

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Kenya: Drought

Emergency appeal n° MDRKE009

GLIDE n° DR-2009-000197-KEN

Operations update n° 1

9 October 2009

Period covered by this Operations Update: 17 September to 28 September 2009.

Appeal target: CHF 8,680,692 (USD 8,427,856 or EUR 5,748,803)

Appeal coverage: 3%;

[click here to go directly to the updated donor response report](#) or [here to link to contact details](#) >

### Appeal history:

- This [Emergency Appeal](#) was initially launched locally on 17 September 2009 for **CHF 8,680,692 (USD 8,427,856 or EUR 5,748,803)** for 6 months to assist **1,692,428** beneficiaries.

**Summary:** The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) is putting in place early recovery mechanisms especially in the South Eastern part of the country through preparing farming communities to maximize on the predicted favourable weather conditions by providing seeds for food crops. KRCS plans to purchase 50 MT of seeds for distribution in Yatta District. The KRCS is also working with partners to mobilize resources for continuity and expansion of the current school feeding programme carried out in 66 schools in Mwingi and Kyuso targeting 25,000 children.



Kenya Red Cross Society volunteer discusses the drought situation with Garissa elders in northeastern Kenya.

## The situation

Heightened food insecurity has been reported throughout the country, following the findings of the long rains assessment that was carried out by the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) from July to August 2009. According to the Kenya Food Security Steering Group, an estimated 3.8 million in pastoral, agro pastoral and marginal agricultural areas are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance due to the ongoing drought situation. The extremely food insecure populations include pastoralists in many parts of Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, and Tana River districts and marginal agricultural farm households in parts of Mwingi and Kitui districts. The post election violence has also rendered some 100,000 persons vulnerable since their livelihoods have not fully recovered. The education system has largely been affected due to food insecurity, where 1.5 million schools children in drought affected areas are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance.

Resource based conflicts have been reported in various parts of the country, particularly in the North Rift and Upper Eastern regions, which has consequently resulted in loss of human lives, livestock deaths and subsequent loss of livelihoods. The conflict situation has hampered relief efforts and recovery in areas that

received fair rains during the long rains season. Scarcity of water continues to characterise the drought situation and according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET), trekking distances have extended to 40 kilometres for cattle and camels, and over 25 kilometres for sheep and goats in most pastoral areas, compared to 10 to 15 and 10 kilometres, respectively, during rainy seasons.

The Arid Lands Resource Management Project (ALRMP) has reported that boreholes are running for an unusual 18 to 24 hours as compared to the normal eight hours a day, leading to frequent breakdowns. The water scarcity has further worsened already weakened livestock body conditions since animals in some areas only access water once, every three days, instead of every day. This is expected to slow recovery in the event of the predicted El Niño rains. Scarcity of water and pasture has extended migrating distances to game parks, thus resulting in human and/or livestock and wildlife conflict. Livestock from Kajiado and Tana River districts have, for example, migrated to Tsavo National Park, thereby increasing likelihood of conflict exposing animals to diseases.

Cases of Contagious Caprine Pleuro Pneumonia (CCPP) and Contagious Bovine Pleuro Pneumonia (CBPP) have been reported in Wajir, Samburu, Kajiado, Garissa, Narok and West Pokot. According to FEWSNET, livestock mortality rates in Turkana have risen from 3.4 percent in July to 6.5 percent in September among small stock, and from 2.3 percent in July to 7.1 percent in September among large stock. In the marginal agricultural lowlands of the south east and coast, influx of livestock from Kajiado, Garissa and Tana River continues to promote conflict due to limited resources. Farming communities in Taita Taveta, Kwale and Kilifi have been affected by wildlife, especially elephants and buffaloes from Tsavo National Park, which have destroyed crops.

Reports by the Famine Early Warning System further indicate that the predicted El Niño rains could result in significant pre and post harvest losses. The rains are, however, expected to benefit pastoralists and marginal agricultural households towards the end of the year.

### **Lower Eastern**

The drought situation in Lower Eastern region remains critical as pastoralists grapple with lack of pasture and scarcity of water. Many of them have migrated to Kyulu hills where the situation is more favourable. Trekking distances are now at an average of 10km to 20km. In anticipation of the short rains in October, communities in Kitui have started preparing their farm lands. A high percentage of the households, however, do not have the capacity to purchase seeds since their livelihoods have been crippled by the severe drought situation.

Livestock deaths continue to be reported in the region. Some residents of Kibwezi and Makindu are reported to be affected by Pellagra, which is a vitamin deficiency caused by lack of niacin (vitamin B3) and which may also be caused by alterations in protein metabolism disorders. The cases of Pellagra were reported at Kathyaka Dispensary, Kathyaka Location, Makindu Division, and Makindu District, where at least 29 people were diagnosed as suffering from the disease. The Kenya Red Cross Society in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) is implementing school feeding programme in nine health facilities and targeting a total population of 4,006 beneficiaries.

### **North Eastern (the larger Garissa, Ijara, Mandera, Wajir and Mwingi districts)**

The drought situation in North Eastern is worsening and most water sources, especially pans, have completely dried up in all the five districts. Majority of livestock have migrated to Somalia and Ethiopia in search of water and pasture, while livestock from Ijara have migrated to Tana River and Lamu Districts. Sheep and milking herds, which were left behind have succumbed to the drought and carcasses are strewn over most parts of Mandera, Wajir and Garissa. Severe water scarcity has also been reported in five districts and distances to water sources range from 30 to more than 100 kilometres.

### **North Rift Region**

The greater Turkana District is still experiencing severe drought with reports of livestock deaths. Severe water scarcity has also been reported in Turkana where communities trek long distances in search of water and in some cases consuming highly contaminated water. All parts remain dry with the exception of Turkana South, which received light showers for one day, therefore not creating significant impact on pasture regeneration. Pastoralists have migrated with livestock along borders to neighbouring countries increasing conflicts. Tension between Turkana pastoralists and those from Sudan have resulted in deaths. Tensions also continue to escalate between the Pokot and Turkana communities.

The drought situation has been further aggravated by a recent cholera outbreak that had devastating effects on livelihoods of the communities since fishing, which is the major source of income in the affected divisions of Kalokol and Kerio in Turkana Central District, has been banned.

The drought spell has gripped most parts of Pokot, with the worst hit areas being Pokot North, eight locations in Central Pokot namely Masol, Porkoyu, Sekerot, parts of Batei, Cheptulel, Lomut, parts of Wei Wei and parts of Sekerr (Orwa sub location) and Kong'elai, Sook (parts of Endugh, Nakwijit, Ptoyo and Tamugh) and Chepkopegh in Chepareria division all in West Pokot. Most dams and water pans in Pokot remain dry and the little water collected has since been exhausted. Most permanent rivers including Sighya, Kerio and Wakor in Pokot Central have also dried up, while water levels at the Suam (Turkwel) and the Muruny rivers are now dwindling to water levels not witnessed before.

With the critical drought situation, more livestock have migrated to insecure Pokot - Turkana border - heightening likelihood of perennial conflicts over pasture and water. Livestock have migrated northwards towards Turkana South to Amolem, Akiramet and Katembulion. The migrations have raised cross-border conflicts between the Pokot community and the neighbouring Karamoja and Turkana, along the northern border, and with the Marakwet along the central border.

The drought situation has aggravated livestock health, which has subsequently affected the health of communities since most people depend on livestock products. Women, children and the elderly are the most vulnerable, since the few healthy livestock have migrated to Uganda, leaving them with no source of food except reliance on relief food.

Malnutrition rates continue to escalate in many parts of Pokot. For instance, malnutrition rates stands at 15.8 percent in Sigor in Pokot Central, 11 percent in Kasei and Kiwawa divisions in Pokot North and 11.6 percent in Kong'elai in Pokot West. Education in Pokot has also been disrupted since many children have migrated with their parents, in search of water and pasture. School enrolment has dropped in Pokot North and Central.

#### **Upper Eastern (Moyale, Marsabit, Samburu, Isiolo, Meru and Embu)**

The drought situation in Upper Eastern region is devastating. Numerous livestock deaths have been reported throughout the region, particularly in Merti and Cherab divisions in Isiolo, which are the worst hit areas in the district. The situation has also been characterised by severe water scarcity and resources based conflicts among communities. Most surface water sources in the region have dried up and the few water sources available are congested, therefore, increasing likelihood of conflicts. Recent conflicts have been reported in Samburu and Laikipia where at least 32 lives were lost in the area.

There is high concentration of people and livestock in Burgabo and Turbi boreholes in Marsabit. As a result, there has been escalation of conflicts between communities from Marsabit and Laisamis at Yamicha in Isiolo. Human and wildlife conflicts have also been reported in Kinna Division of Garbatulla District in Isiolo, with the existing water source being congested by wildlife from the neighbouring national park. Frequent conflicts in the region are hampering relief efforts by humanitarian organisations.

Farmers and pastoralists in Mbeere are migrating towards River Rupingazi in neighbouring Embu in search of pasture and water, resulting in human and wildlife conflicts. The areas worst hit by prolonged drought in Embu include Kiambere, Mutuavare, Karaba, Wachoro and Riakanau. In Meru North, hardest hit areas include Mutuati, Meru National Park, Akithi and the south and northern side of Tigania West District. Other hard hit areas include Tharaka District and Tharaka South in Meru South District, Timau East, Bururi, Lewa, Ndoleli, Ntugi and Ntumburi in Imenti Central District and Timau East and Rwarera in Imenti North District.

#### **Central Region**

Communities in Laikipia have been involved in resource-based conflicts with the Samburu from the Upper Eastern Region. The heightened insecurity in two regions has been occasioned by competition for scarcity of water and pasture. Pastoralists in Olmorani, Rumuruti and Doldol have been adversely affected by drought while those in Laikipia are migrating to the slopes of Mount Kenya in search of water. The encroachment on the water catchment area of Mt Kenya has negatively affected the ecosystem including reports of deaths of elephants. There is need to provide relief to communities in the area to prevent further damage and protect the water catchment area.

Other areas affected include Ndungari, Nairutia, Mugunda and Gataragwa in Kieni District and communities in Nyeri slums and Solio Ranch Settlement Scheme. The severity of drought situation has increased the number of

vulnerable people not targeted in the current relief aid. Despite being highly productive during normal climatic conditions, areas such as Liharu and Lyego in Murang'a District as well as Kakuzi in Thika District have been hard hit, especially the school-going children. There is need to drill boreholes for community members in Kieni District. Fish farming is being implemented in most parts of Murang'a under the Ministry of Fisheries, hence the need to provide alternative livelihoods among the residents.

### **Coast Region**

The coastal region has not been spared by the drought although favourable rains are expected to improve the situation by the end of the year. In Kilifi, the worst hit areas are Ganze, Bamba and Marikina. In Malindi, the most affected areas include Malindi, Marafa, Magarini and Lango Baya divisions. The KRCS Malindi Branch is currently working with People Living with HIV and AIDS (PLHIV) in the area by providing Home Based Care (HBC) – the PLHIV have been adversely affected by the drought situation since they cannot access the sufficient dietary needs.

The Kenya Red Cross Society's Malindi Branch is currently lobbying for the division to be targeted by the Government of Kenya relief aid. Resource-based conflicts have recently been reported between the Orma and Giriama communities in Chakama in Lango Baya Division, Malindi District, where pastoralists from the Orma communities take their livestock for grazing along the River Chakama, on farms owned by members of the Giriama community. At least three casualties are receiving treatment following the conflicts. Although the situation is under control, with the peace committee spearheading reconciliation efforts, tension is likely to escalate should the drought situation persist.

### **Coordination and partnerships**

The Kenya Red Cross Society, in partnership with the Government of Kenya and the World Food Programme, is providing food aid under the Emergency Operation Programme (EMOP) and/or Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) targeting 2.6 million people. The KRCS is serving 13 districts under EMOP and/or PRRO programme with 797,141 beneficiaries in the unified food pipeline, which is 31 percent of the total food aid beneficiaries of the Government of Kenya (GOK) and/or World Food Programme (WFP) pipeline. In addition, the KRCS has a Memorandum of Understanding with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) which addresses the needs of communities in emergencies.

The KRCS continues to hold regular briefings and updates with International Federation East Africa Zone office, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners including Partner National Societies.

The National Society also maintains strong collaboration and networking with Government of Kenya line ministries, District Steering Groups (DSG) and other stakeholders in carrying out interventions within the [Emergency Appeal](#).

### **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

While continuing interventions undertaken under the earlier local drought appeal, the KRCS is engaged in providing several interventions to affected communities under the [Emergency Appeal](#). Assessments reflect the drought situation is critical with numerous livestock death reported due to severe water shortage. Assessments also reflect that there is need for animal off-take in Upper Eastern.

The Kenya Red Cross Society has distributed 20 MT of food in Samburu and Laikipia following conflicts between communities in the two areas that left 32 people dead. The National Society is distributing 24 MT of food to 1,000 beneficiaries in Koibatek and has distributed 11.042 MT of food to vulnerable communities in low income settlement areas in Nairobi.

The KRCS, as a lead agency in 13 districts under the Protracted Relief and Recovery Programme undertaken by World Food Programme and the Government of Kenya, continues to distribute 8,472 MT of relief food a month to 797,141 beneficiaries in the unified food pipeline, which is 31 percent of the total food aid beneficiaries of GOK/WFP programme. The 13 districts include Kwale, Garissa, Marsabit, Ijara, Maragua, Tana River, Malindi, North Pokot, East Pokot, Lamu, Machakos and Makueni and the newly included Koibatek District where KRCS will distribute food to 45,526 beneficiaries starting October 2009.

## Progress towards objectives

| Relief distributions (food)  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Objective: To provide supplementary feeding to 500,000 school-going in Mwingi, Makueni, Kitui and Machakos districts.</b> |   |
| Expected results   | Activities planned  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved nutritional status of affected children and retention in schools.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide supplementary food rations (Corn Soya Blend and/or unimix) to the schools for 6 months (one distribution per month) 1.2 kg per child per month.</li> </ul> |

### Progress

The KRCS continues to monitor the situation in Mwingi and Kyuso and is working with other partners in sourcing funds for continuity and expansion of the current school feeding programme in 66 primary schools targeting 25,000 children. The KRCS is also lobbying through District Steering Groups to recommend that the schools are targeted under the Home Grown Programme (HGP) by WFP which is more sustainable. The HGP is being implemented by WFP and Ministry of Education by sending funds to school to purchase food locally. The HGP gives rations of 150 grams of cereal, 40 grams of pulses, 5 grams of oil and salt to taste per meal per child for a period of 12 months. This programme therefore cuts on logistic costs since food is purchased locally by the schools.

### Challenge

The school feeding programme has been stalled due to lack of funding and the KRCS is working with partners to mobilize resources for continuation of the school feeding programme.

| Emergency health and care  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Objective: To contribute to reduction of morbidities and mortalities for 629,174 people in drought affected areas with emphasis on pastoral areas through provision of basic community health care services.</b>  |   |
| Expected Results   | Activities planned  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced morbidity and mortality due to communicable diseases among the affected population.</li> <li>Increased disease awareness, prevention and control in addition to other health issues amongst the affected population.</li> <li>Improved disease surveillance systems that enhance regular reporting and feedback.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerated mobile outreach services to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase vaccination coverage to reduce on number of children vulnerable to vaccine preventable diseases;</li> <li>Strengthen community based surveillance for early outbreak detection;</li> <li>Support referral services and linkages;</li> <li>Treatment of common ailments and screening for malnutrition;</li> <li>Increase coverage in distribution of household water treatment chemicals;</li> </ol> </li> <li>Carry out health promotion and education among the affected population for disease prevention especially diarrhoeal diseases.</li> <li>Support existing Ministry of Health integrated surveillance systems.</li> <li>Support monitoring, evaluation and supervision of emergency health activities.</li> </ul> |

### Progress

The KRCS is conducting a national measles campaign in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. All regions of North Rift, North Eastern Lower Eastern, Coast, West Kenya and Upper Eastern are involving Red Cross volunteers in community mobilisation. The KRCS Turkana Branch is currently conducting the Measles Campaign targeting children under five years which scheduled to end on 25 September 2009. The branch is involved in social mobilisation in the greater Turkana district. The KRCS Kitui Branch is also spearheading social mobilisation in 10 divisions for measles immunisation which is expected to end on 25 September 2009, while KRCS Central Region is covering seven districts under the campaign. Kwale Branch is also involved in the measles campaign as well as other programme activities including working with PLHIV in Bahari and Malaria Programme in Kaloleni and

Chonyi Divisions. The KRCS has also been instrumental in containing a cholera outbreak in Turkana in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.

### Challenges

Activities under this object have not taken place due to lack of funding. The Kenya Red Cross Society is actively involved in mobilizing resources to implement the activities.

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Objective (a): To provide access to safe water, in line with Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE) standards for an estimated 897,277 individuals in pastoral and marginal agricultural areas affected by drought in north eastern, upper eastern and lower eastern regions.**

| Expected results  | Activities planned   |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved access to safe water (15 litres per person per day) provided to 897,277 persons as damaged systems are restored.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to rapid response teams by providing fast moving spare parts for 24 boreholes and servicing 11 generator sets.</li> <li>• Lay 20 kilometres of pipeline to enhance water supply to drought stricken areas.</li> <li>• Increase storage capacity at distribution points through provision of 11 bladder tanks and 50 UPVC water tanks.</li> <li>• Identify and rehabilitate 20 boreholes and/or shallow wells at selected sites (institutions and community centres).</li> <li>• Form and train 38 water management committees to manage the constructed and/or rehabilitated water facilities.</li> <li>• Distribute water treatment products to 30,000 vulnerable households.</li> </ul> |

**Objective (b): To promote hygiene and sanitation in line with SPHERE standards for an estimated 897,277 individuals in pastoral and marginal agricultural areas affected by drought in north eastern, upper eastern and lower eastern regions.**

| Expected results  | Activities planned  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved health status of the population through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.</li> <li>• Key hygiene messages disseminated effectively at household and/or community level and positive hygiene behaviour adopted by targeted households.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train 20 volunteers and/or trainer of trainers (TOTs) on Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation in Emergency Response (PHASTER) methodologies.</li> <li>• Conduct continuous hygiene promotion and awareness campaigns among the affected individuals.</li> <li>• Produce and distribute generic hygiene promotional information, education and communication (IEC) materials.</li> <li>• Establish and/or strengthen community water committees within the rehabilitated water points.</li> <li>• Conduct child to child hygiene promotion in 35 schools.</li> </ul> |

### Progress

The National Society has distributed bladder tanks of 3,500 litre capacity in Lagdera (2 units), Garissa (1 unit) and Fafi (1 unit). The KRCS is also carrying out water trucking to communities in Fafi, Lagdera and Garissa. The KRCS Marsabit Branch is involved in provision of aqua tabs and water filters to prevent and control cholera outbreaks in the area. The Branch is engaged in installation of hand pumps in Laisamis, Maikona and Gas, and rehabilitation of Gudas Borehole, as well as training communities in Laisamis on Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) to prevent and control cholera outbreaks in the area.

The Kenya Red Cross Society in partnership with the German Red Cross has ongoing water harvesting projects in Makueni (sand dam, earth dam, borehole and provision of water tanks to primary schools).

In Kitui, the KRCS has developed two water supply systems in Ikutha and Maluma through funding from the Finnish Red Cross. There is, however, need to scale up the project due to the vastness of the district which is classified as being an Arid and Semi Arid Area Land (ASAL). The KRCS Kitui Water and Sanitation Project has a software component which targeted 730 households in PHAST training. The project, which ends on 31 December 2009, needs to be up scaled to reach more households.

Under the Food-for-Assets Programme in the EMOP/PRRO of WFP, the KRCS as lead agency in Malindi, is involving communities in Marafa, Magarini and Lango Baya in excavation of earth dams before the expected short rains.

### Challenges

The above activities were implemented through funds mobilized outside this [Emergency Appeal](#). Other activities under this objective have not been fully implemented due to lack of funding.

### Livelihood

| <b>Objective: To provide seeds to 150,000 households to ensure early recovery in Mwingi, Makueni, Kitui and Machakos districts.</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Expected results</b>  | <b>Activities planned</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communities recovered from the adverse effects of the drought and improved harvest</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide seeds to the communities to enhance early recovery; 2 ½ kg of maize, 1 kg of beans, 1 kg of green grams, 1 kg of cowpeas and 1 kg of sorghum (one off distribution).</li> <li>Post distribution monitoring to measure effective use of seeds and ensure that harvest expected is achieved.</li> </ul> |

### Progress

The KRCS is in the process of purchasing 50 MT of maize seeds to be distributed in Yatta District, and have commenced procurement and distribution of seeds in Mwingi.

### Challenges

The KRCS is experiencing delays from seed suppliers in delivery of procured seeds and this is slowing down relief efforts.

### Logistics

| <b>Objective: To provide strong logistical support in primary and secondary transportation as well as warehousing in the field that would enable rapid access to beneficiaries in targeted areas.</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Expected results</b>   | <b>Activities planned</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The coordinated mobilization of relief goods; coordinated reception of all incoming goods; coordinated warehousing, centralized provision of standard vehicles as required; and coordinated and efficient dispatch of goods to the final distribution points.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct rapid assessment to determine logistical needs or gaps.</li> <li>Transport 2,267 MT of food and non-food items to final distribution points.</li> <li>Identify suitable warehouses for storage of relief items.</li> <li>Maintain mobilisation table.</li> <li>Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.</li> <li>Reinforce regional logistics capacity in warehousing and transportation.</li> <li>Procurement of Corn Soya Blend and unimix, seeds and drugs supplies both locally and internationally.</li> </ul> |

### Progress

The KRCS is engaging trucks and light vehicles in interventions and activities under the current [Emergency Appeal](#). This includes transportation and distribution of food and seeds and community mobilisation. The Kenya Red Cross Society plans to transport and distribute 50 MT of seeds in Yatta District.

### Challenges

The KRCS is experiencing delays from seed suppliers in delivery of procured seeds and this is slowing down relief efforts.

### Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Together with the International Federation, the KRCS held a press conference on 18 September 2009, where the Secretary General and the International Federation Communication Manager for Eastern Africa Zone officially launched the [Emergency Appeal](#). The launch featured in all mainstream television stations, radio stations and newspapers countrywide. The [Emergency Appeal](#) was also posted on the International Federation and KRCS

websites. A news release and a series of articles from the operation areas were also published on the International Federation web site.

The KRCS organized a media trip to Garissa on 25 September 2009 to highlight the drought situation and mobilise resources for the [Emergency Appeal](#). The media highlighted the drought situation in the region as well as KRCS interventions. Meanwhile, the British Red Cross is about to make available an experienced Communication Delegate to join the International Federation team and strengthen the support given to KRCS. Immediate plans include the organization of an international media field trip to the most affected areas and the production of an advocacy report. A resource mobilization package targeting diplomatic missions has also been circulated. Concerned Partner National Societies are being kept informed on the evolution of these dialogues.

## 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.

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