

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Horn of Africa Region: Food Insecurity

DREF operation no. MDR64003
GLIDE no. OT-2008-000196-
DJI/ERI/ETH/KEN/SOM
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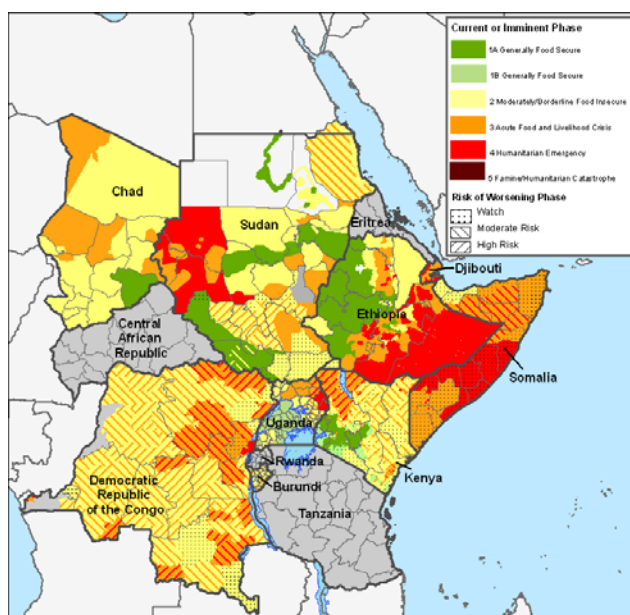
The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 130,000 (USD 118,830 or EUR 82,803) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the assessment and revision of strategy for addressing the needs of the estimated 17 million people affected by food insecurity in the Horn of Africa region. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: In view of the serious food insecurity situation in the region a team of experts have been mobilised to review the current emergency and long-term food security operations of the RC/RC in the region in order to identify gaps and ways to scale up the operations. A regional appeal may be launched as part of the review process.

This assessment is expected to be implemented over 1.5 months, and will therefore be completed by the end of November 2008; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 28th February 2009).

[<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details>](#)



Integrated Phase Classification Map for HoA [Sources: IPC country teams; FEWS NET for Chad, Djibouti, and Ethiopia. Sudan map is a prototype

The situation

Current estimates suggest that large areas of Horn of Africa are in a state of humanitarian emergency as a result of a complex combination of factors including rapid food price rises, drought and insecurity (see map above). It is estimated that at least 17 million people are now in need of urgent food and other humanitarian assistance. Prior to the current combination of shocks, governments had made progress towards more stable food security in many parts of the region. However underlying vulnerability (related to limited resources and poor basic services) combined with the severity of the current crisis meant that fragile coping mechanisms have collapsed

It is evident from the latest analysis that the situation is critical in Ethiopia, Somalia and Djibouti. There are also concerns that the situation is deteriorating in Eritrea, northern Kenya and North Eastern Uganda.

UN estimate of number of people in need of humanitarian assistance (Sept, 08 - various sources including FEWSNET, FAO, WFP)

Country	Affected Population	Remarks
Somalia	3.3	Up from 2.6 in April
Ethiopia	6.4 (+5.7 under PSNP ¹)	Up from 4.6 in June
Kenya	1.4	Up from 1.2 in June
Djibouti	265,000	Up from 120,000 in July
Eritrea	unknown	
Total	17 million	

The response has been sporadic and WFP is facing considerable challenges with breaks in the food pipeline resulting in reduced ration being distributed in Ethiopia. The estimated shortfall in funding to address the needs of this case load is stated as US\$716 Million. It is important to note that not all governments agree with the UN figures and budgets for a UN response are often highly inflated. However latest nutritional surveys continue to indicate critical situations in the “hot spots” especially in southern SNNPR (Ethiopia), Karamoja (Uganda) and very critical in many parts of Somalia.

The current RC/RC responses (see DREF Bulletins and Appeal updates for Ethiopia, Djibouti, Uganda and Kenya) target the worst affected areas (note the clear correlation between the RC/RC target areas and the “red” areas in the map above). However obvious gaps are the larger area affected in Ethiopia, Somalia and Eritrea where there are political restrictions on where humanitarian actors can operate and RC/RC is not immune to these restrictions

Coordination and partnerships

A key part of the gap assessment will be to review the RC/RC operations in the context of other humanitarian actions. The team will coordinate closely with UNOCHA and other UN agencies to identify gaps in the ongoing response.

ICRC is responding to the food insecurity crisis through its ongoing operations in the region; the assessment will therefore involve key staff within ICRC and any proposed scale-up of RC/RC operations should be complimentary to ongoing action by ICRC.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The multi-disciplinary assessment mission have been fielded by the IFRC Secretary General to support a rapid scale up of the response to and positive impact of the NS on the prevailing acute food insecurity in the respective countries.

The needs

(See above for UN estimates of number of people in need of humanitarian assistance).
More details needs and more specific beneficiary targeting will be identified during the assessment.

¹ Productive Safety Nets Programme (PSNP) is an ongoing initiative to provide social protection to the most vulnerable in selected areas of Ethiopia. Initial transfers were made in cash but due to high food prices the beneficiaries requested food instead of cash for the last few months.

The proposed operation

Gap Assessment and Action Planning

Objective:

1. To rapidly assess **existing gaps** in the existing response to the acute food crisis in Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia and, depending on the outcome of ongoing joint assessments by its government and UN actors, possibly in Eritrea. While parts of Kenya and Uganda are also suffering from severe food insecurity, harvests in other parts of these countries were generally better and leave, combined with the support that is already on its way, more space to the competent authorities to deal with the situation themselves.
Gaps to be identified are expected to be primarily in the fields of **health and nutrition, emergency water and sanitation and support to the protection of livelihood and agriculture**. They might further include interventions in terms of the provision of food as long as they are not competing with ongoing, successful efforts from other actors.
2. To rapidly assess the capacity and willingness of National Red Cross Societies to scale up their response to the prevailing crisis and identify possible obstacles whether financial, capacity related or political to a significant scaling-up effort. To subsequently identify the priorities for action as prioritized by them within the above identified gaps in the ongoing service delivery.
3. To support National Societies in drafting a realistic plan of action, timeframe and credible budgets for inclusion in an appeal if indicated and necessary.
4. To support National Societies in defining potential partnerships with other relevant partners to either immediately facilitate the forging of such partnership or request support from the zone office for further follow-up.
5. To assess the relevance and feasibility of developing and maintaining a regional vulnerability tracking strategy and to implement within this strategic framework a large scale (initially) three year sustainable community livelihood approach within the relief-recovery-development continuum/continuum concept.
6. To determine with the involved National Societies and the existing Federation entities any additional resources that might be needed to effectively support the proposed scale up by National Societies.
7. To define strategies with the involved National Societies and the existing Federation entities to overcome some of the obstacles that might be hindering a larger scale involvement of the Societies of the region in the preparedness for and response to recurrent and/or persistent food-insecurity
8. To draft a final report including findings and recommendations for immediate action by the Zone and Geneva offices of no more than 20-30 pages in length including a one page executive summary. This can be supplemented by annexes. The report should be submitted in Arial 11 point. An initial draft report should be available for comments by week five of the mission with the final report presented by week six of the mission.
9. To provide recommendations for future skills and methodology development to ensure optimal future response to similar disasters. These recommendations could, inter alia, also include measures to strengthen strategic partnerships and the FOF process
10. To draft an overall plan of action, timeframe, budgets and input for a regional drought appeal/appeal revision if warranted by the situation.
11. To define a communication strategy to support the launch of this appeal and to ensure adequate advocacy on behalf of those that are affected by the crisis.

Activities planned:

- Review available documents on the situation from the Movement and external sources, including NGOs, United Nations agencies, Governments and Inter-governmental organizations.
- Interview key staff of organizations (NGOs, United Nations agencies, Governments and Inter-governmental organizations) working in the Horn of Africa in order to identify existing gaps in the response to the crisis

- Interview key staff of the Secretariat in country, Zone and Geneva offices as well as key staff of the ICRC in order to identify existing gaps in the Red Cross and Red Crescent response and possible options for rapid corrective action
- Interview key staff of the National Societies in the affected countries in order to understand the country specific situation, and how the National Society is addressing it.
- Interview key staff of Participating National Societies that contribute to the Horn of Africa programming to determine their analysis and capacities to support RC/RC actions.

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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[See attached budget](#)

DREF Budget Summary – Horn of Africa: Food Insecurity (MDR64003)

DREF BUDGET SUMMARY

HoA - Food Insecurity Assessment

RELIEF NEEDS

Shelter
Construction Materials
Clothing & Textiles
Food
Seeds & Plants
Water & Sanitation
Medical & First Aid
Teaching Materials
Utensils & Tools
Other Supplies & Services
ERU - BHC

Total Relief Needs

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

Land & Buildings
Vehicles Purchase (Motorbikes)
Computers & Telecom Equipment
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.
Medical Equipment
Other Machinery & Equipment

TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

Storage - Warehouse
Distribution & Monitoring
Transport & Vehicles Costs 11,220

PERSONNEL

International Staff
Regionally Deployed Staff
National Staff 10,220
National Society Staff

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

Workshops & Training

GENERAL EXPENSES

Travel 60,110
Information & Public Relations
Office running costs 15,000
Communication Costs 5,000
Professional Fees
Financial Charges
Other General Expenses 20,000

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Programme Support - PSR	8,450
Total Operational Needs	130,000
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	130,000
Available Ressources	
Net Request	130,000