

# DREF operation final report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Eastern Africa: Regional Drought Response

DREF operation n° MDR64001  
6 May 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

**Summary:** CHF 250,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 27 January 2006 to deploy a field assessment and coordination team (FACT), to provide support and assistance to National Societies and to begin to respond to the needs.

Four DREF updates were issued between February and July 2006 to report on the progress from field assessments and capacity development. The operation was extended further for four months, until the end of November 2006 to cover ongoing operations. An operations manager was deployed to oversee the National Society responses.

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The Kenya Red Cross Society distributing food in Wajir District (photo: KRCS)

## The situation

The failure of the short-season rains in early 2006 left large sections of Eastern Africa in severe drought. Following the effects of drought felt in Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, southern Sudan, Uganda and Rwanda an estimated 11 million people were facing serious food shortages by the end of January 2006.

In Kenya, approximately 3.5 million people were projected to be in need of food aid due to the persistent and widespread drought, late rains and conflict in the north eastern region (arson and banditry). Food distribution constraints also resulted in thousands of lives being put at risk following the breakdown of the UN-led single pipeline which ensured coordinated and effective aid delivery through a single structure. Set up in 2000, the

single pipeline system ensures that all food aid is delivered with distribution facilities in place and needs assessments are carried out. The 2006 long-rains season was to some extent favourable in most of the drought-affected areas. In most pastoral areas, water became readily available and distances to watering points were substantially reduced as pastoralists began to return to wet-season grazing areas.

With persistence of drought in Ethiopia, food insecurity placed some 2.6 million people in need of emergency assistance and support. Many of the affected communities were pastoralists or agro-pastoralists in the country's southern and south-eastern Oromia and Somali regions. The February to June 2006 rainy season in Oromia and Somali Moyale woredas had ended prematurely before crops had matured. According to the ERCS, where as livestock deaths had reduced and recovery had been witnessed in the short-term, the medium-term outlook was still unknown.

In Eritrea, with approximately 66 per cent of the population living below the poverty line, the height of the 2006 drought only worsened the situation, leaving most people vulnerable. Reports from February 2006 indicated that the harvesting of the 2005 main season, *kremti*, was generally favorable. However, a nutrition survey conducted by the Eritrean Ministry of Health found that the Global Acute Malnutrition rate had reached 19.1 percent in Gash Barka zone, which had been most affected by the drought. Food relief had not been arriving at sufficient amounts in 2005 and by August, the figure had even dropped to only 1 million beneficiaries from 1.3 million. Following the Eritrean government restrictions, there was no food distribution by all humanitarian agencies since October 2005.

In Tanzania, after very poor rainy seasons in 2005, with food and cash crop production plummeting by 50 to 70 percent and many families eating only one meal a day, the 2006 annual long rains across much of the country faltered and closed below normal. A vulnerability assessment by government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies in January, 2006 found that the drought had affected more than 85 percent of districts in Tanzania. The Government of Tanzania appealed to the international community for 100,000 tonnes of grain to extend its subsidized sales beyond April 2006 targeting 3.2 million drought-affected people.

In both Rwanda and Burundi, the end of the drought period that resulted in widespread famine marked the beginning of heavy rainfall and floods. These extreme weather conditions left many families vulnerable while losing track of weather prediction capacities. In Butare Province of Rwanda that is regularly affected by drought, torrential rains destroyed a significant part of the crop leading to poor crop harvest, resulting in increased vulnerability for the communities as well as reduced resilience.

The cumulative impact of continuous droughts in Djibouti resulted in a serious and deteriorating food security situation. High livestock losses were observed in several pastoral zones. In a DMIS alert issued by the Federation's Eastern Africa Zone, scorching summer heat was projected to further affect livestock productivity and increase the water requirements of both human and animals. Food deficits of between 17 to 50 percent are projected starting in June for six months in pastoral zones and lasting for nine months in agricultural zones.

Somalia was also affected where almost half of the people were at risk of malnutrition in the worst hit areas surviving on three cups of water a day, trekking 40 miles to the nearest water in 40 degree heat. Some families in Bakool area of southern Somalia were reported to be spending up to 80 percent of their income on water. According to the ICRC, the situation was further aggravated by the combination of the conflict in Somalia and the drought and urgent response was needed to support the vulnerable communities until the next rainy season and July harvest.

In addition, some critical cross-cutting issues highlighted during the drought period include the following;

- Chronic underinvestment in rural areas, linked to issues of governance.
- Conflict situations, leading to population displacement and instability.
- The impact of HIV and AIDS on human capital.

However, the migration of the Inter- Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) from the equatorial to the northern sector of the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) marked the onset of the June to September rainfall season in Sudan, Eritrea, Uganda, western Kenya and north-western Ethiopia. Prolonged and erratic rainfall in some areas resulted in floods and displacement.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

A Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) was deployed by the International Federation to conduct assessments and strengthen the capacities of affected National Societies following the drought. As a result, five emergency appeals were launched to assist the affected populations in the respective countries of Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Ethiopia and Eritrea. No assessments were conducted in Uganda thus no emergency appeal was launched.

**Kenya: Drought; Emergency Appeal no. MDRKE001;** launched on 4 January 2006 for CHF 16,369,585 (USD 12.7 million or EUR 10.5 million) to assist some 329,000 beneficiaries for 12 months. CHF 427,808 (USD 326,073 or EUR 276,541) was allocated from the DREF for the initial phases of the Kenya Red Cross Society's relief assistance and assessment activities.

On 12 January 2006, the government officially appointed the Kenya Red Cross Society as a lead agency in distribution of government relief food in nine districts. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed by Norwegian Red Cross on 29 May, by the Kenya Red Cross Society on 13 July and the Federation on 26 July 2006. The animal off take (de-stocking) programme was successfully conducted in 5 districts, a total of 20,861 animals (cattle, camels and goats) were purchased and slaughtered out of the 50,000 animal in 10 districts originally planned.

**Ethiopia: Drought; Emergency Appeal no. MDRET001;** launched on 23 February 2006 for CHF 1,452,294 (USD 1,097,224 or EUR 920,338) for 12 months to assist 36,341 beneficiaries. The Preliminary Emergency Appeal was revised on 6 September largely based on Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) and Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) findings and recommendations from assessment missions, and the resulting needs and gaps. The number of beneficiaries was increased from 36,341 to 63,620 in April 2006 and the appeal budget revised to CHF 1, 877,033 (USD 1,444,983 or EUR 1,189, 5016. CHF 200,000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF.

**Rwanda: Drought; Emergency Appeal no. MDRRW001;** launched on 3 March 2006 for CHF 902,799 (USD 683,421 or EUR 576,868) for six months to assist 100,000 beneficiaries. One Operations Update was issued on 24 April 2006 focusing on distribution of food and seeds. CHF 180, 000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF.

**Tanzania: Drought; Emergency Appeal no. MDRTZ001;** Preliminary Appeal launched on 14 March 2006 for CHF 1,862,589 (USD 1,409,984 or EUR 1,190,153) for four months to assist 74,000 beneficiaries. CHF 250,000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF.

Related emergency appeals launched in 2005 included humanitarian assistance to affected communities in southern Sudan and the Eritrea drought appeal:

**Southern Sudan: Humanitarian Assistance to Returnees and Affected Communities; Emergency Appeal no. 05EA025;** launched on 7 November 2005 for CHF 8,383,957 (USD 6,418,345 or EUR 5,433,127) for 12 months to assist 650,000 beneficiaries. CHF 500,000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF. Operations Update no. 2 issued 17 January 2006 revised the appeal budget from CHF 8,383,957 to CHF 13,007,219 (USD 9,914,039 or EUR 8,356,710) and extended the appeal timeframe until 31 December 2006.

**Eritrea: Drought; Emergency Appeal no. 05EA002;** launched on 27 January 2005 for CHF 5,210,000 (USD 4.38 million or EUR 3.36 million) for 12 months for 55,000 beneficiaries. CHF 300,000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF. Operations Update no. 4 issued 27 January 2006, available at page [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?05/05EA00204.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA00204.pdf) extended the operation for three months (until the end of April 2006).

A food security unit planning forum attended by Watsan, Food Security, logistics and/or transport Support Unit delegates and a reporting officer held on 26 July 2006 appraised the five drought appeals of 2006, identified achievements made, gaps and priorities based on reports available. The planning exercise formed a basis for which a plan of action was designed covering up to December 2006. Food security training was also held in Nairobi from 6 to 10 March 2006.

## Progress towards objectives

The two main objectives under the plan of action focused on assessments and capacity development for the six affected National Societies. The timeframes for implementation were split to cover the short term needs

(early 2006), the medium term needs (the rest of 2006 and early 2007) and the long-term needs (beyond early 2007).

**Goal: To mitigate the effects of drought and increase the coping mechanisms of the affected countries in the region.**

## Country Assessments

**Objective 1: To assess individual country situations for Ethiopia, Djibouti, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda to better understand the varying short, medium and long-term needs by mid-February 2006, and to review the ongoing needs and operations in Eritrea.**

### Achievements

Activities in Eritrea were put on hold, pending government authorization for international humanitarian agencies to visit the field. As at 14 April, it had been expected that the Swedish Red Cross would be able to resume its activities and a field visit by the regional drought Watsan delegate could be planned at the time.

In Tanzania, following a request from Tanzania Red Cross National Society, the Federation's Eastern Africa Zone deployed a FACT-team member and technical staff to Tanzania for assistance in drafting a Tanzania Drought Preliminary Emergency Appeal launched on 14 March 2006. The appeal for food was prepared, targeting the most vulnerable in Manyara, Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions.

As at 7 August 2006, a total of 21,093 affected people from 7 districts in Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions had been assisted with food (maize grains) during distributions that started in April and May 2006. The 652 tonnes of maize distribution contributed towards improving the nutritional status of drought-affected beneficiaries in Manyara and Kilimanjaro.

Logistics assessments were conducted in northern Tanzania between 15 and 19 April, 2006 in collaboration with TRCNS. The areas visited in Manyara Region included Simanjiro, Kiteto, Hanang and Mbulu. With support of the zone logistics delegate and the East Africa sub-zonal office, follow-up visits on financial reporting were made to the TRCNS. A regional drought logistics delegate was recruited on 18 January and a drought operations coordinator was recruited.

A National Disaster Response Team was sent to the Oromia, Somali and Amhara regions of Ethiopia and the National Society had an opportunity to work together with the Federation field assessment and coordination team, the Federation's Eastern Africa Zone in Nairobi, the ICRC and relevant government, non-governmental and international organizations to assess needs, discuss findings and to develop a response.

Based on these assessment findings and revisions made in April 2006 highlighted under operations update no. 2, it was decided that the ERCS response would provide assistance to 14 villages in the Moyale woredas (districts) of Oromia and Somali regions; seven kebeles in Oromia Moyale and seven villages (kebeles) in Somali Moyale. 63,620 beneficiaries were targeted for assistance in Moyale; 29,965 beneficiaries in Oromia Moyale and 33,655 in Somali Moyale.

A review of training activities conducted in 2006 indicated that trained Red Cross volunteers were able to reach some 72,000 people through hygiene promotion efforts. During the drought operation, a total of 465 Red Cross volunteers were trained in health and sanitation related issues. Sixty-one people were trained in Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST). Watsan operations undertaken in response to the drought were reviewed in June 2006 and follow-ups were done in July and August to review completed emergency activities and the progress of medium term activities.

In Kenya, the drought Watsan delegate assisted the Kenya Red Cross Society in outlining its medium-term Watsan activities in June 2006 as part of the drought appeal under revision. The reviewed drought appeal incorporated aspects of animal restocking, water and sanitation and strengthening the logistics transport support unit (TSU) operational capacity. A new TSU coordinator was recruited in July 2006 to give further support to the National Society.

### Djibouti

An inter-agency assessment, which included Field Assessment Coordination Team (FACT), conducted in February, pointed out that the drought needs in Djibouti would be covered by the WFP and other agencies and as a result, the Federation did not launch an Emergency Appeal.

## **Rwanda and Burundi**

The assessment finding indicated that some 33,000 tonnes of food assistance was needed to assist the communities affected by drought in the regions of Kibungo, Umutara and Bugesera (in the East) and Butare, Gikongoro and Gitarama regions (in the south). The emergency appeal launched to provide assistance to the populations affected by drought in Bugesera, Kibungo and Umutara regions focused heavily on food distribution and food security aspects to improve the agricultural production capacities of the local communities. Rainwater catchment was also improved through rehabilitation of existing water points in order to provide water for both humans and livestock.

From the assessment findings conducted by the FACT in Burundi, strategies were identified to support vulnerable returnees in their trek to and integration into their new communities in Makamba, Muyinga, Kirundo and Ruyigi provinces, while strengthening community infrastructure to deliver basic services to vulnerable people (both locals and returnees).

### **Impact:**

Most National Societies mobilized to respond to the drought situation made significant efforts to build working ties with local authorities and other humanitarian agencies to enhance effective application of their strategies. The TRCNS worked closely with the local administration at the respective district levels throughout the duration of this drought operation. This enhanced cooperation and coordination while promoting the TRCNS as a reliable partner in humanitarian operations.

## **Capacity Development**

**Objective 2: To provide necessary human capacity to support National Societies and the Federation to make appropriate short and medium term responses to the drought situation.**

### **Achievements**

Contracts for the operations coordinator and workshop manager were extended in September for another one month (30 and 21 October respectively) to provide extra support in strengthening the capacities of affected National Societies.

### **Tanzania**

The drought response teams provided support to the TRCNS during monitoring and follow up of transport and distribution of food items including 220 tonnes of maize.

On 24 and 27 July 2006, follow up meetings on the outstanding TRCNS financial reporting were held attended by the Federation finance and Food security teams as well as the East Africa representation. Main observations discussed included the following;

- Inadequate official communication system.
- Lack of simple financial tracking system at the Eastern Africa Zone that is shared by relevant National Societies.
- Urgent need to streamline communication channels at the Eastern Africa Zone (formerly Regional Delegation Nairobi) with TRCNS was emphasized.

### **Ethiopia**

ERCS presence in the targeted areas was strengthened with the recruitment of additional staff. Red Cross committees were established in each of the 14 targeted villages, and two committees were also established on woreda level, making a total of 16 RC committees in the target areas. 105 volunteers were trained on Red Cross knowledge and three RC youth clubs were established at Cross knowledge and 3 Red Cross youth clubs were established at Moyale high school, as well as junior and elementary schools.

### **Kenya**

During the drought operation de-stocking programme, a total of 25,539 animals were purchased and slaughtered from December 2005 to March 2006. The transport support unit (TSU) provided logistics support to the Kenya Red Cross Society on transportation, workshop and base management, vehicle registration as well as negotiations with ICRC. The KRCS logistics teams benefited from relevant experience and skills in logistics in disaster response and disaster preparedness.

### **Impact:**

With the support from the Federation's field teams and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS), 28,000 drought-affected beneficiaries from Oromia and Somali Moyale woredas in Ethiopia received 1,115,000 litres of water, whilst 2,060 farmers in Moyale received maize, beans and farming tools, thus contributing towards the improvement of their households' nutritional status.

### Challenges:

**Ethiopia:** Drilling in the Moyale area of Ethiopia was not successful. Two drilled borehole failed to find water.

**Tanzania:** Limited funding hindered the implementation of TRCNS activities. The Appeal generated 24 per cent of its targeted food requirements. The national society consequently reprioritized its operation to focus on Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions.

## Conclusion

Overall, the drought operation represented a great learning experience for the affected National Societies in terms of coordination, planning and implementation of activities.

### Lessons learned:

- The need for the ERCS to improve on its reporting system was highlighted in the update of 8 September 2006. On-going floods operations in Ethiopia starting in September also over-stretch the already limited ERCS capacities at the expense of the drought implementation and reporting requirements.
- The Kenya Red Cross Society was able to conduct a massive animal de-stocking programme. This was a first-time initiative which benefited the communities in drought affected regions in Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit and Moyale.

## How we work

*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

## Contact information

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**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MDR64001 - East Africa: Regional Drought Response

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2008/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2006/11
Appeal	MDR64001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Consolidated Response to Appeal**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>		250,000				250,000
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>DREF</i>		250,000				250,000
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>		250,000				250,000
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>		250,000				250,000
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>		250,000				250,000
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>		100%				100%

**II. Balance of Funds**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0
<b>C. Income</b>		250,000				250,000
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-250,000				-250,000
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		0				0

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MDR64001 - East Africa: Regional Drought Response

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2008/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2006/11
Appeal	MDR64001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>250,000</b>					<b>250,000</b>	
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Computers & Telecom			8,862			8,862	-8,862	
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>			<b>8,862</b>			<b>8,862</b>	<b>-8,862</b>	
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Transport & Vehicle Costs			3,758			3,758	-3,758	
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>			<b>3,758</b>			<b>3,758</b>	<b>-3,758</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	103,600		71,790			71,790	31,810	
National Staff			120			120	-120	
National Society Staff			760			760	-760	
Consultants			10,627			10,627	-10,627	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>103,600</b>		<b>83,297</b>			<b>83,297</b>	<b>20,303</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	31,000		62,111			62,111	-31,111	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>31,000</b>		<b>62,111</b>			<b>62,111</b>	<b>-31,111</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	72,000		60,059			60,059	11,941	
Office Costs	27,150		11,859			11,859	15,291	
Communications			3,722			3,722	-3,722	
Professional Fees			50			50	-50	
Other General Expenses			32			32	-32	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>99,150</b>		<b>75,722</b>			<b>75,722</b>	<b>23,428</b>	
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	16,250		16,250			16,250	0	
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>16,250</b>		<b>16,250</b>			<b>16,250</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>250,000</b>		<b>250,000</b>			<b>250,000</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>		