment of a High Level Coordinator for the Horn of Africa Food Security Crisis resulted in a significant scale up of the Red Cross/Red Crescent operations and revisions of the existing appeal at that time, as noted below.
- A [Revised Emergency Appeal](#) was published on 26 September 2011 for CHF 28,408,085 (CHF 25,408,085 plus CHF 3,000,000 for bilateral emergency response support) to assist approximately 570,000 beneficiaries for 12 months in Oromia, Afar and Somali regions.
- An [Operations Update n°2](#) was published on 24 October 2011 informing on the latest developments.
- In December 2011, a second ERCS/IFRC/PNS multi-disciplinary assessment team completed a "Follow up Drought Assessment for Afar" and circulated to partners.
- An [Operations Update n°3](#) was published on 14 March 2012, reporting on further progress. Target beneficiary numbers were adjusted to reflect estimates at the time of finalising the Plan of Action (PoA) for this Appeal.
- A Special "Early Warning Update Sitrep" for both the Ethiopia Drought and Population Movements was issued on end March 2012
- A [6-months summary update](#) was published on 4 April 2012 to give a summary of the operation progress.
- A [Revised Emergency Appeal](#) was published on 28 December 2012 reducing the budget from CHF 25,408,085 to CHF 12,258,426 and extending the operational timeframe for 12 months to 31 August 2013.
- A [12-months-summary update](#) was published on 28 December 2012 to satisfy reporting requirements and is based on information provided in the recent emergency appeal revision indicated above.



Distribution of water purification powder sachets in Moyale, June 2013. Photo/ ERCS

An [18-months summary update](#) was published on 27 June 2013 after the revised Plan of Action (POA) was finalised in May 2013. The POA was drawn following a review workshop and subsequent discussions between IFRC, ERCS and PNS. In addition to informing on changes made to the POA, the operational update reported on progress against the appeal activities up until 5 February 2013 and included an appendix to provide previous log frames as per the revised emergency appeal of 28 December 2012 and inform on activities that have been removed as a result of the amendments to the PoA developed. To note, activity implementation was on stand-by between February and mid-May following the finalisation of the POA.

- This Operations Update n° 7 reports on the progress of activities against the revised POA from 17 May to 30 June 2013 and extends the operation for 1 month for the purpose of carrying out a final evaluation, including lessons learned, and reporting. The operation will therefore be completed by end September, 2013; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 31 December, 2013).

### Summary:

Below is a progress update of the activities implemented to date;

**Water and Sanitation:** In Moyale 2,917 water filters have been delivered to households and the remaining scheduled to be delivered in the upcoming weeks. In addition, a total 793,260 water purification sachets have been distributed to 26,442 households, with each household receiving 30 sachets each. Progress has also been made with the rehabilitation of the Ketella dam, with the contractor recruited and construction works under-way. In Moyale, a total of 1,010 slabs for family latrines have been constructed and 90 volunteers have been selected to be trained in PHAST emergency approach. In Afar, water purifications sachets have been delivered to the branch with 96,000 sachets distributed to 533 households in the Elidar woreda.

For both regions, the household water treatment manual has been delivered to the branches for professional translation and the production of PHAST tool kits has commenced.

**Health Activities:** In Afar, since the revision of the POA, 30 different types of essential drugs have been procured and delivered to the Afar branch ready for distribution. In Moyale, refresher training on malaria prevention and the effective use of the LLINs was provided to 55 volunteers, who have started visiting households to follow up on the utilization of LLINs. For both regions, the procurement of 4 ambulances (two for each region) has been completed with delivery to the branches pending.

**Organisational Development:** As per the organisational development objective, office equipment and furniture was delivered to the Afar branch and the warehouse has been largely completed. The team involved in Planning, Monitoring, Evaluating and Reporting (PMER) has supported with the development of monitoring tools and reports. Programme review meetings at branch and headquarter level have been regularly held and training on branch governance was conducted.

### The situation:

Due to two consecutive seasons of significantly below average rainfall, drought conditions of varying intensity affected most countries in the Horn of Africa. This was intensified by the influence of a strong La Niña episode, reducing the seasonal rains. These conditions resulted in one of the driest years since 1995. In July 2011, The Government of Ethiopia (GOE) launched a Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) indicating that around 4.5 million people would be in need of emergency food interventions from July to December 2011. As a consequence, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) launched an Emergency Appeal in August 2011 to address the drought affected areas in Ethiopia. By September 2011 an initiative was launched across the Horn by the Federation's High Coordinator for the Horn, appointed by the IFRC Secretary General, to surge up activities, especially in response to the situation in Somalia and Kenya. Ethiopia was part of this initiative. The Revised Appeal raised the amount of CHF 28 million, which included a contingency for ERUs.

By January 2012, drought conditions decreased in most parts of the south and south-eastern lowlands of Ethiopia due to the good overall rains in October 2011. The water and pasture availability improved, thanks to the normal to above-normal performance of the deyr/hagaya (October to December) rains in most parts of the country.

For the period up to June 2012, the overall good performance of the 2011 kiremt and deyr rains resulted in favourable harvest prospects in most parts of the country, apart from some pocket areas in the eastern lowlands. In general, the situation is most concerning in southern Moyale (Oromia) and in Afar where availability of pasture is poor in woredas that continue to receive poorer rains and the food security situation continues to

be negatively impacted by high food prices. It is these regions that continue to be the focus of ERCS' interventions for the remaining months of the appeal.

The Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) released in February 2013 estimated the number of people in need of emergency relief assistance in Ethiopia at 2.48 million for the first half of 2013. Compared to second half of 2012, overall relief needs have decreased by 1.4 million. Recently, considering the deterioration in food security and the request by the region, the relief caseload in Afar region has increased by 75,326, bringing the total relief beneficiaries in the region to 184,748.

Reports of deteriorating food security in the lowland parts of East and West Harerghe as well as Bale zones of Oromia triggered multi-sector rapid assessments in April. The assessments recommended an additional 126,000 people to be included in the Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) for the period April to June 2013; the results await endorsement by the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS)<sup>1</sup>.

Water, pasture and browse availability has considerably improved across the country following start of good rains in March 2013. Kiremt season has begun in the Meher harvesting areas and the general performance of the rains in the first half of the year has been mixed. There are isolated areas with poor or below average pastoral conditions including dry belt of Afar region; Northern Shewa of Oromia; and parts of Somali region.

In May 2013, the country level year-on-year inflation that measures the price changes between the same months of two consecutive years has increased by 6.3% and 3.4% respectively for overall inflation and food inflation. The bread and cereal inflation has increased by 6.5%.

## Coordination and partnerships

The implementation of the activities continues to be coordinated in a joint effort by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, led by ERCS, with a new and reinforced disaster management team. The IFRC East Africa regional representation office maintains technical surge capacities in the areas of WatSan, logistics and finance and are providing direct support to the operations. An IFRC Operations Manager has been recruited to support implementation of activities against the revised Plan of Action, based in the field locations of Afar and Moyale for the remaining timeframe of the appeal.

To support coordination efforts, ERCS leads monthly Movement Cooperation Meetings (MCM) at country level, aiming at providing a forum for regular updates and sharing information and experiences between in-country movement partners'. Currently, there are five partner national societies (PNS) present in-country including Swedish, Austrian, Italian, Swiss and Spanish Red Cross implementing both multi and bilateral projects with ERCS.

The ERCS and IFRC staff continue to attend regular UN meetings, specifically with the Ethiopia Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT), the Ethiopia's Agency for Refugees and Returnees / United Nations High Commission for Refugees (ARRA/UNHCR), the health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster, and in parallel, the meetings at regional level to share information on the current operation and harmonize interventions to avoid duplication of actions.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

### Overview

Since the beginning of the emergency a series of assessments were carried out by ERCS, IFRC and PNS staff. At the beginning of July 2011, ERCS conducted an assessment following the release of the Government's Humanitarian Requirements Document which led to the launch of the drought emergency appeal. After the launch of the Appeal, a second assessment team was deployed to Oromia and Somali regions for an in-depth evaluation from 12 to 26 August 2011. The major findings and conclusions of the assessment led to the development of the appeal sectors of water and sanitation, food interventions, health, food security, livelihood, risk reduction and capacity building of branches. Later to further address the needs of the affected people in Afar region, ERCS and IFRC deployed an assessment team on 23 November 2011 to identify intervention areas for water and health related activities.

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<sup>1</sup> WFP monthly report, May 2013

As with the revised appeal published in December 2012, it was agreed that as almost all needs in the Dolo Ado (Somali region, refugee camps) area were being fully met by other agencies and ERCS capacity in that region was weak, the appeal PoA would concentrate on Moyale and Afar.

ERCS, supported by the IFRC Operations Manager and a team, continued addressing needs in Afar and Moyale (Oromia region) area according to agreed PoA. Activities since last operations update covered interventions in water and sanitation and health by providing san plats, medicines to beneficiaries in Afar, and continuing construction of a dam and water catchments in Moyale. Next step is to complete livelihood activities, especially in Afar, including provision of animal fodder and veterinary medicines to needy households.

## Progress to date

Emergency health and care:	
Outcome: Excess morbidity and mortality from diseases related to malnutrition and lack of access to clean drinking water are prevented by providing targeted health and nutrition interventions to up to 200,000 people over a period of 12 months in Oromia Moyale and Afar.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<b>In Oromia Moyale Region</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health status of the population is improved through early detection and management of epidemic disease outbreak and under nutrition.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train 250 (195 as per the revised POA, 55 previously trained) in the Guji and Borena Zones on epidemic disease control for volunteers, to enable them to support the existing extension health workers to conduct health and hygiene promotion, nutritional screening and active case finding to prevent, manage and control potential disease outbreak.</li> <li>Enable 250 volunteers logistically (transport, IEC material etc), conduct a minimum of 3 interventions per volunteer per week in health and hygiene promotion, nutritional screening, active case finding and management of epidemic disease outbreak and under nutrition.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25,000 most affected families are reached by volunteers disseminating messages on malaria prevention and control and distribution of long lasting insecticide nets (LLIN), usage, and assist in the correct hanging of the nets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procure and distribute 50,000 mosquito nets to 25,000 most affected families in the Guji and Borena Zones (<b>activity completed</b>)</li> <li>Disseminate key messages concerning LLIN use and malaria (targeting pregnant women and caretakers for children under 5) utilizing the 102 trained volunteers, extension health workers and community members.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced malaria morbidity by proper utilization of LLINs by households</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess or follow up utilization of LLINs by households at least quarterly</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainably contribute to an improved health status of the population in the drought affected Woredas through regular health activities based on Community Based Health and First Aid interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train and manage 120 volunteers in CBHFA</li> <li>Enable 120 volunteers to conduct regular CBHFA activities in the Guji and Borena Zones</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To contribute to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the affected community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement of two ambulances for Moyale</li> </ul>
<b>In Afar Region</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To contribute to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the affected community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the chronic lack of medicines by supporting the provision of drugs to the health facilities</li> <li>Strengthening of referral systems by providing two ambulances and training crews</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainably contribute to an improved health status of the population in the drought</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train 200 volunteers in the Afar Zones on epidemic disease control for volunteers, to enable them to support the existing extension health workers to conduct health and hygiene promotion, nutritional</li> </ul>

affected woredas through regular health activities based on Community Based Health, Hygiene and First Aid interventions.	screening and active case finding to prevent, manage and control potential disease outbreak <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable 200 volunteers logistically (transport, IEC material etc), conduct a minimum of 3 interventions per volunteer per week in health and hygiene promotion, nutritional screening, active case finding and management of epidemic disease outbreak and under nutrition</li> </ul>
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#### Progress:

**Afar:** Since the revision of the POA, 30 different types of essential drugs have been procured and delivered to the Afar branch ready for distribution. The drugs include antibiotics and medicines for pain relief, hyper-tension, diabetes and epilepsy, as well as other medical conditions. It was not possible to procure the full range of medicines requested by the regional government bureau, but ERCS are looking into potential solutions to source the remaining items preferred by the ministry.

**Moyale:** In following up on the use of Long Lasting Insecticide Nets (LLINs) distributed to beneficiaries earlier in the appeal, refreshment training for 55 volunteers was conducted between 19 - 21 June 2013 against the Moyale POA. The training was conducted in collaboration with the Regional Disaster Preparedness and Prevention agency in Saba Boru and focussed on malaria prevention and the effective use of the LLINs. Since the completion of the refreshment training, the volunteers started visiting households to assess and follow up on the utilization of LLINs, providing support and advice as needed. The refreshment training for the remaining 47 volunteers is scheduled to take place in July - August.

The procurement of two ambulances each for both Moyale and Afar has been completed with the IFRC Dubai logistics hub. Shipment and delivery is underway.

#### Challenges:

The main challenge, specifically related to the health objective as mentioned above, has been with sourcing the full range of medicines requested by the government to support communities in Afar. It is not yet clear whether the medicines can be obtained through other avenues, but Ethiopia Red Cross will be looking into the options available over the course of the month. At this stage, other activities related to the health objective are expected to proceed as planned without foreseen challenges.

There have however, been challenges that have affected all components of the operation. Due to delays in finalising the revised POA, the implementation of activities was halted between early February and mid May 2013, leaving a implementation timeframe of 3 months. It is however, expected the revised POA will be fully implemented until August 2013, with a significant scale up and accelerated rate of implementation utilising the direct support from the IFRC regional operations team and newly assigned ERCS Drought Operations Coordinator.

In January 2012 Ethiopia Red Cross moved from a cash transfer system to a working advance financial system, which has also caused challenges in setting up the new systems and all parties becoming accustomed to the new processes involved. Reconciliation of expenditure to enable new tranches of funds to be released at regular intervals has been a challenge, especially in the context of the upsurge of spending against activities necessitating such reconciliations to be completed swiftly. IFRC Country Representation is providing hands-on support for the effective integration of the working advance system into the national society to minimise any delays from the new processes.

<b>Water Package two: Oromiya/Moyale IFRC</b>	
Water Activities: Availability and access to water for both households and livestock increased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of one deep Bedhesa well</li> <li>• Rehabilitation of three water points/wells in Moyale Oromia</li> <li>• Install six systems for rain water harvesting.</li> <li>• Rehabilitation of one earthen dam small pond (Ketella dam)</li> <li>• Purchase and distribute 3,000 household water filters for 15,000 beneficiaries</li> <li>• Distribute 793,320 water purification power to 4,407 households</li> <li>• Translation of household water treatment and storage manual in emergencies and printing of manuals (400)</li> <li>• Water management training and provide water maintenance equipment</li> </ul>
Hygiene promotion: The health status of the population is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of PHAST to 10,000 beneficiaries, including promotion of family latrine construction.</li> </ul>

improved through behavior change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train 90 volunteers and local leaders in PHAST emergency approach</li> <li>• Provide 90 PHAST toolkits</li> <li>• Establish 90 PHASTER groups and cascade training</li> </ul>
Sanitation activities: Appropriate sanitation is provided to families in Guji and Borena zones of Oromia region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fabrication of 1,000 sanitation platforms (sanplats) for family latrines.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Package three: Afar IFRC</b>	
Water activities: Availability and access to water for both households and livestock increased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of two water reservoirs</li> <li>• Purchase and distribution of 3,000 household water filters for 15,000 beneficiaries</li> <li>• Distribute 579,960 water purification power strips to 3,222 households</li> <li>• Translation of household water treatment and storage manual in emergencies and printing of manuals (200)</li> <li>• Water management training and provide water maintenance equipment</li> </ul>
Hygiene promotion: The health status of the population is improved through behavior change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of PHAST to 5,000 beneficiaries including promotion of family latrine construction</li> <li>• Train 40 volunteers and local leaders in PHAST emergency approach</li> <li>• Provide 40 PHAST toolkits</li> <li>• Establish 40 PHASTER groups and cascade training.</li> </ul>
Sanitation: Appropriate sanitation is provided to targeted woreda and kebele communities and 500 families in Afar region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of 500 sanplats for family latrines</li> </ul>

**Progress:** In Moyale, the procurement of 3,000 household water filters for 15,000 beneficiaries was completed in June 2013 and the filters have been delivered to the branch for distribution to households. To date, 2,917 water filters have been delivered for approximately 14,600 beneficiaries.

**Table 1: Summary of the distribution of water filters per kebele**

Name of kebele in Moyale	Number of water filters distributed per kebele
Mado	325
Argenee	245
Mudhi Ambo	267
Malab	300
Elder	520
Sororo	400
Elkur	500
Maajire	80
Hardure	80
Malbana	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,917</b>

A total of 793,260 water purification sachets have also been distributed to households in Moyale, with 26,442 households reached. It was initially planned that each household would receive 90 water purification sachets each (providing supplies for 3 months) but after consultations with Ethiopian government authorities, ERCS was requested to distribute the sachets to a greater number of kebeles due to many communities drinking pond water. Each household therefore received 30 sachets instead of 90 sachets leading to a total of 26,442 households being reached. The government have stated they will be able to provide addition water maker sachets from their own supplies in the upcoming months, for continuation purposes.

**Table 2: Summary if the distribution of water purification sachets to households per kebele.**

Name of Kebele in Moyale	Number of HHs receiving water purification sachets	Name of Kebele in Moyale	Number of HHs receiving water purification sachets
Mado	1146	Malab	600
Argenee	1294	Elder	2588
Legsure	1266	Sororo	824
Bokola	962	Karaya	494
Dambi	1185	Elkur	1395
Bede	1881	Hurshim	494
Mudhi ambo	413	Boji	383
Gofa	962	Bede	636
Tile Mado	1305	Lagsure	600
Dukisu	2325	Katama	791
Abitu	337	Kojowa	477
Ardaola	974	Raro	307
Kedaduma	1248	Hardure	676
Maajire	579	Debe	300
<b>Total</b>		<b>26,442</b>	

**Progress:** In Moyale, the Ketella dam rehabilitation is going on well, with the contractor recruited and construction works under-way. There has also been progress with the construction of 1,010 slabs for family latrines and 90 volunteers have been selected to be trained in PHAST emergency approach. The training is scheduled to take place in the upcoming weeks.

In Afar, discussions have taken place with the government water bureau on the construction of the two water reservoirs and it is expected that the tendering process will begin soon. As per the last operational update, water purifications sachets have also been delivered to the Afar branch and the distribution to households has commenced. In total 96,000 sachets have been distributed to 533 households in the Elidar woreda and the remaining 483,960 sachets will be distributed in the upcoming weeks.

For both regions, the translation of the household water treatment and storage manual is underway, with the manuals delivered to the branches for professional translators to work on. The production of PHAST tool kits has also commenced for both regions.

The bilaterally managed German Red Cross Water Package four in Bale, Oromia region contributes to the WatSan objectives of the appeal, but is not in the appeal budget. Progress continues to be made with the design of water supplies and hygiene promotion activities being conducted. As previously reported the Swiss Red Cross water package was terminated and the Consortium Water Package is not included in the remaining appeal timeframe, as per the requests of both sets of donors.

#### **Challenges:**

There has been reported a shortage of vehicles affecting the distribution of water purification powder in Moyale and Afar, although the implementation of these activities has progressed well. There have also been some challenges with the tendering process for the construction of the Bedesha well in Oromiya region as the bid was open but did not attract contractors from the correct grade. The bid will therefore need to be re-opened for more contractors to apply. Other challenges relate to those mentioned previously; the transition to the working advance system and remaining implementation timeframe are the primary challenges reported.

#### **Disaster Risk Reduction: Food and Livestock Security: Afar region**

<b>Outcome: The livelihoods of approximately 500 vulnerable households will improve in Afar region.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
Animal health services are supported and reinforced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of basic veterinary materials to improve the surviving livestock health and deteriorated physical condition by which to increase the protection of the existing assets.</li> </ul>
Improved livelihoods of 500 targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide farmers with animal fodder (in kind)</li> </ul>

pastoral community households	
<b>Disaster Risk Reduction: ERCS/IFRC Emergency Preparedness &amp; Contingency Planning Project: Afar Region</b>	
<b>Outcome: ERCS will have and enhanced early warning emergency and response preparedness capacity based on a DRR approach to programming.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
Enhanced ERCS contribution to national early warning systems and to position, prepare and respond to food, livestock, and climatic changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of relevant branch level staff in Early Warning Food and Livestock Security Monitors</li> <li>• Training of NDRT team</li> <li>• Training on VCA and DRR tools</li> </ul>

**Progress:** The procurement process for the provision of basic veterinary materials is underway after an assessment was conducted on livestock feed suppliers and the tendering process to purchase animal has commenced. To support capacity building efforts, training on Early Warning Food and Livestock Security Monitors was completed on 14 -15th of June 2013

### Logistics

<b>Outcome: Humanitarian goods are procured, stored, delivered and distributed in a timely, transparent and cost-effective manner.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well-coordinated mobilization of relief goods</li> <li>• Coordinated delivery to the operational areas ensuring proper storage and distribution to affected communities</li> <li>• Provision of all necessary vehicles for the operation and effective fleet management</li> <li>• Enhanced ERCS logistics capacity through training, workshops, and providing delegates to support the logistics function.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct emergency needs and capacity assessments.</li> <li>• Assist the ERCS in setting up effective and efficient supply chain and provide reporting on performance.</li> <li>• Support the ERCS in developing detailed logistics and procurement plan for the operation.</li> <li>• Build necessary fleet base capacities to support the operation.</li> <li>• Assist the operation in developing a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system.</li> <li>• Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from the point of dispatch to the end user.</li> <li>• Assist the operation in delivering services for the communities including procurement of goods, services and other equipment necessary for effective implementation of the planned activities.</li> <li>• Work closely with the ERCS to strengthen their capacities in procurement, fleet management and supply chain management including training of the operational staff.</li> <li>• Establish a logistics hub in each operational area.</li> <li>• Contract local service providers to transport food from hubs to the distribution points.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** Logistics continues to provide direct support to all areas of the operation to facilitate the smooth implementation of activities. This includes using the logistics plan and IFRC facilitating the procurement of agreed operational items directly from Dubai including ambulances, GPS maps and surveying equipment for Watsan construction activities. Since the last operational update, the IFRC Country Representative Logistics Officer conducted a monitoring visit in Moyale to follow up on the effective distribution of water purification powder and assist with any potential distribution challenges.

**Challenges:** As previously reported there have been some serious challenges experienced with logistics and procurement processes over the course of this operation. To address the challenges, ERCS revised their procurement procedures specifically for the appeal to speed up processes, and IFRC regional logistics team are directly engaged and monitoring all logistics and procurement related activities.

### Communications, Advocacy and Public Information

<b>Outcome: The profile and position of the host national society and the IFRC are enhanced, leading to increased availability of funds and other resources to support this and future emergency operations.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
Communications products are made available to media and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News releases, fact sheets, video, photographs and interviews with qualified spokespeople are developed and made available to media and</li> </ul>

stakeholders.	<p>key stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct outreach will be coordinated with the Host National Society and conducted with national and international media.</li> <li>• The launch of this appeal and other major milestones throughout the operation will be supported with people-centred, community level diverse content, including web-stories, video footage and photos will be posted to ifrc.org and shared with other global humanitarian web portals and international media</li> <li>• An IFRC communications officer will be deployed immediately to the affected region, coordinating the gathering and dissemination of communication materials, liaising with and supporting the Host National Society and acting as spokesperson/media relations focal point for international media.</li> </ul>
Existing and potential donors, national societies and other partners receive and use high quality communications materials and tools they need to raise funds and build awareness for this emergency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A communications toolkit will be developed and distributed to key stakeholders that includes draft news releases, opinion pieces linking the operation to IFRC advocacy priorities (e.g. early warning, emergency health, IDRL), key messages, talking points, reactive lines addressing existing and potential risks to reputation, beneficiary profiles, photos, extended captions and access to video footage for use in the partners' domestic markets.</li> <li>• Conference calls for global communicators will be held as needed to share updated information and to understand emerging opportunities and needs in the communications arena.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** Communications continues to focus on issuing any news updates through local media and providing information to the Regional and Zone office in Nairobi as requested. Other areas of the operation have taken priority leading to more emphasis and focus being put on health, Watsan, DRR and organisational development operational plans.

### Capacity of the National Society

<b>Outcome: ERCS capacity at Headquarters and branch levels to deliver more effective services to vulnerable people and respond to future emergencies has increased.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
Capacities of the ERCS branches in operational areas are strengthened to ensure adequate service deliveries to vulnerable communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide with adequate transport and fleet capacities to ensure mobility and rapid response.</li> <li>• Provide necessary office equipment and furniture.</li> <li>• Conduct training of the branch governance on relationships between the management and the governance in operational branches.</li> <li>• Conduct branch capacity assessment in Afar Completion of warehouse at Afar branch</li> </ul>
Enhanced capacity of the National Society to better respond to humanitarian challenges and coordinate branch activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize programme review meetings at branch and headquarter level.</li> <li>• Conduct programme evaluation and/lessons learnt exercises to identify strengths and weakness of the response activities and take relevant measures for future operations - organizational learning.</li> <li>• Strengthen the ERCS PMER capacities through peer support, trainings and recruitment of necessary staff at HQs and branch levels. Train ERCS volunteers and staff in community development approach in operational branches</li> </ul>

**Progress:** As per the capacity building objective, office equipment and furniture was delivered to the Afar branch and the warehouse has been largely completed. PMER has supported the operation with the development of monitoring and evaluation plans, monitoring tools and with the development of reports. There have also been monitoring visits conducted at the branches to support the operation. Programme review meetings at branch and headquarter level have been regularly held, to support communication efforts to monitor progress against the plan. Lastly training on branch governance has been completed at the Afar branch, focussing on the relationship between management and governance. The pending activities for capacity building plan are expected to be completed during the remaining period of the operation.

## Contact information

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## How we work

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

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

- Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
  - Enable healthy and safe living.
  - Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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