

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Ethiopia: Response to seasonal floods

DREF operation n° MDRET009
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000170-ETH
29 March 2011

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 300,000 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 28 September 2010 to support the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) to replenish disaster preparedness stocks that were used to assist 2,781 flood affected households from May, 2010 and in delivering assistance to an additional 5,000 flood affected households initially planned when August 2010 assessments indicated that flooding would be prolonged and more widespread.

By the end of the operation, contingency stocks, in the form of blankets and sleeping mats, were replenished in Amhara and Oromiya regions. These stocks are essential for the National Society to be able to respond to future emergencies. Fewer stocks were procured than planned due to market disturbances in September 2010 caused by devaluation of Ethiopian Birr by the National Bank. The market situation was disrupted temporarily, but seriously affected procurement for the operation.



Displaced families due to the floods living in temporary camps. Source: Ethiopian Red Cross Society. PHOTO/ERCS.

Of the additional flood affected families, 1,223 households were reached with non-food items (NFIs) including blankets and sleeping mats. The targeted number of households was less than planned due to two main reasons: the procurement process could not be completed within the operational timeframe and relief items such as jerry cans, plastic sheeting and plastic cups were unavailable in the local markets; Secondly, the National Society did not distribute all the procured NFIs as the displaced populations had already returned to their respective villages once the flood waters subsided. Undistributed NFIs were simply added to the National Society's prepositioned contingency stocks. Since the entire DREF amount was not spent, the remaining balance of CHF 159,576 will be returned to DREF.

By replenishing depleted stocks of relief supplies, the current operation played a vital role in ERCS relief assistance during the floods in the first half of the year, as well as helping ensure readiness for future emergencies. The assistance provided through the current operation also provided essential relief to a significant number of additional flood affected households in the latter half of 2010. The challenges encountered in procurement underscore the need for having contingency stocks prepositioned in strategic locations for flood response operations. Considering possible market disruptions and likelihood of a lengthy procurement process, contingency stocks are the most efficient and relevant means for quick and effective response.

[<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)

The European Commission for Humanitarian Affairs (ECHO) contributed CHF 200,000 to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation and their support is gratefully acknowledged.

The major donors and partners of the DREF overall, include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, Danish Red Cross and government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

Details of DREF contributions can be found on: www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2010.pdf and for 2011 on: www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2011.pdf.

The situation

The main *kiremt* rainy season in Ethiopia extends from June to September producing high volumes of rain and floods. As 2010 *kiremt* rains were above normal, floods affected not only “traditionally” prone areas of Afar (along the Awash river), but also Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya and Gambella. A flood alert was issued on 18 August 2010 based on the seasonal forecast from the National Meteorology Agency (NMA) where it warned additional flooding would affect the western, south western and central parts of the country during the second half of August and early September 2010.

In August 2010, floods displaced over 25,000 people causing extensive damage to agricultural crops in 12 districts in Afar Region. Over 2,000 hectares of agricultural land was affected. The United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) also estimated that in total, approximately 86,500 people were temporarily displaced by the widespread 2010 seasonal floods.

By October 2010, the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) reported that the likelihood of further flooding had decreased in most parts of the country with the end of the *kiremt* rains and no further floods were experienced. At the same time in the Amhara Region, flood waters subsided and more than 95 percent of the estimated 70,000 people displaced by floods in Habru and Kobo woredas of North Wollo Zone returned to their villages. Nonetheless, the affected communities required support to recover from the impact of the floods.

Local authorities distributed food rations to displaced people in Amhara Region. They also provided wheat, beans and maize for displaced people in Oromiya Region. In addition, NGO's in the area provided the affected people with essential relief items including mattresses and household utensils.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Preliminary assessments were conducted by the ERCS relevant regional and zonal branches in Amhara, Tigray, Oromiya and Afar regions. Assessment reports along with requests for further assistance in addressing the needs of displaced families were submitted to the ERCS Disaster Management Department for consideration and development of relevant response activities. ERCS received several reports and alerts from branches requesting assistance for flood affected families, particularly for internally displaced populations (IDPs). Given the situation described and responding to a request from the ERCS regional branches to support their on-going efforts to scale-up interventions on addressing the needs of families affected by floods, the IFRC provided emergency funding support for the operation. Thus, ERCS started to respond to the floods since May 2010 with distributions of essential relief items in collaboration with the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC). A total of 2,781 households received blankets, jerry cans, sleeping mats, kitchen utensils, soap, plastic buckets, water treatment chemicals, biscuits and sugar as described in the table below:

Oromiya Region			
Affected Zone	Woreda	No. of households assisted	Relief items
West Hararghe	Bedessa	400	Blankets, jerry cans, water jugs, sleeping mats and cooking pots
Guji Borena	Udet Adola and Yabello	925	Blankets, tarpaulin, plastic mat, soap, jerry cans, cooking pots, plastic cups and plastic buckets
East Shoa	Bora	660	Blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, sleeping mats, soap, water treatment chemicals, biscuits and sugar for children
West Shoa	Addis Alem	353	Blankets and plastic sheeting
Amhara Region			
Affected Zone	Woreda	No. of households assisted	Relief items
South Gondar	Libo Kemkem	423	Blankets, soap, jerry cans and sleeping mats
North Wollo	Mersa, Worgesa	20	12.5 quintal of wheat flour and 100 litres of edible oil

The items distributed in Oromiya Region were from the ERCS contingency stock, while those distributed in South Gondar were from ERCS prepositioned stock obtained with financial support from ICRC, IFRC and DFID. All costs incurred from the ERCS North Wollo Branch were financed by their own income.

Additional assessments were conducted by a team composed of three ERCS officers and an ICRC officer in Tigray and Amhara regions in August 2010. Reports and field observations confirmed the number of zones severely affected by the floods were South Wollo, North Wollo, Oromiya special zone, South Gondar and Raya Alamata Woreda of Tigray.

Achievements compared with planned outcomes

Relief distributions (non-food items)
<p>Outcome: To support 25,000 IDPs (5,000 households) affected by floods with essential non-food items at initial, emergency stage and restore their sense of home.</p> <p>Outputs: Affected households maintain health, dignity and meet personal hygiene needs by getting non-food items.</p> <p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree caseload with local authorities (DRMFSS) and inform about intention to do NFI interventions. • Issue Red Cross beneficiary cards and mobilize volunteers for the operation. • Procure 10,000 blankets, 5,000 plastic sheeting, 5,000 sleeping mats, 5,000 jerry cans, 25,000 laundry soap, 25,000 plastic cups, and 10,000 water guards based on a formal logistics/procurement service agreement or through public tenders and procurement contracts. • Set-up supply chain and control supply movements from point of dispatch to final distribution points including identification of warehouses and transport means. • Distribute NFIs to at least 5,000 households through one-off distribution round. • Monitor distributions against beneficiary lists and agreed package of NFIs. • Checking beneficiary lists, warehouse stocks and payments for distributions. • Procure an additional 2,000 blankets, 1,000 tarpaulins, 1,000 sleeping mats and 1,000 jerry cans to replenish stocks and pre-positioned in strategic locations as identified by the ERCS.

Progress:

After the DREF approval, the ERCS procurement department announced a bid through the newspaper for the procurement of the above mentioned relief items. ERCS procured 9,221 blankets and 7,626 sleeping mats and followed with a distribution of these items in November 2010 as follows:

Afar Region			
Affected Zone	Woreda	No. of households assisted	Relief items

Zone 1	Afambo	500	Blankets (2 per family), sleeping mats (1 per family) and soap* (three 250 gr. pieces per family)
Zone 2	Dubti	300	Blankets (2 per family), sleeping mat (1 per family), soap* (three 250 gr. pieces per family) and jerry cans* (1 per family)

**The soap and jerry cans were from the ERCS prepositioned stocks.*

A total of 800 households in Afar Region received 1,600 blankets, 800 sleeping mats, 300 jerry cans and 24 cartons (of 100 pieces of 250 gms.) of soap. Since an NGO in the area provided affected families with jerry cans in Afambo Woreda, ERCS did not distribute jerry cans in that locality.

Amhara Region		
	No. of households assisted	Relief items
Replenish distributed stocks	423	Blankets (2 per family), sleeping mats (1 per family)

Some 846 blankets and 423 sleeping mats that were distributed to 423 households in Amhara Region by the ERCS were subsequently replenished through this operation. In total, 1,223 households were reached in Afar and Amhara.

The total number of families could not be reached since by the time the blankets and sleeping mats were procured and ready for distribution in November 2010, the majority of the affected families had returned to their homes and were no longer in urgent need of the items.

ERCS decided to preposition the remaining blankets and sleeping mats in three strategic areas where warehouses have been established: East Hararghe (Oromiya), South Gondar (Amhara) and Wollayita (SNNPR). Since the logistical problems meant that not all items used in the initial 2010 emergency response could be replenished, ERCS currently remains with a gap in their contingency stocks for emergencies, which will have to be rectified through future arrangements.

Challenges and lessons learnt

Beyond the blankets and sleeping mats, other intended items were temporarily unavailable through the local market. Due to local currency devaluation in September 2010, several of the items could not be found locally as local stores and markets were waiting for price stabilization. Consequently, ERCS could not use already-identified suppliers of non-food items and their previous prices due to changes in the market environment.

ERCS does not have framework agreements with suppliers to ensure smooth and quick procurement of NFIs during the emergency operations. All procurement is normally required to go through formal tender. Exceptions may occur only when approved by the Secretary General during emergencies, although even this does not ensure smooth procurement if markets are not stable as occurred in September 2010.

Such challenges underscore the importance of mobilising resources for contingency stocks. Only prepositioned stocks can ensure timely availability and distribution of relief items when disaster strikes.

Disaster Preparedness (contingency stocks)

Outcome: To enable the ERCS to effectively respond to future disasters through its network of small storages in strategic locations.

Outputs: Minimum level of capacity in responding to small scale disasters and assisting up to 1,000 families is in place through the prepositioning of essential NFIs.

Activities planned:

- Procure 2,000 blankets, 1,000 tarpaulins, 1,000 sleeping mats and 1,000 jerry cans through local tender process.
- Deliver procured non-food items to targeted location in Oromiya region.

Progress:

As indicated, ERCS will reposition the remaining undistributed blankets and sleeping mats in 3 areas, including Oromiya (East Hararghe) as well as in South Gondar (Amhara) and Wollayita (SNNPR). This will help the ERCS to effectively respond to future disasters. Additional items will need to be procured to fill the gap in contingency stocks.

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.

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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Ethiopia:** Abebe Belay, Acting Secretary General, Ethiopian Red Cross Society, Addis Ababa; phone: +251 11 515 38 53; fax: +251.11.551.26.43; email: dsg.operation@redcrosseth.org.
- **In Ethiopia:** George Gigiberia, Country Representative, IFRC, phone: +251.11.551.4571; fax: +251.11.551.2888; e-mail: george.gigiberia@ifrc.org.
- **In Kenya:** East Africa Regional Office (Alexander Matheou, Regional Representative, East Africa, Nairobi), phone: +254.20.283.5124; fax: 254.20.271.27.77; email: alexander.matheou@ifrc.org.
- **In IFRC Africa Zone:** Dr Asha Mohammed, Head of Operations, Johannesburg, email: asha.mohammed@ifrc.org, Phone: +27.11.303.9700, Fax: + 27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230.
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Advisor; phone: +41.22.730.43.81; fax: +41 22 733 0395; email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org.

[<final financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

MDRET009 - Ethiopia - Seasonal Floods

Appeal Launch Date: 22 sep 10

Appeal Timeframe: 22 sep 10 to 05 nov 10

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/9-2010/12
Budget Timeframe	2010/9-2010/11
Appeal	MDRET009
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	301,273					301,273
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
Other Income						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	<i>300,000</i>					<i>300,000</i>
C6. Other Income	300,000					300,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	300,000					300,000
D. Total Funding = B + C	300,000					300,000
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	300,000					300,000
E. Expenditure	-300,000					-300,000
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					0

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III. Consolidated Expenditure vs. Budget

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		301,273					301,273	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	108,000							108,000
Utensils & Tools	32,250							32,250
Other Supplies & Services	13,550							13,550
Total Supplies	153,800							153,800
Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,250							1,250
Distribution & Monitoring	2,500							2,500
Transport & Vehicle Costs	8,800							8,800
Total Transport & Storage	12,550							12,550
Personnel								
National Society Staff	9,063							9,063
Total Personnel	9,063							9,063
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	588							588
Total Workshops & Training	588							588
General Expenditure								
Office Costs	3,000							3,000
Communications	102,690							102,690
Total General Expenditure	105,690							105,690
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		281,690					281,690	-281,690
Total Contributions & Transfers		281,690					281,690	-281,690
Programme & Service Support								
Programme & Service Support	19,583	18,310					18,310	1,273
Total Programme & Service Support	19,583	18,310					18,310	1,273
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	301,273	300,000					300,000	1,273
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,273					1,273	