

# DREF operation final report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya: Drought

DREF operation n° MDR64002

Glide Nos: OT-2008-000043-DJI, DR-  
2008-000043-ETH and OT-2008-000043  
KEN

14 January 2009

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 35,760 (USD 35,760 or EUR 22,719) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti (RCSD), Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) and Kenya Red Cross society (KRCS) in assessing the extent and severity of drought conditions, its impact and the ability of affected households to meet their essential food requirements, without damaging their livelihoods, health and dignity.

In Ethiopia a total of 45,044 households (225,220 people) were assessed as being in need of urgent assistance in the form of supplementary feeding and health intervention. Areas which were identified to have the greatest need for humanitarian intervention included; Sidama Zone, Wolayita Zone and Bale Zone.

In Djibouti, 1,200 families (6,000 people) were assessed as being in need of humanitarian intervention. With special attention to pregnant and breast feeding mothers, the elderly, children under five and school going children since there was no school feeding programme.

This operation was conducted in collaboration with specific government authorities, monthly meetings and regular information sharing and communications at the regional and country levels was conducted. Regional coordination with other key operational agencies and organizations took place through the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group. Country-specific coordination mechanisms included the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) in Kenya, and the Early Warning Working Group (EWWG) in Ethiopia.

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Affected community members fetching water in Djibouti

## The situation

Following two poor rainy seasons in late 2007 and early 2008, and a more severe than normal dry season in Djibouti, southern and eastern Ethiopia, and northern and eastern Kenya; pastoral and agro-pastoral households relying on livestock for access to income and food face high to extreme food insecurity. Another poor rainy season had exacerbated food insecurity in these areas, where unusual livestock migrations were already taking place and significant deterioration of livestock body conditions negatively impacted both livestock production and their market value. A decline in livestock prices combined with an increase in staple food prices resulted in reduced pastoral terms of trade, household income and food access. Reduced harvests in rain-fed agro-pastoral and marginal crop-production areas thus resulted in limited replenishment of household and market food stocks and further increase in food prices.

According to 2006 Human Development Report, it was estimated that 26 percent of Djibouti's population, were undernourished and under five years mortality rate was 126 per 100,000 births. Global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate was measured as 16.8 percent, above the 15 percent critical threshold.

The drought, which impacted the entire country, appeared more severe than that of 2006 drought. Multiple factors such as high food prices, loss of livestock due to loss of pasture land, animal diseases and water shortage aggravated the situation. According to government reports, the number of people requiring emergency assistance increased to 24,000 households (120,000 people).

The most affected people were the pastoralist communities whose livestock as their only asset base died due to drought or sold for prices much less than their worth. Due to the drought the steady influx of migrants clustering at the vicinity of the five regional headquarters and Djibouti city to access water supply for both their own consumption and their few remaining animals.

In Ethiopia, many areas were affected by insufficient or total absence of Belg rain. Damot Pulasa, Humbo, Boloso Soro and Kindo Koisha were the most hit woredas. According to the government's Wolayita Zone Emergency Assessment Team report, out of the total population of 1,628,722, some 375,000 (23 percent) people were affected by the drought. The most affected social groups were children under age five (18 percent), elderly (11 percent) lactating and pregnant mothers (3 percent).

According to the nutritional survey conducted by the Goal Ethiopia, the GAM and the severe acute malnutrition (SAM) results were 17.5 and 3.5 respectively in Damot Pulasa Woreda which was above normal. This compares well with the other districts in Moyalle, Bale and Sidama zone.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Operations which were initiated after the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) assessment include: An Emergency Appeal was initially launched for Ethiopia on a preliminary basis on 14 May 2008 for CHF 1,847,444 (USD 1,776,388 or EUR 1,143,928) for four months to assist 40,000 beneficiaries. CHF 300,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society to respond to the some 40,000 people who were affected by food insecurity in Damot Pulasa District while waiting for the donor response to the launched appeal. In Djibouti a DREF CHF 212,100 (USD 207,941 or EUR 131,739) was allocated to support the National Society in preparing to deliver assistance to some 10,000 beneficiaries who were in critical need of assistance in Ali Shebes and Obock regions. In Kenya DREF CHF 200,961 (USD 193,232 or EUR 124,434) was allocated to support the Kenya Red Cross Society in preparing to deliver immediate emergency food assistance to 87,092 beneficiaries in Baringo and East Pokot district.

## Progress towards objectives

An eight day rapid assessment was conducted in Ethiopia and Djibouti. The team was composed of staff from the Eastern Africa Zone Office and supported by RDRT members from the affected National Societies.

### Food Security: Assessment and analysis

**Objective: To base programme decisions in areas where people are facing or at risk of facing high to extreme food insecurity on a demonstrated understanding of how they normally access food, the impact of the drought on current and future food security and hence the most appropriate response.**

## Activities planned

- Preparation of a food security assessment, including formulation of objectives, selection of assessment team, drafting terms of reference, budgeting and preparation of field visits.
- Collection of secondary information.
- Collection of primary information.
- Analysis.
- Reporting.
- Designing and drafting a Plan of Action.

## Achievements

From the Ethiopia RDRT assessment a total of 45,044 households (225,220 people) were identified as being in need of urgent assistance in terms of supplementary feeding and health intervention. At the point of the assessment there were no official figures from the Ministry of Health on the malnutrition rate however humanitarian agencies estimated the GAM to be at 15 percent. Among areas which were identified to have greater needs are Borecha in Sidama Zone, Wolayita Zone and Bale Zone. For better preparedness and response there is also a need to build the capacity of Ethiopian Red Cross Society mainly in information technology and communication to be able to share information on a timely basis. The possibility for immediate intervention using a DREF was feasible.

In the Djibouti RDRT assessment discussion with the Red Cross committee in Ali-Sabieh indicated the need to support 1,200 families (6,000 people) with general food rations (GFR) targeting pregnant and breast feeding women, the elderly, children under five and school children since there is no school feeding programme. Though from the assessment it was clear that there was need for provision of water to the affected community, the National Society had no intentions of undertaking water provision in the five regions since it was comprehensively addressed by the other sector players. Instead (RCSD) intends to undertake water trucking to Buldhugo in Belbela given the nature of the informal settlement and the inability of the community to secure safe water.

In Kenya there was no assessment carried out and the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) joint assessment report was used to launch a DREF to support the East Pokot and Baringo districts.

## Challenges

The initial assessment took eight days to complete. The extent of the drought as previously assessed by the National Society was not very specific on the needs of the community. The team was not able to visit all the affected regions due to time limitation and could only assess a few of the drought affected areas. This was a factor that was further compounded by inaccessibility and the scattered nomadic households. Various security alerts also hampered assessment activities in parts in Obock in Djibouti and Oromiya in Ethiopia.

## Conclusion

The assessment could have benefited from better coordination from an experienced DM professional. However the combined efforts of the Ethiopia and Djibouti NS and the Zone Office representatives produced valuable information to contribute to the launching of an Appeal for Ethiopia and DREF allocation for Djibouti.

## 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

MDR64002 - East Africa - Drought / Horn of Africa

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/4-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/4-2008/5
Appeal	MDR64002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	35,760					35,760
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Other Income</u>						
Voluntary Income	16,737					16,737
<b>C5. Other Income</b>	16,737					16,737
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>	16,737					16,737
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	16,737					16,737
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	47%					47%

## II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0
<b>C. Income</b>	16,737					16,737
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-16,737					-16,737
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	0					0

## III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>	35,760					35,760		
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Transport & Vehicle Costs		1,746				1,746	-1,746	
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>		1,746				1,746	-1,746	
<b>Personnel</b>								
Regionally Deployed Staff	9,420						9,420	
National Society Staff		456				456	-456	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	9,420	456				456	8,964	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	21,170	11,235				11,235	9,935	
Information & Public Relation		2,008				2,008	-2,008	
Office Costs		80				80	-80	
Communications		124				124	-124	
Financial Charges	2,846						2,846	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	24,016	13,447				13,447	10,569	
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	2,324	1,088				1,088	1,237	
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	2,324	1,088				1,088	1,237	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	35,760	16,737				16,737	19,024	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		19,024				19,024		