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Annual report Ethiopia

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAET002
31 May 2012

**This report covers the
period 1 January to 31
December 2011.**

*Community based health and first aid
volunteers from the Ethiopian Red
Cross Society (ERCS) preparing for a
water treatment demonstration in
Arsi. Photo: ERCS*



In brief

Programme outcome

In line with the strategic aims of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Strategy 2020, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) programme contributes to saving lives, protecting livelihoods and strengthening recovery from disasters and crises; enabling healthy living; as well as promoting social inclusion, a culture of non-violence and peace. The National Society aims to raise the capacity of staff and volunteers in disaster response and preparedness in order to effectively and efficiently deliver better services to disaster affected populations.

Programme summary

During 2011, IFRC supported ERCS by providing technical support for implementation of activities related to disaster preparedness and risk reduction, food security, community based health and first aid (CBHFA), water and sanitation and organizational development. These programmes received vital support from the Swedish Red Cross and Ellie Lily foundation.

Achievements were made in disaster risk reduction-integrated food security in Dergajen, Dedba and Shibta tabias (villages) of Enderta woreda (district) in Tigray region. Trainings were carried out on income generating activities, fruit garden management, as well as cow/sheep/goats breeding management and fattening, including distribution of cross breed cows. Other technical trainings were carried out on modern bee keeping and provision of modern beehives. Activities continued throughout the year on nursery development and 33,038 different types of seedlings were raised and distributed. In addition, water and sanitation, health, HIV/AIDS prevention, along with participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) activities were carried out as part of the integrated programmes within this component.

Under the health and care programme, ERCS conducted a series of trainings in CBHFA in 10 branches, provided first aid services for religious and cultural ceremonies, disseminated health educational material, and carried out community sensitization and cleaning campaigns in eight villages. Hand dug wells, repaired water points and pit latrines were constructed as part of the integrated programme approach. In addition, ERCS volunteers and staff from 11 branches were trained in pre-hospital emergency care and, through support from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), prisoners from East Shoa were trained in first aid. The ERCS water and sanitation department made considerable developments by building eight water springs in four branches - West Wollega, West Shoa, Wolayta and Gurarghe – along with hand dug wells, sanitation platforms, wash basins and pit latrines. PHAST trainings were also held by these branches.

The ERCS' organizational development department installed a database for membership registration and volunteer management in 10 branches. The ERCS celebrated the International Year of Volunteering and all ERCS branches conducted activities to highlight this. Further, the National Society developed guidelines on how to utilize a number of multipurpose buildings, which had been constructed in several branches, for income generating activities. A resource development officer was hired to manage these activities and to provide support on income generating initiatives in branches and headquarters. A basic financial and programme management training was held for branch staff in December 2011. The ERCS went through the first phase of an organisational capacity assessment and certification process, supported by IFRC.

Financial situation

The total 2011 budget was increased from CHF 1,742,816 (last approved at the beginning of mid 2011) to CHF 1,793,191, due to new funding opportunities that allowed further expenditure.

Of the revised budget of CHF 1,793,191, a total amount of CHF 1,211,766 (68 per cent) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 1,116,904, corresponding to 62 per cent of the revised budget and 92 per cent of the funds available.

Project/programme yearly finance status			
Year budget	Expenditure	Per cent of budget spent	Per cent of available funds spent
CHF 1,793,191	CHF 1,116,904	62 %	92 %

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report](#)

See also the following emergency appeals operational during the reporting period:

- [MDRET010: Ethiopia: Drought 6 months report.](#)
- [MDRET011: Ethiopia: Population Movements operations update no.3.](#)

Number of people we have reached

Programme	Number of people reached (directly and indirectly)
Disaster management	47,760
Health and care (Community based health and first aid)	105,671
Health and care (Water and sanitation)	39,760
Organizational development	432

Our partners

The ERCS implemented several projects in partnership with the Red Cross Societies of Austria, Britain, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. The main

areas that these Partner National Societies supported ERCS on were water and sanitation, capacity building and food security activities in the regions of Tigray (Italian Red Cross), Oromia (Austrian and German Red Cross) and Amhara (Spanish Red Cross). In addition, the ERCS received financial and technical support from ICRC, as well as technical and financial support channelled through IFRC.

Context

During the first half of 2011, due to *La Niña*¹ episode, the food security situation deteriorated in the south and south eastern parts of Ethiopia. The poor performance of short-cycle crops and deterioration of livestock conditions and production contributed to rising malnutrition in some *La Niña* affected areas. The findings of a multi-agency assessment and monitoring results indicated that approximately 4.5 million people required relief food assistance during July to December 2011. Two consecutive seasons of significantly below average rainfall resulted in drought conditions in the Horn of Africa. Consequently, on 5 August 2011, ERCS launched an [Emergency Appeal](#) to address the needs of those most affected by the drought conditions.

During the second half of 2011, following normal to above normal *kiremt* season rains, the *meher* crop production was estimated to be better than 2010 and the long-term average in most parts of the country. The rains also improved water and pasture availability in many areas. The food security situation, however, remained of concern in areas that received inadequate seasonal rains especially the southern and south eastern lowlands. Increase in food prices also negatively impacted the purchasing power of affected households and the overall food security situation.

On 2 September 2011, an influx of Sudanese refugees came to the Benishangul-Gumuz region as a result of fighting between the Sudan Armed Forces and members of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North in the Blue Nile state of Sudan. In response, ERCS through its branch in Benishangul-Gumuz provided immediate assistance and launched an [Emergency Appeal](#) on 28 October 2011.

ERCS, supported by the IFRC and Partner National Societies, has been implementing food security and drought response operations in different parts of the country for a number of years. Presently, the National Society is involved in food security and drought related operations in the Moyale area (southern Oromia), Bale Zone (Oromia), South Wollo and North Shoa zones (Amhara) and Tigray. These projects are supported by the German and Spanish Red Cross Societies bilaterally and the Swedish and Swiss Red Cross Societies multilaterally through the IFRC.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

<p>Programme component 1: Community preparedness</p>	<p>Outcome: Improved disaster risk reduction mechanisms at community level.</p> <p>Achievements: The activities stated in the country plan for 2011 were not carried out during the reporting period as this component did not receive the required funds. However, through bilateral funding, ERCS has been carrying a disaster risk reduction project in Moyale and training on mitigation measures for 12 kebeles (municipalities).</p>
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¹ La Niña is a natural part of climate variability, and refers to a colder than average period in the equatorial Pacific (the opposite of warm El Niño events). In the last 20 years, 3 moderate to strong La Niña events have been experienced (1995-96, 1998-2000, 2007-08). While La Niña can go unnoticed or even have beneficial impacts in many parts of the world, it can also be disruptive or cause extensive problems when some areas receive too much or too little rainfall.

	<p>For the 2012 long-term planning framework, ERCS’ disaster risk reduction department has included preparedness and mitigation activities to improve the overall disaster response capacity of the National Society. These activities will be carried out depending on the level of contributions.</p>																											
<p>Programme component 2: Disaster risk reduction (integrated food security)</p>	<p>Outcome: Sustainable livelihood of the population affected by disaster is restored through effective disaster recovery programmes.</p> <p>Achievements: As part of its income generating projects, ERCS distributed 22 cross breed cows to beneficiaries from three targeted tabias (villages) - Dergajen, Didba and Shibta - of Enderta woreda (district) in Tigray region. This was more than the planned number of cows (20) as the budget was able to accommodate it. In addition, financial support of ETB 500 (CHF 28) was given to each beneficiary who had a dairy cow to purchase animal forage. The project also provided technical support to beneficiaries in relation to breeding, artificial insemination and forage production.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 1: Beneficiaries of cross breed cows in Tigray</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="655 958 1321 1189"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">S/N</th> <th rowspan="2">Tabia</th> <th colspan="2">Beneficiaries</th> <th rowspan="2">Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Dergajen</td> <td>6</td> <td>0</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Didba</td> <td>6</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Shibta</td> <td>6</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total</td> <td>18</td> <td>4</td> <td>22</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>After the distribution of breeding cows, ERCS conducted a five-day technical training on cow breeding management for the beneficiaries, in collaboration with the Enderta woreda rural development and agriculture office. This training was part of capacity building for the integrated food security project. The objective of this training was to improve the income of the beneficiaries through improved techniques of utilizing the cows. It showed farmers how to effectively utilize available resources in order to improve their quality of life and food security. They were also trained on how to improve their livelihoods through improved health livestock management.</p> <p>Beneficiaries of dairy cows started to gain from the programme as they began to earn a monthly income of approximately ETB 500 (CHF 27) from the sale of milk and milk products. Most of the beneficiaries are now able to feed their families and send their children to school. They also started to save an average of ETB 200 (CHF 11) on a monthly basis in the saving and credit union.</p> <p>A technical training on cattle fattening was conducted in Enderta woreda due to the proximity to the market in Makale, Tigray. The training covered market assessment, forage development, types of forage, methods of feed conservation, shelter, housing management and health issues. A total of 189 beneficiaries were reached with seed money (ETB 3,220 or CHF 177) for the purchase of cattle and fattening activities.</p>	S/N	Tabia	Beneficiaries		Total	Male	Female	1	Dergajen	6	0	6	2	Didba	6	2	8	3	Shibta	6	2	8	Total		18	4	22
S/N	Tabia			Beneficiaries			Total																					
		Male	Female																									
1	Dergajen	6	0	6																								
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3	Shibta	6	2	8																								
Total		18	4	22																								

Table 2: Beneficiaries for the purchase of cattle and fattening activities in Tigray

S/N	Tabia	Beneficiaries		Total
		Male	Female	
1	Dergajen	54	6	60
2	Didba	58	8	66
3	Shibta	58	5	63
Total		170	19	189

Similarly, 89 beneficiaries were provided technical training as well as ETB 3,000 (CHF 165) each to engage in the sheep and goat rearing business. The training took place from 13-16 December 2011 and covered breed selection, forage development, types of feed, methods of feed conservation, shelter and housing, along with disease prevention and treatment.

Table 3: Beneficiaries for sheep and goat rearing in Tigray

S/N	Tabia	Beneficiaries		Total
		Male	Female	
1	Dergajen	10	17	27
2	Didba	22	11	33
3	Shibta	19	10	29
Total		51	38	89

These beneficiaries started earning an average monthly income of ETB 300 (CHF 17). They sold some of their fattened sheep and bought additional sheep for fattening, increasing significantly their monthly income.

ERCS also organised a technical training on modern bee keeping for 163 beneficiaries from the targeted tabias in Tigray. The selection of beneficiaries was done by the Enderta woreda rural development and agriculture office. The training was carried out in two rounds - the first training covered 45 participants, following which there was an increased interest and awareness among the target group and a second training was held for 118 participants. Some beneficiaries were encouraged by the success of beneficiaries from previous years who were currently engaged in modern bee keeping programmes and earned well from the harvesting and sale of honey. After the training, the 163 beneficiaries received two beehives each, making it a total of 326 beehives distributed.

Table 4: Beneficiaries for modern bee keeping in Tigray

S/N	Tabia	Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
1	Dergajen	119	3	122
2	Didba	3	0	3
3	Shibta	36	2	38
Total		158	5	163

In March 2011, the National Society conducted a training on income

generating activities for 59 people from different segments of the community in Tigray. The training focused on the knowledge of how to manage financial accounts/money and how to supply products to the market.

In addition, a seven-day fruit garden training was organised in April 2011, with 88 participants from Tigray. The training covered fruit garden management, irrigation system, management of tropical fruits, highland fruit management, site selection, agro ecology and evaluation. This training strengthened the capacity and knowledge of participants on planting, land preparation, site selection, agro ecological selection and fruit techniques.

Further, nursery development activities and fruit seedlings distribution were carried out during the reporting period. Approximately 33,038 different types of seedlings were distributed to 2,021 beneficiaries (383 female and 1,638 male). As most of the distributed seedlings were drought resistant in nature, they will have great value in improving the environment of the area. The fruit seedlings (including avocado, papaya, guava, mango and coffee) were distributed not only to the three target areas, but also to 16 tabias of Enderta woreda. An ERCS team conducted visits to the nursery sites and beneficiaries affirmed that they were pleased at having participated in the food security project.

As the activities of the programme were integrated, forage production and distribution was also carried out by the nursery site. Animal fodder was distributed to beneficiaries engaged in dairy production and fattening activities, while fodder for bees was distributed to farmers engaged in modern bee keeping. Currently the nursery has about 42,051 different types of trees and fruits ready for distribution. The woreda agriculture office arranges programmes to distribute these to beneficiaries.

There were a number of integrated programmes within this component, including water and sanitation, health, HIV/AIDS prevention and care, as well as PHAST. The ERCS branch in Tigray opened a bid for the construction of three dams in Didba, Dergajen and Shibta tabias. In addition, a school latrine was constructed in Didba and three hand dug shallow wells were constructed in Shibta, Dergajen and Didba. Though a cattle trough was planned to be constructed, due to some problems and delays this could not be done and construction of this was handed over to the woreda water and energy office.

In addition, ERCS conducted a CBHFA training in Didba, Shibta and Dergajen tabias with a participation of 49 women, as well as a seven-day home based care training for 12 people. The participants were selected by the woreda health office. Further, a 10-day training of trainers on PHAST was conducted for 35 participants from the selected tabias. After the training each participant received a PHAST tool kit and each trainee was expected to reach at least 10 households in their village.

A training on income generating activities for people living with HIV (PLHIV) was carried out for 36 beneficiaries. The beneficiaries were

	<p>selected and screened by the Enderta woreda health office. Participants received technical training on cattle fattening and how to manage small scale trade. Subsequently, an advocacy meeting for school HIV/AIDS peer education was held in Quiha (Enderta woreda) with the participation of 13 teachers, principals and office heads selected from six schools. Further, 26 students (14 female and 14 male) from six schools participated in a seven-day peer education facilitators training on HIV/AIDS. The students were selected by the woreda education office from Didba and Dergajen tabias, and were expected to train about 48 more students on returning to their schools.</p>
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Constraints or Challenges

High turnover of project staff and delay in receipt of funds were some of the main problems faced at the branch level. Moreover, lack of funding for disaster risk reduction prevented ERCS from expanding activities in additional geographical areas.

Health and Care

<p>Programme component 1: Community based health and first aid (CBHFA)</p>	<p>Outcome 1: A first aid system where the community plays an active role and the Red Cross serves as link between the government health care system and the community is established.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Services and activities at community level aimed at capacity building of the community and strengthening the financial base for the programme are developed and implemented.</p> <p>Achievements: The main results achieved during the first half of the year were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CBHFA training of trainers was carried out in Debre Zeit, with 27 volunteers and staff members from 11 regional branches of ERCS participating; • A pre-hospital emergency care training was conducted for 24 volunteers and staff members from the 11 regional branches; • With support from ICRC, 240 volunteers were trained in first aid in eight branches and 30 prisoners were trained in first aid in East Shoa branch of Oromia region; • 30 health professionals were trained in Adola town; • 150,000 people received health education and community sensitization in Guji and Borena zones in Oromia region; • 90 water and sanitation committee members were trained at 10 water sites; • A one-day cleaning campaign was conducted in eight villages; • Three new hand dug wells were constructed at Ambella, Liben and Bule Hora woredas in Oromia region; • Three water points were repaired at Liben, Adola and Bule Hora woredas; • 10 pit latrines were constructed at 10 sites in areas prone to disease outbreak in Oromia region; • Monitoring and evaluation of health related activities were carried out by ERCS headquarters in five branches.
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	<p>The main results achieved during the second half of the year were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBHFA trainings were carried out in 10 ERCS branches (SNPPR, Gurage, KAT, Bench Maji, Amhara, Benishangul, Gambella, Harari, East Shoa and Guji Borena) for 421 participants. • ERCS’ Arsi branch, during Ferekessa (a religious ceremony where approximately 30,000 people gather together), provided the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Trained 20 ERCS volunteers to provide first aid during the gathering. These trained volunteers attended to 51 people. ➢ Erected a tent to provide a rest area; ➢ Built 15 temporary trench latrines; ➢ Provided education on hygiene promotion and prevention of acute watery diarrhea (AWD); ➢ Distributed 30,000 aquatabs for treating drinking water. • Similarly, ERCS’ East Shoa branch, during Erecha (a cultural ceremony held every September where approximately 3 million people gather), provided the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Trained 125 ERCS volunteers to provide first aid during the gathering. These trained volunteers attended to 60 people. ➢ Erected three tents to provide a rest area; ➢ Deployed four ambulances to provide service during the event; ➢ Provided education on hygiene promotion and prevention of AWD; ➢ Distributed 40,000 aquatabs for treating drinking water. <p>There were no reported cases of acute watery diarrhea or malaria during the reporting period. This could be a direct effect of the trainings the communities received and implementation of hygiene promotion activities using the CBHFA approach.</p> <p>On 10 September 2011, ERCS celebrated World First Aid Day with participation from all partners. During the celebration there was a first aid demonstration, voluntary blood donation and awareness raising activities. Items including shirts, leaflets, posters and banners were produced for the occasion. The event was positively covered by the local media.</p>
<p>Programme component 2: Water and sanitation</p>	<p>Outcome 1: Access to safe water and sanitation services are improved in the target areas.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Improved community awareness and understanding of the importance of proper hygiene and sanitation practices.</p> <p>Achievements: The main achievements during the reporting period were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In West Wollega two springs (with wash basins and bathrooms) were developed, one in Worejiru Barko and the second in Boni kebeles. A total of 310 households (1,550 people) are benefiting from these springs. In addition, two water schemes, a spring and a hand dug well were constructed in Seda and Moga Kobora kebeles respectively. A total of 56 households (280 people) are benefiting from the spring and 54 households (270 people) are obtaining safe drinking water from the hand dug well. • ERCS’ West Wollega branch also produced and distributed 600

sanitation platform slabs. Distribution was made based on reports of PHAST volunteers trained from the community. However, there is a need for production of more slabs as the branch distributed to less than half of the targeted beneficiaries. In West Wollega, 20 PHAST volunteers were nominated from the targeted community and those who underwent PHAST trainings continued cascading the training received in personal and community hygiene. A total of 600 people participated in the trainings. Further, 20 community volunteers were trained in PHAST and cascaded the training in the community reaching 300 households and forming a PHAST group of 15 people. PHAST tool kits (54) were produced and distributed to the PHAST volunteers.

Similarly, 18 volunteers trained in CBHFA identified the priority health problems of their community and held community discussions on how to minimize and avoid risks. A total of 540 people participated in these discussions. A seven-day CBHFA training of trainers was conducted for 20 community volunteers and health extension workers, who are cascading the training in their communities.

- Two springs in West Shoa were completed, one in Jato Dirki kebele and the other in Dire Hareyu kebele. A total of 150 households (750 people) benefited from the two springs. In addition, one spring was developed in Beke sirba kebele benefiting more than 300 households (1,500 people) and another spring was developed in Maru Jibat kebele benefiting 35 households (175 people). The communities contributed in labour and water committee members, selected from the communities, did remarkable work in mobilizing the community members.
- The West Shoa branch distributed 350 sanitation platform slabs to households who dug pit latrines in Jato Dirki kebele and Dire Hareyu kebele. Further, 20 ERCS volunteers who had undergone PHAST training of trainers at the end of 2010, cascaded the training down to the community level during the reporting period. A total of 145 households (725 people) dug pit latrines and started using these and 270 sanitation platform slabs were produced and distributed in Beke sirba and Maru jibat.
- In West Shoa, 23 community volunteers and health extension workers were trained in PHAST and cascaded this to the community. Further, a seven-day CBHFA training of trainers was carried out for 14 community volunteers and health extension workers, who are cascading the training in their communities. PHAST tool kits (20) were produced and distributed to the PHAST volunteers.
- The West Shoa and Wolayta branches were involved in income generating activities. The West Shoa branch organized a micro business association called “Berkume”, initiated by eight women who were provided with a loan of ETB 25,000 (CHF 1,375), including trainings on how to manage the money and make the business profitable. The Wolayta branch provided a loan of the same amount to seven people from Sodo town to start micro businesses.
- In Wolayta, two springs were constructed in two kebeles - Wandara Gale and Ade Aro. These two kebeles serve 667 households (3,335 people). Cattle troughs and wash basins were

	<p>constructed near each spring. The Wolayta branch distributed 342 sanitation platform slabs to households that constructed family latrines, along with producing an additional 342 sanitation platform slabs. Two additional springs were developed, one in Wandara kebele and the other in Taba kebele.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Wolayta, 15 volunteers selected from the kebeles involved in developing springs, participated in a PHAST training organized by the branch. Another 15 volunteers participated in a CBHFA training at the branch. First aid kits were provided to the trainees who will assist the volunteers to cascade the training. A total of 15 community volunteers and health extension workers underwent a training of trainers in CBHFA and cascaded the training in the community. Another 15 community volunteers and health extension workers were trained in PHAST, reaching 450 households. PHAST tool kits (23) were produced and distributed to the PHAST volunteers. • In Guraghe branch, 300 households are benefiting from two springs constructed during 2011. The springs were developed in two kebeles (Esmandir and Eskut). Wash basins and shower rooms were constructed near each water source. Income generating activities were carried out where five women participated in micro businesses including selling of tea, coffee and other types of food. Two springs were also developed in Didigar and Kereb kebeles. Additionally, 300 sanitation platform slabs (150 slabs in each kebele) were produced and distributed. Two woreda ERCS branches in two districts - Enemorna Ener and Sodo woredas - were established as part of organizational development activities within the water and sanitation programme. • In Guraghe, cascading of PHAST training to the community was carried out and 450 people participated in PHAST groups, out of which 360 dug pit latrines. A total of 19 community volunteers and health extension workers received PHAST training, reaching 285 households. PHAST tool kits (11) were produced and distributed to the PHAST volunteers. Another 20 volunteers underwent a training of trainers in CBHFA and have cascaded the training in their communities. • West Wollega and Gurarghe branches strengthened the Red Cross Clubs by carrying out activities in schools to recruit volunteers, purchased sports equipment for schools and produced and distributed t-shirts for 200 youth volunteers in schools, as well as all PHAST and CBHFA community volunteers who participated in trainings. • Water committees, comprising seven members, were organized from each of the selected kebeles and trained experts of respective zonal water offices. • In the last quarter of 2011, stakeholder meetings were held in the intervention areas. Representatives from the community, local administration, PHAST and CBHFA coaches and health extension workers participated in the review meetings.
<p>Programme component 3: HIV and AIDS</p>	<p>Outcome 1: Vulnerability to HIV and its impact is reduced through expanding care, treatment and support.</p> <p>Achievements: ERCS continued contributing to overall efforts in addressing the impact of HIV and AIDS and enhancing prevention</p>

	<p>in Ethiopia. The HIV and AIDS programme was supported through partnership with the Danish, German and Netherlands Red Cross Societies at a bilateral level. It followed IFRC's Global Alliance on HIV approaches and was in line with the Ethiopian government's policy and guidelines. The programme worked towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the capacity of target communities to respond properly in the control and prevention of HIV infection and its impacts; • Strengthening the capacity of ERCS to respond to epidemics and organize the community and build its coping mechanisms.
<p>Programme component 4: Maternal and child health (MCH)</p>	<p>Outcome 1: Increased MCH service attendance within the targeted communities.</p> <p>Outcome 2: Improved MCH services through National Society community based activities, including safe motherhood and child health initiatives, vaccination and nutrition activities.</p> <p>Outcome 3: Increased public awareness on reproductive health within the targeted communities.</p> <p>Achievements: ERCS was not able to carry out activities under this programme component due to lack of funding. Nevertheless, the National Society, through other bilateral projects, conducted an integrated measles campaign in 2010/2011 which included measles vaccination for children 9 to 47 months, oral polio vaccine for children 0 to 59 months, vitamin A administration to children 6 to 59 months, de-worming tablets for children 24 to 59 months and nutrition screening for children 6 to 59 months as well as pregnant and lactating women. These activities started in February 2011 in Afar region.</p>
<p>Programme component 5: Avian and Human Influenza Pandemic</p>	<p>Outcome 1: Development of pandemic preparedness plans and protocols of the humanitarian sector in the areas of health, food security and livelihoods in Ethiopia is supported.</p> <p>Outcome 2: ERCS staff and volunteer capacities along with other significant humanitarian and civil society organizations are strengthened to carry out the humanitarian pandemic preparedness plans and protocols.</p> <p>Outcome 3: Functional coordination between global, national and district-level stakeholders, including the UN agencies, in preparedness and response is established.</p> <p>Achievements: The Avian and Human Influenza Pandemic programme was integrated into IFRC's Humanitarian Pandemic Preparedness (H2P) appeal. IFRC provided financial and technical support to the National Society in order to prepare for and respond to an outbreak of pandemic influenza. For more information, please visit: www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual09/MAA0001809ar.pdf</p>

Constraints or Challenges

Delays in branch reporting, including financial reporting, affected the progress of the programme. The involvement and participation of all relevant stakeholders, including woreda sectoral offices, zonal health and agricultural departments and ERCS branches, ensured commitment to and sustainability of the CBHFA approach. The challenges identified for the water and sanitation component were mainly related to limited volunteer commitment, logistical issues and reporting delays from branches.

Organizational Development

<p>Programme component 1: Organisational development and capacity building</p>	<p>Outcome: ERCS has strengthened its capacity to deliver quality services to targeted communities through its branches and volunteer network.</p> <p>Achievements: ERCS developed a database to register National Society members and volunteers, which was installed and monitored in 10 branches. An annual consultative meeting on membership and volunteer development was carried out with the attendance of 39 branch secretaries and organisational development staff. At the end of the meeting three computers were awarded to three branches having high performance in database management and outstanding membership recruitment.</p> <p>As the year 2011 was the International Year of Volunteering, ERCS headquarters and branches carried out a number of activities at the branch level and activities of the Membership and Volunteer guideline were conducted in four branches.</p> <p>ERCS' SNNP regional branch has nine coordinating zonal branches under its supervision. Due to overall weak performance capacity of the regional branch, a two-day review meeting was conducted in April 2011 to create common understanding and identify challenges among branches in the region on the humanitarian and development activities of ERCS in the region. A total of 35 people participated in the workshop including all zonal branch secretaries, board chair persons, as well as relevant headquarter and regional staff.</p> <p>In May 2011, ERCS in collaboration with ICRC conducted a capacity assessment in Gambella regional branch. The purpose of this assessment, using the Branch Capacity Assessment (BCA) tool, was to increase the capacity of the branch in carrying out relief and service programmes, to integrate programmes and community development activities, and to develop the capacity of the branch in an integrated approach in collaboration with local communities, local organizations and other stakeholders.</p> <p>ERCS has constructed several multipurpose buildings in branches to establish a sustainable income for the branches. A guideline was developed on how to utilize the generated fund for humanitarian activities and an income generating activity officer was recruited. A pilot study was carried out in one branch in June 2011 and more studies will be done throughout the year in other branches, to develop a business model on how to run a business in a sustainable way. A resource development officer was also hired to provide support in income generating tasks and resource development for branches and headquarters.</p>
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	<p>A basic financial and programme management training was conducted for branch staff in Adama from 15-17 December 2011. The purpose of the training was to discuss major shortcomings in the area of financial management and reporting. The 28 branch staff that participated increased their knowledge on basic financial guidelines, internal controls, audit and report writing techniques.</p> <p>The National Society held a General Assembly in November 2011 where a total of 67 regional branch secretaries, regional board chairpersons and headquarters representatives participated to discuss the ERCS 2010-2011 activity report, present the 2012 budget and discuss the 10 year development plan.</p> <p>ERCS, as part of its organisational change and transformation efforts, became part of the Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification process, supported by IFRC. The first phase of assessment was done in December 2011. The year 2011 was a turning period for the National Society. In 2012, organizational changes will continue and the activities planned within the Long-Term Planning Framework will support the changes in order to have a strong organizational structure.</p>
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Constraints or Challenges

Limited activities were conducted under the organizational development programme due to funding constraints during 2011. Moreover, late transfer of funds to the National Society delayed implementation of planned activities.

Working in partnership

ERCS continued to work with a number of partners to assure an efficient and coordinated service delivery to the most vulnerable people. All activities of the National Society, as outlined in its Strategic Development Plan and the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) were aligned with IFRC's policies and strategies. ERCS is part of the Global Alliance on HIV and AIDS, and is also one of the five National Societies in the eastern Africa zone participating in the Africa Food Security Initiative. ERCS, IFRC and ICRC are members (having observers status) of the Ethiopia Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT), which is a forum for United Nations agencies, international and national NGOs and humanitarian donor community.

ERCS' major partners were the Red Cross Societies of Austria, Britain, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland, at both bilateral and multilateral levels. It also maintained a close working relationship with the ICRC delegation in Ethiopia, resulting in effective joint activities addressing conflict related vulnerabilities including displacements. Work of Movement partners was coordinated by ERCS through monthly Movement cooperation meetings where all partners present in the country get together to share information, discuss matters of common interest and agree on the way forward to better and more effectively deliver Movement-wide services to vulnerable people.

A number of government agencies and ministries committed themselves to support ERCS programmes. As an auxiliary to the government in humanitarian activities, ERCS received financial support from local authorities in areas where it is running the ambulance service programme.

Contributing to longer-term impact

ERCS programmes implemented within the framework of the country plan 2010-2011 are designed to contribute to IFRC's Strategy 2020 and the UN Millennium Development Goals. By implementing

community-based health and disaster management activities, the National Society contributed towards enhancing capacities of targeted local communities to respond to emergencies. Integrated initiatives, including food security and water and sanitation, contributed to enhance local capacities, reduce impact of climate change and strengthen community disaster risk reduction activities. ERCS programmes are also designed and implemented within the SPHERE standards.

All ERCS trainings include information about the Movement and its seven Fundamental Principles in their preliminary sessions. The National Society organises regional meetings for its branches, at which achievements and challenges in the field, recommendations on how to improve programme/project planning and service delivery to targeted communities are discussed.

Looking ahead

Based on past trends and developments, Ethiopia is likely to keep facing a number of emergencies and disasters resulting from droughts in certain areas of the country and floods caused by above normal *Kiremt* rains, exacerbated by climate change. Health related problems may occur in certain areas of the country, especially related to floods during the rainy season. Considering the potential hazards and risks, ERCS will continue directing its efforts towards improving National Society capacity in disaster management and health and care. Efforts and resources will be allocated for strengthening branch capacities in order to enhance rapid response activities immediately after disasters strike. Emphasis has been made to strengthen integrated projects and develop capacities at community level to cope with the escalating impact of climate change.

As part of wider change and transformation process that the ERCS governance decided to implement in 2011, it made a commitment to its members, volunteers, staff and partners to conduct a human resources (HR) and management review process and implement recommendations accordingly. The review process will enable the National Society to right-size its management structure, develop an effective HR management system that is attractive to professionals and skilled personnel from the highly competitive labour market, and have a considerable effect on its performance. This review and consequent implementation will trigger other related changes in programme, financial and logistics management. The first phase of the change process was appointment of an experienced manager as ERCS secretary general to identify challenges and implement transformation of the institution into a more effective, accountable and stronger National Society that delivers quality services to vulnerable communities in Ethiopia.

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](#) (NGO's) 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.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



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

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

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