

Emergency appeal n° MDRET010
GLIDE n° DR-2011-000101-ETH
Operation update n°3
14 March, 2012

Period covered by this Ops Update: 24 October 2011 to 9 January 2012;

Appeal target (current): CHF 25,408,085 (plus CHF 3,000,000 for bilateral Emergency Response Units) totalling CHF 28,408,085;

Appeal coverage: ~36%

[<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.
 - Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 200,000 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the National Society to respond.
 - An [Operations Update no.1](#) was published on 30 August 2011 informing on the deployment of a multi-assessment team to the affected region of Moyale.
 - A [Revised Emergency Appeal](#) was published on 26 September 2011 for CHF 25,408,085 (plus CHF 3,000,000 for bilateral Emergency Response Units) totalling CHF 28,408,085 - to assist approximately 570,000 beneficiaries for 12 months in Oromia, Afar and Somali regions.
 - An [Operations Update no.2](#) was published on 24 October 2011 informing on the latest developments.
 - This Operations Update reports on further progress. Additionally, target beneficiary numbers are adjusted to reflect estimates at the time of finalising the Plan of Action (PoA) for this Appeal. Overall, estimated target figures are based on the following, per sector¹.
1. Food distribution: location figures as assigned to the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) by Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) under the Ethiopian Government Humanitarian Partner Humanitarian Needs Assessment 2011.
 2. Water & Sanitation: Estimated numbers within the catchment areas of the proposed water packages in the Revised Drought Appeal and PoA.
 3. Health: Based on numbers recommended by ERCS branches and demographics from Ethiopia Demographic surveys.



First and second round of distributions in Hagere Mariam.
Source: IFRC

Summary: During this reporting period, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) disaster management department and ERCS branches have been actively coordinating and implementing food distributions in drought

¹ NOTE: To address some PNS and Donor inquiries on beneficiary numbers quoted in the Appeal versus those in the PoA and Operations Updates, numbers may increase and vary geographically as individual sector activities in the assessed areas and the PoA are initiated, final locations for water projects are identified and more accurate registrations and assessments of individual projects are carried out.

affected areas. After encountering delays incurred due to the bidding and procurement process, ERCS, with support from IFRC, completed the first round of food distributions, reaching more than 35,000 people with maize, vegetable oil and corn-soya blend (CSB). To prepare for the food delivery in Borena Zone, in Oromia Region, the IFRC Operations support Unit (OSU) logistics coordinator, officer and the ERCS DM response team member were deployed in order to prepare the ground, including locating warehouses and distribution points.

In WatSan, this Appeal has received two project proposals to set up area water and sanitation teams to carry out the main water and sanitation activities. One proposal is from a consortium between Swedish, Danish and Austrian Red Cross Societies, and the other is from German Red Cross.

Towards the end of November 2011, the IFRC OSU and ERCS members conducted an assessment in Afar Region to identify priority needs. An assessment report was completed and the current plan of action will be amended to include activities for intervention in the region.

In the upcoming six month report for this operation, a complete overview of the major progress, plans and challenges will be addressed.

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society appreciates the financial contribution from American, Austrian, Canadian, Chinese, Danish, French, Finnish, German, Japanese, Netherlands, New Zealand, Swiss and Swedish Red Cross Societies.

The situation

By January 2012 drought conditions decreased in most parts of the south and southeastern lowlands of Ethiopia due to the good overall rains in October 2011. The water and pasture availability has improved thanks to the normal to above-normal performance of the deyr/hagaya (October to December) rains in most parts of the country. Nevertheless, drought conditions persist in some areas of northern Afar and north-eastern Tigray regions as well as in East and West Hararghe zones of Oromia Region where the June/July to September/October rains performed erratically. The latest information from OCHA indicates the largest water trucking requirements are in Afar and Tigray Regions.

On 7 November 2011, floods were reported in Mustahil and Kelafo woredas of Gode Zone (Somali Region) affecting approximately 40,200 people by mid November. The water has receded in 19 November, but access to most of the affected areas remains restricted due to impassable roads.

OCHA also reported that dispatch of the seventh round of relief food was ongoing, with 72 percent of distributions completed nationwide as of 30 November 2011, including 80 percent for areas covered by the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS), 86 per cent to areas covered by the NGO consortium Joint Emergency Operation Programme (JEOP), and 55 per cent to WFP covered areas in the Somali Region.

Meanwhile, the eighth round dispatch of relief food rations started in the Somali Region, where 9% of distributions had been completed as at 28 November 2011. The ongoing shortage of pulses in the country means that WFP may have to provide reduced pulse rations to the 1.2 million targeted beneficiaries in Somali Region. In total, some 3.42 million people are expected to receive food assistance in the eighth round, including 1.4 million people covered by DRMFSS and 820,000 people covered by JEOP.

ERCS food distribution plans included the area of Moyale, but since this area was already covered by other actors, food distributions will now be done in Bule Hora in Borena Zone in Oromia Region as a replacement area for the ERCS distribution plan.

Coordination and partnerships

The International Federation and ERCS continued its engagement in coordination efforts through clusters, various coordination mechanisms facilitated by OCHA, including task forces and working groups, as well as through bilateral discussions with UN Agencies, International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) and the donor community to ensure proper exchange of information and effective coordination. ERCS and IFRC, alongside the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) are "observing" members of the Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT). The EHCT is the highest humanitarian coordination body, and is chaired by the UN Humanitarian Coordinator. It is composed of UN Agencies, INGOs, the donor community and the RC/RC Movement.

Since the onset of the operation, an Operational Task Force (OTF) was established between ERCS and Movement partners in order to address operational matters. Meetings are ongoing and are chaired by the ERCS Deputy Secretary General for Operations and Programmes and include ERCS key departments and the IFRC.

The IFRC Country Representative and the IFRC Ethiopia Head of Operations are currently coordinating support to the ERCS in the planning and implementation of this operation. An Operations Support Unit (OSU), led by the IFRC Head of Operations and comprising Logistics, Health and WatSan coordinators, has been established to plan, coordinate and implement drought response related activities in support of the ERCS. The OSU will serve as an umbrella unit for coordinated and collective response to drought by the Movement partners.

IFRC OSU team members participate in the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) task force meetings on a weekly basis including local authorities, to keep informed on other agencies activities throughout the country and to share information. Other meetings are held with ICRC and national authorities including Oromia Water Bureau to obtain essential information on the needed sectors.

In addition, monthly Movement Cooperation Meetings (MCM) led by the ERCS continues to be held for sharing of information and coordination purposes. All PNS in the country, particularly Austrian, German, Italian and Spanish Red Cross societies as well as ICRC are actively involved, thus ensuring effective utilization of available resources within the Movement.

The ERCS is a member of the Food Management Task Force of the Government of Ethiopia's (GoE's) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD), the main coordinating ministry for all food security responses in Ethiopia. It is also a participating member in all coordination platforms related to food interventions and relief in Ethiopia, and has therefore ensured effective coordination with other actors including the World Food Programme (WFP), the NGO consortium: the Joint Emergency Operation Programme (JEOP). The main coordination for the operations is done with the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) of MoARD. The ERCS is taking the lead in this operation; working closely with government authorities at all levels – federal, regional, zonal and *woreda*/local.

National Society Capacity Building:

Drought, food insecurity and seasonal floods are the main hazards affecting Ethiopia. Since the early 1980's, the ERCS has been heavily engaged in implementing and delivering large-scale operations. These have involved disaster relief, food security and improving livelihoods for the most vulnerable. One of the four core functions of ERCS is based within the Food Security and Disaster Preparedness/Response department since ERCS realizes the necessity and importance of disaster preparedness and response in times of natural disasters. Over the years, the ERCS has established a National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Branch Disaster Response Team (BDRT) in order to respond to emergencies as fast as possible.

In terms of disaster preparedness activities, pre-positioning of non-food items has been ensured by ERCS to respond faster in case disaster strikes. Activities planned within the current emergency operation will incorporate and address National Society (NS) capacity building elements specifically those related to emergency response, water and sanitation, health and branch capacity building in order to deliver better services to the communities during emergencies and to position the ERCS to better respond to either new emergencies or to expand existing actions.

Establishing the OSU within the joint - IFRC/ERCS/Movement - response mechanism was an important step to support the effective implementation of activities and also since it includes strong elements of capacity building. The OSU is the unit that strengthens implementation capacities and secondly it builds capacities of the ERCS recruited counterparts to the IFRC/PNS coordinators. Trained counterparts in emergency health, water and sanitation, and logistics will become part of the ERCS operations unit, which is within the ERCS new senior management's vision on having effective service delivery unit within the national society. The Secretary General, supported by the National Board of the ERCS, has embarked on the transformation process of the national society which will regain the role as a key humanitarian player in Ethiopia. OSU and support given by the IFRC are important elements of the change process within the national society.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

In response to the crisis, ERCS with support from IFRC have conducted a series of assessments since July 2011. British, Spanish and Swedish Red Cross as well as IFRC deployed personnel to support the rapid assessment in Borena and Guji zones, in Oromia Region. The locations were selected based on available data, previous analysis/assessments and the severity of the problem highlighted in the Humanitarian Requirement Document (HRD). Despite the Somali Region being the hardest hit area by the drought, with communities hosting a high proportion of refugees from Somalia, the region was not considered within the initial assessment as the area fell under the lead mandate of the ICRC and negotiations were ongoing with the government over access. The assessment was conducted by three ERCS/PNS/IFRC teams with a debriefing presentation and recommendations made to DM staff at the headquarters in Addis Ababa.

A second assessment team was deployed to Oromia and Somali regions for an in-depth evaluation from 12 to 26 August 2011. Each team member was experienced in the specific priority sectors identified, including disaster risk reduction, food security, health, nutrition, WatSan, livelihoods and markets, logistics and finance as well as organizational development. The team assessed woredas in Oromia Region (Borena, Moyale, Mio, Dire, Saba Boru and Meda Welabu). The major findings and conclusions of the assessment relate to and address the following: water and sanitation, food interventions, health, food security, livelihood, risk reduction and capacity building of branches. The Appeal was revised based on the recommendations of the assessment and the existing capacities. At the end of September 2011, a team headed by ERCS with members from IFRC and PNS was deployed to Dolo Ado to conduct an assessment in Bora Mina camp and verify the intended plan for assistance.

To address the needs of the affected people in Afar Region and to better detail the course of action, ERCS and IFRC deployed an assessment team on 23 November 2011 to identify intervention areas for water and health related activities. These detailed assessments will inform and more accurately shape the wider scope of the operation as described in the revised appeal and will permit a more focused Plan of Action to be developed. The assessment has been completed and a final report has been drafted and shared with partners accordingly. This will be followed by a Plan of Action for Afar which will become part of the of the overall Drought Appeal PoA. Furthermore, on mid November, the ERCS DM Response team member, the IFRC-OSU logistics coordinator and logistics officer were deployed to the south of the country (Borena Zone) to finalize the identification of warehouses and distribution points for the upcoming food distributions.

The ERCS headquarters and regional branches work steadily throughout the crisis, coordinating deployments of water trucks and tanks to Moyale Region, finalizing food and mosquito nets procurement in close cooperation with the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement partners. In response to recommendations from the IFRC OSU, ERCS convened a consultative meeting between ERCS operational branches (Moyale, Guji, Afar and regional offices from Somali and Oromia) engaged in the drought and refugee operations (branch secretaries and board chairpersons). In attendance were also IFRC OSU members and ERCS headquarters program managers. The purpose of the meeting was to review the progress of the Drought and Population Movement operations and to hold an open discussion on operational matters, including addressing operational gaps and enhancing operation mechanisms between ERCS headquarters and branches involved in the operation. The outcomes indicated a serious need for ERCS to further enhance branch capacity particularly at headquarters and branch levels in the areas of coordination, information exchange, emergency relief, financial and procurement Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs).

In addition to the establishment of the IFRC OSU, three ERCS counterparts recruited by the ERCS in order to work closely and get trained in sectoral activities with the OSU Logistics, Health and WatSan coordinators to support the operation and by getting on job training, build up additional technical capacities for the national society in these areas. The counterparts are now fully operational and positively contributing to the PoA in carrying out Health and Hygiene and mosquito nets awareness training and supporting the procurement and transportation of equipment and non food items (NFI) to operational locations to ensure momentum in the operation activities. These counterparts are now contributing to the enhancement of branch and field operations surge capacity.

Progress towards outcomes

During this reporting period ERCS completed a detailed plan of action based on the revised appeal. At the same time, the NS with technical support from IFRC completed tenders for food procurement and negotiations with the selected suppliers on final conditions and deliverables are completed². Additionally, several PNS have presented project proposals for the Water and Sanitation component of this Appeal (for more details please read progress on objectives below). An assessment in Afar completed by the ERCS and IFRC OSU team members and preliminary findings indicated water, sanitation and health interventions are needed.

Challenges have been causing delays in the implementation of the initial phase of the operation, these are currently being addressed and the ERCS Senior Management is making all efforts and taking measures to improve operational capacities for any future interventions. Special standard operating procedures will be developed within the NS to make sure that response during emergencies is smooth, fast and effective.

Relief distributions (basic food items)

Outcome: Household food consumption among targeted drought affected population is improved.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Appropriate food rations are distributed to targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) or agreements between the Government of Ethiopia and the ERCS.

² This is after many negotiations on some inconsistencies in the bidding process

beneficiaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sourcing of 8,100MT of maize, 810MT of beans, 725MT of CSB) and 270,000Lt of cooking oil. • Establish a logistics hub in each operational area. • Contract local service providers to transport food from hubs to the distribution points. • Mobilize 120 volunteers for facilitating beneficiary identification and relief distributions. • Identify beneficiaries; agree on distribution lists including verification and validation. • Distribute food up to 135,000 beneficiaries (75,000 initial targets) in Guji and Borena zones of Oromia region. • Distribute supplementary food for families with children under 5-years of age, elderly persons, pregnant and lactating women (35 percent of caseload). • Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
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Progress:

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the GoE and ERCS was signed. On 18 November, the IFRC OSU logistics coordinator, officer and ERCS DM response team members were deployed to Borena Zone to prepare warehousing facilities and distribution sites to ensure quality control and management of food stocks, including establishing acceptable vector control and fumigation SOP's. Two rub halls arrived from Dubai logistics unit. These will be used as warehouses in the operational areas.

The ERCS procurement department supported by IFRC logistics completed the local tendering and procurement of 8,100 MT of maize, 810 MT of beans (in bags of 50 kg.), 725 MT of CSB (in bags of 25 kg.) and 270,000 litres of vegetable oil. The ERCS disaster management department with support from IFRC-OSU logistics coordinator drew a master plan of distribution for approximately 136,000 people with 75,000 people as the initial target. Food distributions started in December 2011 and mainly consisted of a ration of maize, 5 kg beans, 4.5kg CSB and 0.5 litres of oil for a period of 4 months. This first and second round of distributions was completed by the end of January 2012. The table below gives details of distributions and people reached

Table 1: People reached with First and Second Round of Distributions as at 9 January 2012

Location	Food distributed	Target	Actual	% reached
Bule Hora woreda	Maize, oil and CSB	29,535 beneficiaries	13,872 beneficiaries received 2 month rations for November to December	47%
Saba Boru woreda	Maize, oil and CSB	49,387 beneficiaries	21,233 beneficiaries received 2 month rations for November to December	43%

Complete information on the first and second round distributions will be included in the 6 month update.

As mentioned earlier, due to delay in undertaking implementation, the plan to distribute food in Moyale has been replaced by Bule Hora in Borena zone in Oromia region by GoE, since other agencies have already covered the Moyale region. The number of beneficiaries may vary from the original number as the government DRMFSS has inadvertently assigned the region to two agencies. An alternate region has been assigned and the numbers may increase or decrease slightly. This differential will be accounted for in the six month report.

Challenges:

Delays in ERCS procurement in the beginning stage of the operation have proven to be more complex and the ERCS has initiated a reviewed approach that, whilst slowing this present procurement process, has provided an opportunity to establish a more robust and efficient procedure for the future. Changes made within the ERCS support service units including logistics and procurement will ensure in having improved and updated systems in order to meet operational requirements for smoother implementation in future interventions.

Relief and early recovery through cash transfer interventions

Outcome: Selected households have their remaining assets protected and some lost assets replaced so improving their ability to produce food or restart livelihoods and reduce use of negative coping strategies

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Household access to food, essential household items and livestock in targeted areas has improved by assisting with conditional cash transfers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree with local authorities and communities on criteria for targeting beneficiaries for cash grants. • Identify most vulnerable households through community screening • Identify modalities and distribution mechanisms for cash transfers as well as cash grant value and monitoring mechanisms. • Distribute cash grants equivalent to USD 250 per HHs for 4,000 households (20,000 people). (To be refined based on assessment). • Establish joint community-ERCS supervision committee to effectively and transparently manage cash grant programming. • Closely monitor and evaluate intervention at the end of the piloting.

Progress:

A Cash Transfer Working Group (CTWG) was launched in Ethiopia on 1 September 2011. The purpose of the CTWG is to introduce cash programming as one of the possible response mechanisms to deliver humanitarian assistance, to share information, experiences, monitoring and lessons learned. Through collaboration and joint activities such as joint assessments, evaluations and advocacy the CTWG hopes to improve the delivery of services to aid recipients in Borena Zone.

In October 2011, a cash transfer training was held in Yabello (Borena Zone) in Oromia Region where the ERCS branch programme manager from Moyale participated. The purpose of this training was to describe how to assess and analyse data in order to decide whether cash is appropriate, to explain operational elements and delivery mechanisms to be considered and planned for in cash programme and to share experiences from each other. The ERCS branch programme manager will hold a knowledge sharing course for selected ERCS staff so that they understand the modalities of cash transfer programming for effective execution of cash transfers and management for the target population.

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 150,000 people over a period of 12 months.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The health status of the population is improved through early detection and management of epidemic disease outbreak and under nutrition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train 250 volunteers 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. • 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.
Contribute to the control of the current measles outbreak by providing support to the MoH in the upcoming emergency measles vaccination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy 250 volunteers trained on epidemic control for the upcoming measles vaccination campaign to assist with social mobilisation and campaign activities.
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute 50,000 mosquito nets to 25,000 most affected families in the Guji and Borena Zones. • Procure nails and strings to enable appropriate hang up of mosquito nets. • Disseminate key messages concerning LLIN use and malaria (targeting pregnant women and caretakers for children under 5) utilizing the 250 trained volunteers, extension health workers and community members.
Sustainably contribute to improved health status of the population in the drought affected Woredas through regular health activities based on Community Based Health and First Aid interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train and manage 250 volunteers in CBHFA. • Enable 250 volunteers to conduct regular CBHFA activities in the Guji and Borena Zones.

Progress:

Planned number of people to be reached:	147,000
Location of intervention:	Moyale woreda (Borena zone) and Saba-Boru woreda (Guji Zone) of Oromia Region.

A total of 34,000 mosquito nets that arrived from the Regional Logistics Unit in Dubai and an additional 16,000 locally procured are ready for distribution. The 50,000 nets will be distributed to a total of 25,000 most affected families in the Guji and Borena zones. On 2 December, 10,000 mosquito nets arrived in Saba Boru. ERCS health team has planned a field visit to identify volunteers and select the areas of intervention by the end of January 2012. A training will be conducted for volunteers in these areas followed by distributions in the first week of March 2012.

An IFRC OSU health coordinator is currently planning the most immediate interventions with the appointed ERCS health coordinator counterpart.

Challenges:

The recruitment process of the ERCS health counterpart took longer than expected. The process was completed in November 2011 and two counterparts were recruited to follow up implementation of activities. The lack of health human resources in the ERCS branches has also caused challenges within the branches to start activities within this objective including support to the parallel Population Movement Operation's health component. This challenge has since been addressed, but further external human resources are likely to be needed as the operation continues. Delays in the delivery of the locally procured mosquito nets by the supplier delayed their distribution. These deliveries are completed and activities are underway.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Increased access to water addressed the root cause and the systematic failures of the water points in Oromia and Afar. Increased knowledge and ability to maintain and repair water points.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Availability and access to water for both households and livestock increased.	<p>ERCS/PNS/IFRC leading the operation, six PNS water packages will be developed with a total value of CHF 12,8 million, with the following estimated outputs during 12 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48 new deep well boreholes • 72 refurbished water points • 12 refurbished water ponds • 60 shallow wells refurbished, with water reservoirs • Water trucking at a limited scale to cover absolute emergency phase needs.
The health status of the population is improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 community volunteers trained in PHAST to act as hygiene and behaviour change agents by facilitating community dialogues with their respective communities. • Produce PHAST tool kits. • Establish PHASTER groups in targeted communities and cascade the training. • Procure 486,000 water treatment chemicals and distribute to 27,000 households. • Communities and volunteers trained on appropriate use of water treatment chemicals. • Develop information, education and communication (IEC) materials focusing on prevention of AWD and other water born diseases.
Appropriate sanitation is provided to 15,000 beneficiaries in Guji and Borena zones of Oromia region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a total of 3,000 san-plats and build model latrines as a precursor for large-scale latrine construction as part of longer-term recovery following PHAST methodology.

Progress:

Water Trucking Activities: ERCS with support from Spanish Red Cross deployed water trucks to Moyale Region. Approximately 4,135 households were provided with 78,000 litres of water. However, water trucking activities were suspended due to the rainy season.

ERCS headquarters sent 8 water tanks of 10,000 litre capacity and 4 tanks of 5,000 litre capacity to Moyale Region. During the reporting period, four 10,000 litre and two 5,000 litre capacity water tanks were delivered to 5 Moyale Oromia Kebeles: Chamuk, Tile Mado, Meleb, Bokola and Mado-Mormora (olla Liben Huka).

These tanks are yet to be installed since there are some fittings including taps and sockets which had not been included in the package. The remaining tanks are in storage in the Moyale Somali office. The new WatSan delegate will support ERCS to ensure delivery and installation of the tanks.

A consortium of **Swedish/Danish and Austrian Red Cross Societies** will also carry out a water and sanitation project within this Appeal. The project proposal has been drafted including a preliminary budget. The field WatSan delegate from Swedish RC will be in charge of implementing the project in Oromia Region in Moyale, Somali, Dire, Saba-Boru woredas with a third team probably locating in Afar Region. This project plans to reach a total of 27,000 households affected by drought. From 13 to 23 December 2011, a field mission was carried out by two IFRC WatSan delegates and one ERCS health coordinator to Borena/Moyale Somali and Guji zones. The purpose of the field mission was to carry out detailed mapping and further technical assessment as well as to select the first areas where the consortium funds (Austrian, Danish and Swedish RC) are going to be used. Recommendations by the team are currently being revised by ERCS. A more clear focus will be obtained once the final project proposal is completed.

The **German Red Cross** presented a proposal to rehabilitate and construct community-based water infrastructures in drought affected areas of Southern Oromia Region as stated in the Appeal. Nevertheless, the project will be carried out bilaterally with the ERCS and will have an implementation period of 10 months (15 November 2011 to September 2012). The main activities include:

Water activities:

- Construction/rehabilitation of 5 ponds for both human and livestock consumption – 2,500 households.
- Rehabilitation of 13 water points (electrical/mechanical equipments of shallow/deep wells) – 2,600 households.
- Training of operations and maintenance committees and users.

Sanitation and hygiene:

- Carrying out a Knowledge Attitudes and Practice (KAP) study to plan the sanitation and hygiene programmes.
- Piloting a sanitation campaign based on findings from KAP survey.
- Distribution of materials for the construction of latrines.
- Planning a small scale hygiene promotion programme based on local traditions and needs.
- Distribution of hygiene kits enabling communities to put into practice hygiene messages, including personal hygiene and household water treatment.
- Distribution of mosquito nets to households with children aged less than five years.
- Water quality testing.

Challenges: During the water trucking activities, some trucks broke down due to mechanical problems. The trucks have since been repaired. However, water trucking activities were postponed with the onset of rains. The water tanks have not been installed in Moyale Region due to delays in sourcing some key components that were missing from the original water tank packages. The new field WatSan delegate and ERCS are resolving this problem to ensure that the tanks are installed.

Refugees assistance in Dolo Ado

Outcome: Provide emergency relief to two sites: Bora Mino A (40,000 refugees) and B (20,000 refugees) with the provision of health and care, mass and specialized water.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Availability and access to emergency health and care access to water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment of ERUs according to needs.
The health status of refugee population in new camps around Dolo Ado is improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy assessment team to Dolo Ado and identify possible areas of interventions by the ERCS supported by the RC/RC Movement partners. • Draft a Plan of Action based on the assessment outcome. • Agree with relevant government authorities and UNHCR on intervention scope and size by the ERCS.

Progress:

The current situation in Dolo Ado is that new arrivals into the Reception Centre are creating mounting pressure in the Dolo Ado Transit Centre for adequate facilities such as toilets and tents. UNHCR reports that there are 7,794 refugees in the Transit Centre. A total of 129,745 people are in the 4 camps in Dolo Ado. Although the rain has subsided, it continues to pose a health concern with fears that refugees could contract acute watery diarrhoea, pneumonia and dengue fever, due to the lack of proper sanitation measures in place.

On 26 October 2011 during an interagency meeting in Dolo Ado, ARRA urged all humanitarian agencies setting up the new camp (Boramino Camp) to ensure the availability of sanitation and water facilities, land demarcation and portable shelters (rub hall). However, the latest reports from UNHCR describe additional challenges in the provision of water and sanitation infrastructure due to the ground condition. These issues are being addressed and the intention is still to open this camp but only when ARRA and UNHCR are satisfied with the camp's structure and it is up to standard.

Logistics

The IFRC OSU is providing technical and advisory support to the ERCS in implementing all logistics activities. The logistics coordinator is now in place and an ERCS counterpart has been recruited. A detailed logistics and procurement plan for the food operation support has been developed and implementation is underway. A broader logistics support plan of action for all ongoing operations in Ethiopia is being drafted by ERCS supported by IFRC. The plan describes all necessary steps that need to be taken by the logistics unit including the turn around time from procurement to transportation and deliveries to the final destination (beneficiaries). A number of delegates and local staff will be identified at a later stage within the revised plan to respond to the scaled up size of the operation.

Support for the provision of fleet services and vehicles will be provided by the Dubai Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) and Fleet Base. Potential scaling up would require considerable capacities in logistics, procurement and warehousing, which may be ensured by mobilizing surge capacities and strengthening existing capacities within the ERCS. The IFRC OSU logistics counterpart recruited an experienced national logistics professional to assist in the unit.

Outcome: Humanitarian goods are procured, stored, delivered and distributed in a timely, transparent and cost-effective manner.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>Well coordinated mobilization of relief goods.</p> <p>Coordinated delivery to the operational areas ensuring proper storage and distribution to affected communities.</p> <p>Provision of all necessary vehicles for the operation and effective fleet management;</p> <p>The Federation will also work with the Ethiopian Red Cross Society to support and build logistics capacity through training, workshops, and providing delegates to support the logistics function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Assist the ERCS in setting up effective and efficient supply chain and provide reporting on performance. • Support the ERCS in developing detailed logistics and procurement plan for the operation. • Build necessary fleet base capacities to support the operation. • Assist the operation in developing a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from the point of dispatch to the end user. • 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. • Work closely with the ERCS to strengthen their capacities in procurement, fleet management and supply chain management including training of the operational staff. • Procure 486,000 water treatment chemicals. • Procure 50,000 mosquito nets. • Source 8,100MT of maize, 810MT of beans, 725MT of CSB and 270,000Lt of cooking oil. • Establish a logistics hub in each operational area. • Contract local service providers to transport food from hubs to the distribution points.

Progress:

The IFRC-OSU logistics coordinator and officer including ERCS DM response team member carried out an emergency needs and capacity assessment trip from 18 to 27 November 2011 covering the areas of **Bule Hora** in Borena Zone and **Sabo Boru** in Guji Zone covering 2,000 kms. The team supported in preparations for December food distributions in the target distribution centres as follows:

- A total of 29,535 beneficiaries located in 28 kebeles in Bule Hora woreda to rations of 443 MT maize, 44.3 MT beans, 46.5 MT CSB and 14,767 litres of vegetable oil per month through 9 distribution centres with.
- A total of 49,387 beneficiaries located in 21 Kebeles in Sabo Boru Woreda to receive 740.8 MT maize, 74 MT beans, 55.5 MT CSB and 24,694 litres of vegetable oil per month through 5 distribution centres.

Bule Hora (Borena zone, Oromia region): A meeting was held with the woreda administrator and the DMRFSS officer to inform them of ERCS intended response and the targeted number of beneficiaries as well as securing the necessary support for warehousing. As regards warehousing and distribution, it was agreed that there will be one main hub in Hagere Mariam (covering 10 kebeles) for storage and distribution. Satellite warehouses will also be established in Suro, Medhiba, Metekoma Hara, Qellensso, Murtu Dhelissa, Hera Lepitu and Dhukessa Megada. After further consultation with the woreda administration and DMRFSS officer, it was agreed that the initial target population (29,535 beneficiaries) would be maintained. The administrator had earlier proposed reducing the number of beneficiaries to 18,581.



Warehouses and satellite warehouses identified during the field trip. Source: IFRC

An assessment on accessibility of the warehouses was made in 9 distribution centres. This was conducted by the DMRFSS officer and the ERCS Hagere Mariam Sub-Branch Secretary. Meetings were held with relevant kebele authorities to verify the beneficiaries as well as to ensure adequate support was available for warehouse management. The branch has the following staff to oversee the drought operation implementation: 1 Youth and programme officer, 1 store keeper, 1 ambulance driver, 2 guards and a youth volunteer programme with 17 volunteers. The food operation and coordination office for Bule Hora will be located at the sub branch office in Hagere Mariam. A half day information and introduction session was held with the volunteer group, explaining their role and participation in the operation.

Sabo Boru (Guji zone, Oromia region): A meeting was held with the deputy woreda administrator to confirm the ERCS operation and targeted number of beneficiaries, as well as securing necessary support for warehousing. An assessment was made in 5 distribution centres accompanied by the ERCS Kebre Mingest Sub Branch Secretary. Meetings were held with relevant kebele authorities in order to verify beneficiaries as well as to ensure adequate support was available for warehouse management. As regards warehousing and distribution, there will be one main hub in Shakiso (no distribution area, only warehouse and office) - one hub in Siri Bukke (also covering Utulu). Satellite warehouses will be established in Bureejerssa (also covering Wacchudima), and in Hyadima and Kenticha.

The ERCS Kebri Mengist Sub Branch in Negele Regional Office is located 20 km. from Shakiso where the food operation office and warehouse hub is located. The branch has the following resources: Sub branch Secretary, Youth and Programme Officer, Pharmacy outlet, Ambulance operation, Ambulance driver and 2 guards.

The IFRC team procured materials in Hagera Mariam to fence the area where the rubb halls will be set up. ICRC provided a truck to deliver three rubb halls, 40 rolls of plastic sheeting and 10,000 mosquito nets to the operational area. Follow up was done on food and inspection contracts including the customs clearance of two rub halls and 16,000 locally procured mosquito nets before deployment. These nets were delivered in mid December 2011.

Challenges:

Local suppliers delayed the delivery of mosquito nets to Sabo Boru as they were supposed to have been delivered by 24 October 2011. This problem was addressed and solved, deliveries are finalised.

Capacity of the National Society	
Outcome: ERCS capacity at Headquarters and branch levels to deliver more effective services to vulnerable people and respond to future emergencies has increased.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Capacities of the ERCS branches in operational areas strengthened to ensure adequate service deliveries to vulnerable communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide necessary technical guidance, information technologies and equipment. • Provide with adequate transport and fleet capacities to ensure mobility and rapid response. • Provide necessary office equipment and furniture. • Training of branch staff in disaster management, logistics, first aid, nutrition, volunteer/youth mobilisation and project management. • Conduct training of the Branch governance on relationships between the management and the governance in operational branches.
Enhanced capacity of the National Society to better respond to humanitarian challenges and coordinate branch activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide necessary information technologies and equipment. • Conduct training of the staff and volunteers in disaster management, logistics, first aid, nutrition, and reporting and project management. • Organize programme review meetings at branch and HQ level. • Organize peer education and exchange visits with sister National Societies • Organize training of the ERCS HQ and branch staff in “early recovery” and “cash programming”. • 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. • 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

Progress:

From 21 to 29 November 2011 the IFRC OSU Organizational Development (OD) delegate deployed with support from the Canadian Red Cross went on mission to the zones of Borena and Guji to fast track the implementation of the outstanding branch development priorities in support to the ERCS Team (disaster management and OD). Focus was given to Saba Boru in Guji zone.

The priority of the mission was to provide technical and advisory support to ERCS team to start implementing the branch development components under the Drought Plan of Action (PoA). These components will support the initial food distribution activities described in the PoA. The mission opened the opportunity to discuss branch development objectives and plan of action related to Shakiso and Hagera Mariam in Saba Boru. This enabled a better understanding of the objectives, of what needs to be done and who is responsible for what and when.

The IFRC OSU will support the ERCS DM and OD departments in fast tracking the action points. This will involve ensuring the availability of a rapid reinforcement and resources for immediate response to the operation. A

reorganization of the branch/sub-branch staff and volunteers will be done to help kick start the food distribution operations. This will be done in close coordination with the ERCS-DM and IFRC OSU logistics.

Another key area is to support the ERCS team to establish a coordination and support mechanism including reporting and monitoring schedules, between the responsible ERCS-national HQ departments. (DM and OD) and the branch/sub branches engaged in the operations. Key capacity development training schedules will be agreed upon and resources identified for timely implementation. A detailed report will be available informing the main findings of this mission.

The ERCS OD department will visit to evaluate their needs in order to develop a PoA for the capacity building of their branch. A number of PNS have expressed interest in supporting both branch and project management development in Afar.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability and transparency.

The communications activities outlined in this appeal are aimed at supporting the National Society to improve their communications capacities and develop appropriate communication tools and products to support effective operations. In addition the operational activities outlined in the Ethiopia Revised Drought Appeal whilst sharing many common elements with the challenges and objectives in Kenya, Somalia and the other HoA countries are also unique to the geography, profile and operational conditions of the affected regions and as such need to be showcased and disseminated in such as way as to differentiate these activities and to offer options to donors and PNS.

With this in mind an agreement has been made with the zone and Geneva communications departments for the OSU to present to the ERCS a design of a communications/media pilot project specifically for Ethiopia that will profile the challenges faced by the ERCS and their activities to address them. The project will incorporate clear communication/media product deliverables as well as capacity building components to rejuvenate the ERCS capacity in this sector. It will call for a mixed team led initially by a Red Cross communications professional with ERCS and local media photographers and staff. It will be developed with the National Society that puts an emphasis on both positive media relations and producing content that outlines the needs of the affected populations and the positive stories of previous/ongoing drought interventions and other ERCS activities.

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.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications products are made available to media and stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> News releases, fact sheets, video, photographs and interviews with qualified spokespeople are developed and made available to media and key stakeholders. Direct outreach will be coordinated with the Host National Society and conducted with national and international media. 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 An IFRC communications officer will be deployed to the affected region, to initiate a pilot project, 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.
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"> A communications tool-kit 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. 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.
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Progress: A Communication Media Project proposal has been drafted by the IFRC-OSU Head of Operations and presented to the ERCS SG, Federation Representative and the Africa Zone Head of Communications for approval and roll out. It addresses not only the need to reinforce communications support to the relief operations but broader challenges faced by the ERCS in the coming years.

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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 (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.

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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 non-violence and peace
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