



Somali region Flood impact Source: ERCS Somali branch

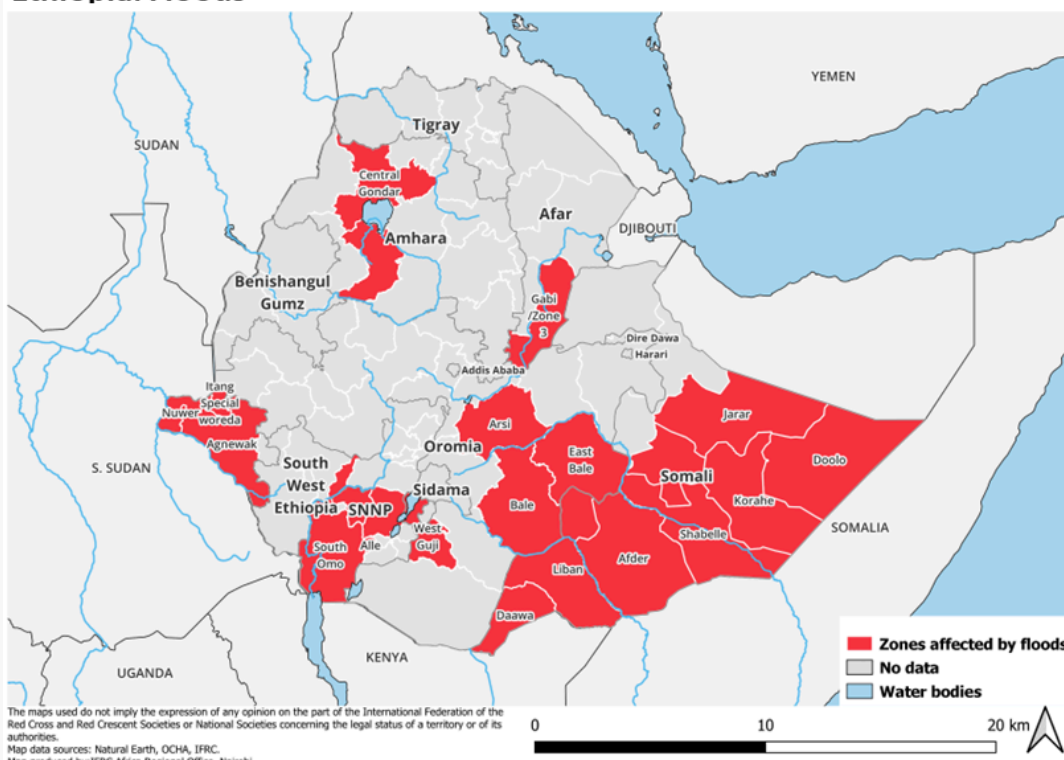
Appeal: MDRET034	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 486,716	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2023-000229-ETH	People Affected: 1,030,162 people	People Targeted: 53,000 people	People Assisted: -
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 04-12-2023	Operational End Date: 31-03-2024	Total Operating Timeframe: 3 months
Targeted Areas: Afar, Oromia, Somali, SNNP			

The major donors and partners of the IFRC-DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, China, Czech, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and the Netherlands, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez Foundation, 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.

Description of the Event



Ethiopia: Floods



Map showing flood affected areas in Ethiopia.

Date of event

21-11-2023

What happened, where and when?

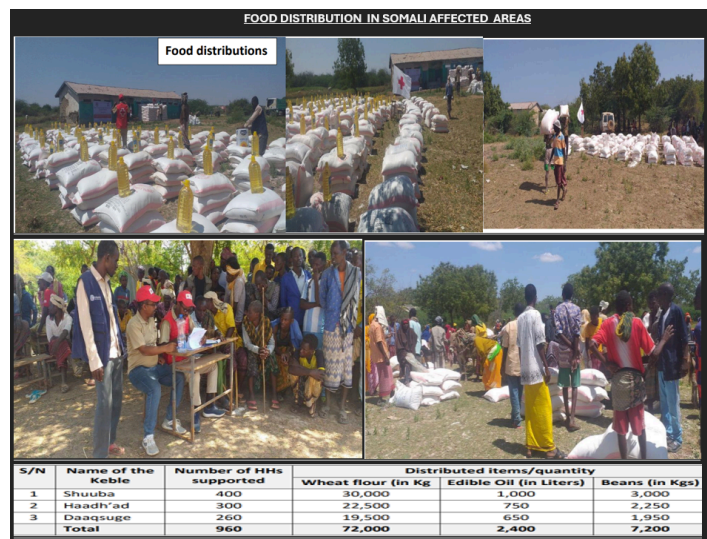
The rains intensified in mid-November leading to widespread impact. The regional report 13th to 20th November showed an increased flood impact that exceeded the regional response capacity and requested external support. The DRMB (Disaster Risk Management Bureau) on the 24th of November reported that more than one million people were affected of which 430,000 displaced, more than 500 children found unaccompanied and death toll increased to 43. The public service structures and infrastructures including health facilities, school and other services including roads were also affected and deaths of more than 30,000 animals were reported.

The impact of flooding due to seasonal deyr rains (October-December) was significant in the Somali, Afar, Oromia, Amhara, and SNP Regions grew as reported by regional disaster Risk Management Bureau (DRMB). A total of 56 woredas/districts and 206 sites in 23 zones, were affected by flash, and riverine floods hence caused land slide, in parts of Oromia region. The Somali region accounted for more than 80% of the impact in the country, and Oromia experienced multiple impacts of flood and landslides. Response capacity remained very limited due to resource gaps and access challenges in some of the affected areas following the overflow and weather conditions.

The situation triggered an official call for support to humanitarian actors from Government on 24th November, also addressed to Ethiopian RC (ERCS). The IFRC-DREF provided funding to ERCS to respond to that call and deploy immediate response in the two most affected areas: Somali and Oromia.



Community consultation and Committee establishment



Food Distribution in Somali region

Scope and Scale

El Nino conditions from July to August 2023, brought forecasts of wetter than usual rainfall conditions and flood incidences in various parts of Ethiopia, while Northern part of the country experienced drier than usual conditions. The elevated rainfall during October, November, December (OND) 2023 favored by forecasts contributed to flooding in areas prone to floods in Ethiopia. The impact of flooding due to seasonal dyer rains (October-December) in the Somali, Afar, Oromia, Amhara, and SNP Regions kept growing between November to early December. By end of November, a total of 56 woredas/districts and 206 sites in 23 zones, were affected by flash, and riverine floods hence caused land slide, in parts of Oromia region, Afar, Southern region as the main affected. Over 1 million people in Ethiopia were affected due to heavy rains, floods, and landslides, while 43 were reported dead. Impact breakdown per region, is captured below based on triangulated information:

From branches information and triangulated secondary data from DRMB and other partners like OCHA, the situation quickly deteriorated in the earlier weeks of November and the humanitarian situation became critical by the end of the month. By 20.11.2023, the floods situation was as follows:

- 1 Somali Region was the most affected with 80% of the impact recorded.
 - The landslides were reported in Arsi, East Bale, and West Guji zones of Oromia region, affecting nearly 67,600 individuals, while the flash floods displaced more than 1,600 people in Galana Woreda of West Guji.
 - 176,312 households (881,562 people) affected and over 66,630 HHs (399,780 people) displaced as of 24 November. About 300 children reported separated from both parents and required alternative care options and family reunification.
 - Thirty-three (33) human deaths
 - Loss of over 4,806 livestock have also been reported, while several villages remained cut off, and over 16,363 ha of cropland and 191 irrigation facilities reportedly damaged.
 - Most public facilities, in thousands, including schools, health clinics/posts, community centers, water intakes/wells, and others, were damaged or destroyed by the flood in the most affected areas. Roads, communication, and electricity in the affected areas were not fully functional. For instance, in Dolo Ado, 5,332 students across six schools were out of school due to damage from floods or schools being used as shelters for the displaced community. One school remained available; however, its collapsed latrines required major repair to enable the resumption of education services.

Furthermore, in Melkadida town, Dolo Ado, more than 200,000 refugees in the hosting area were confronted with the risk of secondary displacement.

2 Somali Region

- Most affected areas included: Afder, Libn, Jarar, Doolo, Korahe, Erer, Shabele, Dawa, Nogob (from BRMB information).
- An overall 29,046 people reported in urgent need of emergency WASH services due to basic infrastructure being totally or partially demolished. The WASH Cluster had prepositioned household water treatment chemicals, the main response gaps remained in lifesaving WASH supplies, water purification chemicals, sanitation, and hygiene kits, as well as rehabilitation and maintenance of water points.
- Over 11,400ha of agricultural land reported swept off by floods. Zonal authorities raised concern over low sanitation coverage considering open defecation being commonly practiced, which was further forecasted to extend the spread of the existed cholera outbreak.

3 Southern Ethiopia region

- Close to 81,000 people displaced, of which 62,800 people were from Dasanech (about 85 percent of the woreda's population) and over 708 people in two woredas of Gedeo Zone.
- Nearly 1,800 hectares (ha) of farmland were damaged or entirely destroyed. The incidence also forecasted major challenge to livestock and livelihood.
- Basic social infrastructures were also adversely impacted, including 10 health posts, and 13 schools either damaged or encircled with water. Irrigation systems and tools remained at highest risk of damage.

4 In the Afar Region,

- About 2,225 HHs from the two woredas were displaced to relatively higher grounds within their kebeles, reported by the regional Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Commission.
- The humanitarian situation remained dire, and urgent lifesaving assistance to the displaced people being the most necessitated.
- Primary needs included food, emergency shelter, protection, NFI, basic health and nutrition, as well as WASH services for 2,180 HHs (over 13,000 people).

On the scale of the situation, ERCS managed to reach 53,000 people with critical humanitarian services and protection, prioritizing 1,600 of the most vulnerable displaced households for the relief distribution to access shelter and multi-sectoral basic needs. The operation had played an important role on reducing the suffering and reduce the impact for the targeted communities in Somali & Oromia regions. The results further detailed under the next sections were reached despite challenges such as logistical difficulties, security management, and infrastructure damage. Lessons learned emphasized the value of community involvement and leverage of available pre-positioning resources, and strong local capacities for effective disaster response.

National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	No
Please provide a brief description of those additional activities	-

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The IFRC CCD facilitates international support to the National Society's emergency response activities, coordinates the membership and supports the network's global and regional initiatives. It also provides wider humanitarian diplomacy in international circles on the situation in Ethiopia and the action of the National Society. IFRC also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme. In recent years IFRC supported the Ethiopian Red Cross through a number of Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) and Emergency Appeal operations in relation to population movement, civil unrest, drought, floods, disease outbreaks and food insecurity.</p> <p>Currently IFRC is supporting different emergency response programs at different parts of the country through different interventions and specifically developed sustainable initiatives for building community resilience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IFRC supported the development of El-Nino contingency plan which is now activated. - Through the DREF tool, NS has an active flood and drought EAP. Details provided under NS DRR. - IFRC CCD has taken full commitment to address emergency response through coordinating PNSs in country and support the NS to access the DREF support for immediate humanitarian needs.
Participating National Societies	<p>Currently in country partner NS include Finnish, German, Austrian, Italian, Norwegian, Canadian, Netherlands (British), Swiss and Danish Red Cross have active programs in Ethiopia and have been supporting the ERCS with Health, climate, conflict impacts, population movement, prepared, response and recovery programs.</p> <p>On this specific operation the head of DRM and PNSs coordinated to access emergency</p>

funds from their respective countries to contribute for the emergency and recovery services.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The ICRC has been present in Ethiopia for a long period of time providing humanitarian assistance and protection to people affected by conflict and internal strife. It has sub-delegations in Mekelle, Shire, Jijiga, Nekemte and Gondar. It supports the Ethiopian Red Cross preparedness and response to the needs of people affected by conflict and violence.

Currently ICRC is supporting coordination with other stakeholders to ensure security and access to the affected areas, which are also compounded with conflict and inaccessible routes.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	<p>The national authorities have been closely monitoring the situation and are took immediate measures regarding the flood disaster in the Somali region. The Regional Disaster Management Bureau dispatched the following response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 715 quintals of rice and 90 quintals of CSB+ were mobilized through local traders by the RDRMB. In addition, RDMB dispatched 1,000 Quintals of Wheat, 250 Quintals of rice, and 250 Quintals of CSB from Gode to Qalafo. Additionally, 2,000 NFI kits were dispatched to Qalafo from Jigjia. - The EDRMC dispatched to Dasenech Woreda of the Southern Ethiopia Region 150 metric tons (MT) of grain, 100 liters of edible cooking oil, and 60 MT of supplementary food. -The Shelter Cluster mobilized 765 ESNFI kits leaving a gap of 15,883 of all the affected households (HHs). - The Ethiopian Humanitarian Fund approved the amount of US\$159,629 for a running SWAN project responding to floods in Dolo Ado in the Somali Region. The response focused on water trucking and distributing non-food item kits to the affected population in Dolo Ado. - The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) allocated a budget of \$1,784,361 to respond to the floods targeting 5,060HHs or 27,830 people in Afder, Shabelle, and Liban zones, of the Somali Region. Interventions focused on WASH non-food items, shelter, and non-food item assistance, as well as multi-purpose cash assistance. - Call for support and scale-up of humanitarian action: The DRMB requested support for rescue and the Federal government deployed the Navy force to support with rescue and approached the humanitarian partners to increase the support to the affected population. HTTps://twitter.com/Addis_standard. The Somali regional government requested support from Ethiopian Red Cross and the Red Cross started mobilizing its partners to respond due to the increased impact of the floods on human life, including shelter, livelihood, and ongoing unmet needs of the communities in the affected areas.
UN or other actors	<p>Clusters and partners mobilized resources to respond to the flood situations. In the Somali region, following joint assessments in the affected areas, the Shelter Cluster mobilized 7,715 ESNFI kits, out of which 2,500 kits were allocated to Kelafo Woreda in the Shabelle Zone, where partners also have prepositioned health, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support.</p> <p>In the Southern Ethiopia region, cluster partners responded in various ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.- Access to safe and clean water, including the distribution of water treatment chemicals and treated water. 8,000 people received hygiene kit items out of a targeted 25,000 people, and at least 20,000 people (out of a targeted 81,000) were reached with hygiene and sanitation key messages. In Dasenech, the main response gaps were the supply and installation of water treatment kits, water truckers, and rehabilitation of

damaged water schemes.

There remained WASH NFI gap for 68 percent of the targeted population of Dasenech. Gedeo Zone didn't received any response from UN partners, except needs assessment and required response by local authorities and other partners. There was an urgent need to support families whose houses were damaged, and livelihoods affected. The response met the scale of demand in the South Ethiopia Region, necessitating urgent mobilization of lifesaving assistance.

2- In Afar, six partners responded to the flood situation. In health response, partners supplied essential drugs and water purification (2,000 boxes) and were engaged in community communication and risk awareness. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), and logistical support. Oral Cholera Campaign (OCV) was also undertaken in Zone 3. In WASH response, about 7,500 people in Dulecha woreda received water purification chemicals. Main gaps remained in five kebeles of Dulecha and one kebele of Awash Fentale Woreda for WASH NFI distribution, water trucking, sanitation facilities construction, and hygiene promotion activities. With enough supplies in stock, all households (about 2,000) in Dulecha were targeted for ES/NFI assistance. Operations of the Food Cluster were limited by funding constraints. Furthermore, two kebeles in Dulecha were hard to reach due to limitations caused by the floods. Nevertheless, the response gap, in flood-affected areas of the country, remained significant in all sectors.

3- Limitations in government capacity and number of partners also impacted the provision of services, including for vulnerable affected people (women, children, and persons with disabilities) in flood-affected areas of the Oromia Region.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission EDRMC created a coordination mechanism at different level that ensured updated information transmission and decision making. EDRMC has coordination platform at national level and parallel coordination mechanisms in regions, affected zones and woredas.

The Red Cross Movement coordination is always active, as well on this specific flood disaster, which was later integrated in the movement response coordination meetings. Information sharing and security coordination are being evaluated with consultation of respective movement partners and ICRC.

OCHA is also coordinating partners and sectoral partners were having their own coordination. Under the leadership of the Somali Regional Disaster Risk Management Bureau, the Joint Flood Coordination Steering Committee was reactivated in Jijiga, with the participation of humanitarian and technical Government staff. OCHA in collaboration with partners supported Zonal response coordination mechanisms in Dollo Addo (Liban Zone), Charati (Afder), and Gode (Shebelle). Zonal level multisectoral task forces were overseeing the coordination of the response operation. In support of the regional government, OCHA was leading humanitarian response in four locations (Jijiga, Gode, Dolo Ado, and Hergele/Charati).

These coordination mechanisms brought all actors together with the collective focus on implementing a robust preparedness for further forecasted disaster and giving emergency response for people in need due to flood disaster that encompasses various sectors.

Ethiopia Red Cross Society participated in all coordination platforms and across all geographical division. Coordination meetings were being held regularly and on ad-hoc basis in case of new emerging situations.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The flood and landslide that happened have caused a devastating impact on all people causing more than 400,000 people were displaced and moved to evacuation centers outside their normal homes to public buildings, while others resided under the trees. It is realized that urban and rural communities were all affected and that there was large-scale displacement and shelter damage. Hence, immediate need to support displaced people by providing temporary shelter and essential household items. However, the recovery measures may differ in urban and rural context due to strength of the structures.

The floods in the OND forecast have caused enormous damage to infrastructure as well as lives and livelihoods of the people and caused dire humanitarian needs in the areas.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The affected population were in need of immediate food assistance. Reports from the ERCS Branch rapid assessment with government and OCHA showed that the flood has caused large-scale damage to crop lands (more than 30,000 acres of farmland affected), and at least 30,000 livestock lost and 450,000 people displaced. The forecasted El Nino phenomenon came after the worst drought in 40 years following five failed rainy seasons which have decimated livestock and crops, pushing regions to the brink of famine. The humanitarian situation in Ethiopia remains critical due to a combination of climate change and conflict. Political tensions across various regions and a flailing economy further add to the challenges affecting the livelihoods of the affected communities.

The cash option was not feasible due to market functionality and high inflation in areas where markets were functional usually due to the availability gaps of market linked to the overall complex situation and transportation. These factors combined with the inflation significantly threatened the efficiency of cash assistance. The cash intervention could also go beyond the approved regional minimum basket expenditure (MEB) which could not be revised in the short time.



Health

The flood increased emerging risk of disease outbreak due to shortage of safe water, the practical open defecation and displacement. Shebelle zone reported more than 80 health facilities being damaged, there was also reported cumulative 102 Cholera cases with 7 deaths, 78 Measles cases, 64 Leishmaniasis cases. In Oromia there was also Cholera reported cases. With the various needs and the WASH situation, this intervention contributed to health sensitization messages that were coupled with WASH awareness campaigns while health interventions were covered by other partners.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Frequent WASH-related challenges were experienced by communities during flood hazards across Ethiopia. The effects of floods on WASH services included destruction of water points, shortage of clean water supplies, contamination of water sources, destruction of sanitation facilities, and amplified occurrences of water-borne diseases. Most of the impact on the water sector were largely damage to existing water sources around the riverine areas such as boreholes, shallow wells, springs, and water pans, leaving communities in mud and stagnant water. Moreover, most affected districts of Dolo Ado (Liban Zone), Kelafo (Shabelle Zone), as well as Dolobay, Charati (Afar Zone), and other flooded areas were also affected by cholera outbreak, requiring scale-up in management of water and sanitation. The re-emergence of cholera cases in the Somali Region, including in Jigjiga, showed the continued risk as access to safe drinking water and appropriate sanitation remained as major need.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The flood and landslide that happened caused a devastating impact on all people causing families displacement to evacuation centers outside of their normal homes and community settings. This was especially harmful to women, girls, and other marginalized groups. Reports from OCHA indicated more than 500 children were separated from their families. The humanitarian context in compounded pre-existing gender inequities, continued to place women and children at risk of various forms of gender-based violence (SGBV.) Women, children minors, and people with special needs vulnerability increases in the context of humanitarian crisis. The need for inclusive, dignified, and gender-balanced assistance was key to mitigate the risk of any protection and safety concerns. In the case of post-impact displacement and/or relocation, it was critical to ensure the conditions address the minimum PGI standards.



Community Engagement And Accountability

It was necessary to discuss with the communities about their needs and how they can best receive assistance. The ideal was to have a place where the community can share their feedback on the support they receive, and essential that they know how to report issues. However, in disaster time, CEA inclusion becomes very weak as the responses get fast and sometimes need time to take community at the

center of the project. There are hundreds of volunteers and dozens of staff working in the community and do daily contact with the community in extended geographical locations. Minorities, marginalized groups, and people with specific needs experience unfair exclusion in humanitarian assistance when they are supposed to be the top target groups by the humanitarian actors and should not be left behind.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The operation aimed at providing humanitarian assistance to 53,000 people (13,000 HHs) severely affected by floods and landslides in the regions of Somali and Oromia regions, include a life-saving support to 1,600 HHs among the most affected.

For this target, the intervention prioritized the actions that aimed at mitigating risk for lives, reduce the exposure to further losses, protect their well-being, dignity and provide safe access to basic needs. To some extend, the operation informed recovery and rehabilitation actions, which were also be linked to other longer-term programs.

Operation strategy rationale

This DREF provided an integrated response to people affected by floods in Somali and Oromia regions with immediate life serving humanitarian services in the sectors listed below:

- Livelihood and basic needs - Provision of essential food package to meet needs for a month comprising of 75 Kg wheat, 7.5 Kg of beans and 2.5 litre of edible oil calculated as a standard food package to 5 people per HH by food cluster.
- Shelter, Housing and settlements - provision of emergency shelter materials and essential household items to 1,600 displaced HHs comprising of 1 Kitchen set, 2 blankets, 2 Sleeping mats and 1 tarpaulin to meet immediate shelter needs. These items and caseload are aligned with the culture and type of temporary shelter commonly constructed in the communities and these were complemented by local materials as planned.
- Water, sanitation and hygiene - conducted hygiene promotion in the targeted flood affected areas and extend distribution of water storage facilities and water treatment chemicals and met the needs of affected population for 3 months, targeted most vulnerable displaced HHs.
- PGI and CEA: was cross - cutting and integrated to the response approach across all sectors. Particular attention toward displaced households and families with vulnerable groups especially women, girls, children and people with disabilities to ensure their rights and dignity are reserved. 800 Girls and women of reproductive age were provided with dignity kits. People with GBV challenges were targeted for referral to service centers, and unaccompanied children to be provided with special care and referral to organization which provide care and protection. The level of engagement, harmonization, and involvement of communities played a key role in the implementation of intended response activities to ensure the understanding, acceptance, and contribution of the community members to the plan.

The intervention followed the triangulated information from branches and various sources. ERCS continued the strong coordination with partners involved in this response and worked with the DRMC at regional level to identify geographical targeting and work with zones and woredas for beneficiary identification.

Targeting Strategy

Who was targeted by this operation?

Geographical target

This intervention prioritized the sectors and target based on severity and gaps evaluated to ensure complementarity with other ongoing efforts. Therefore, response was oriented to Somali region which accounted for more than 80% of the impact in the country, and Oromia hit by multiple impacts of flood and land slide. By early December 2023, when launching the intervention, the support already provided in these areas was less than 20%. Other areas, Afar and SNNP also have gaps in the needs however, the extend of needs were also considered.

Area and Woreda Selection was further refined in coordination with local governments and community committees. It also considered other humanitarian organizations to ensure a well-coordinated response that fills existing gaps and avoids duplication of efforts.

At the end of the operation, ERCS reached:

- 1600 HH which represented 8,000 people instead of the 6500 initially estimated. They were prioritized for the relief support under Shelter, Housing, and Settlement, livelihood and kits distributions.
- 53,000 targeted individuals were reached with awareness; protection; health risk mitigation activities and prevention. Working towards changing minds & practices on environment with high WASH/health risk.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Beneficiary Selection Criteria for this intervention included vulnerability criteria and impact. The following criteria were prioritized.

- Priority was given to households with the highest vulnerability, including:
- Families whose homes were damaged or destroyed by floods.
- Female-headed households, particularly those with limited support.
- Pregnant and lactating women requiring additional nutritional assistance.
- The selection of the 1,600 households for the direct relief distribution also included the following criteria: people displaced, people who were residing in temporary shelters due to displacement induced by floods.

The operation successfully targeted 53,000 individuals, include 1600 HH for relief, prioritizing displaced households and vulnerable groups. By aligning selection criteria with impact severity and humanitarian needs, the response ensured equitable and effective assistance, while community participation played a crucial role in maintaining accountability and trust throughout the intervention.

In the targeting process, community Involvement was put at the center and a constant coordination was established to ensure inclusion, acceptance and community led assistance. Beneficiary identification was conducted in collaboration with local committees, authorities, and humanitarian partners to ensure transparency and efficiency. The operation allowed affected populations to provide feedback and participate in the selection process.

Total Targeted Population

Women	14,310	Rural	70%
Girls (under 18)	11,660	Urban	30%
Men	14,840	People with disabilities (estimated)	17%
Boys (under 18)	12,190		
Total targeted population	53,000		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Damaged infrastructure such as roads may hinder the intervention at particular areas of interventions.	Discussing with government bodies to overcome the problem of accessibility and using alternative means of transportation.
Access limitations to flood and mudslide affected areas in Galana woreda Oromia region mainly due to ongoing hostilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting security assessment with concerned body and as soon as the situation allows, continuing the operation. • Use of existing community structures. • Dissemination of ERCS work to communities and ensure visibility and use of the emblem to access hard to reach areas. • Areas that are not accessible the EDRMC has deployed boats to support humanitarian assistance. • ERCS also has some advantage of branches in each affected areas where access remains challenging for others.
Cholera outbreaks expansion was among the main risk considering the outbreak was ongoing in Ethiopia, in other regions. Since the onset of the outbreak, cholera has been	ERCS has put measures to ensure continued sensitization of the communities on the waterborne disease. Subsequently, there is an ongoing response in areas affected by Cholera by government

contained only in Bale zone, Girja woreda of Guji zone and Guradamole and Karsadula woredas of Liban zone. From From 1 January to 26 May 2024, WHO reported 16 163 cases in Ethiopia, include the floodes regions a camp in Oromia.	health institution. A monitoring of the health situation is also done and messages will be promoted on cholera prevention.
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Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The Somali region is a place where ERCS conducted different interventions with National Society partners and there were no security problem in the areas. ERCS ensured the engagement of local staff, and volunteers as applicable and continued with security surveillance and using opportunities provided by existing public goodwill and its acceptability approach to ensure the successful implementation of the proposed activities.

Access limitations due to flood and mudslide affected areas, and the absence of partners in Galana mainly due to ongoing hostilities and funding constraints, impede assessments and challenged mobilization of life-saving assistance. Security briefings were continuously be provided to the staff and volunteers to ensure continued vigilance. ERCS Security Unit conducted continuous monitoring of the local security situation and advises the response teams on mitigation measures in case of heightened security situation.

Implementation



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 134,165
Targeted Persons: 6,500
Assisted Persons: 8,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of HHs reached with emergency shelter NFIs	1,600	1,600

Narrative description of achievements

The regional branch, in collaboration with government officials and stakeholders, identified the most flood-affected woredas and kebeles. To facilitate the assistance process, beneficiary selection committees were established at the woreda level and were provided with orientation on the selection procedures and criteria. These committees employed the program’s established criteria to ensure a fair and systematic selection of beneficiaries. The criteria focused on identifying households whose shelters, agricultural fields, and livestock had been damaged either fully or partially by the floods.

As part of the flood response operation, a thorough distribution plan was executed to provide immediate relief to affected households. The plan involved procuring and delivering essential items to support families impacted by the floods.

In terms of procurement and distribution, 1,600 tarpaulins were distributed to provide temporary shelter and protection from the elements. These tarpaulins were crucial for constructing makeshift shelters for families whose homes had been damaged or destroyed. Additionally, 3,200 sleeping mats were distributed to offer affected families a comfortable and hygienic place to sleep, addressing the need for basic comfort and protection from the damp ground.

Each of the 1,600 households also received a set of blankets to help them stay warm during the colder nights, which is particularly important after a flood when temperatures can drop significantly. Furthermore, 1,600 kitchen sets were provided to assist families with their daily food preparation. Each kitchen set included essential cooking items such as a cooking pot, cup, plate, spoon, fork, and cooking ladle, ensuring that families could cook and serve meals efficiently.

The primary objective of this distribution was to deliver immediate relief and support to households severely affected by the flooding. By addressing basic needs, the operation aimed to alleviate immediate hardships and restore a sense of normalcy, equipping families with the necessary tools to manage their daily routines and maintain their health and well-being during the crisis.



Lessons Learnt

The distribution of shelter materials to flood-affected households has proven to be a critical component in their overall recovery, both physically and mentally. Essential items such as tarpaulins, blankets, and temporary shelter supplies address immediate safety and comfort needs, which are vital for practical protection from the elements. However, the benefits extend beyond mere physical shelter.

The provision of these materials fosters a sense of security and stability among affected individuals. This enhanced sense of safety plays a crucial role in rebuilding hope and confidence, encouraging families to envision and pursue a path to recovery. The psychological boost provided by these tangible supports can significantly enhance emotional resilience, motivating individuals to actively engage in the process of rebuilding their homes and their lives.

Additionally, supplying shelter materials helps restore a degree of normalcy, which is essential for mental well-being. It allows families to regain control over their circumstances, a key factor in managing and overcoming the trauma and stress induced by the disaster. Overall, the provision of shelter materials addresses immediate practical needs while also supporting the psychological and emotional recovery of affected households, empowering them to restart their lives with renewed courage and determination.

Challenges

Transporting items to distribution sites was significantly hindered due to roads being washed away by floods. As a result, we were compelled to use alternative routes to deliver supplies. Additionally, the procurement and delivery of Non-Food Items (NFIs) experienced delays, extending the overall timeline for getting these essential items to the distribution sites.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 218,754

Targeted Persons: 6,500

Assisted Persons: 8,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households that receive food package	1,600	1,600

Narrative description of achievements

The distribution of livelihood assistance was effectively monitored and facilitated by a well-coordinated team comprising the Branch Disaster Risk Management (DRM) team, the project coordinator from headquarters, Woreda DRM Office heads, volunteers, and Kebele beneficiary selection and feedback committees.

At the Kebele level, community committees played a pivotal role in the beneficiary identification, registration, and distribution processes. These committees were instrumental in ensuring that households affected by the floods received the appropriate support. They oversaw the distribution process, introduced the types of aid available, and ensured transparency throughout. At each distribution site, ten committee members and volunteers were present to verify beneficiaries and ensure the proper delivery of aid.

Committee members underwent half-day orientation sessions that covered their general duties, responsibilities, and the selection criteria and process. Additionally, they were trained on how to handle community interests while adhering to Red Cross rules and regulations. This training was crucial for maintaining fairness and consistency in the distribution process.

A total of 1,600 households received food aid, which included 1,200 quintals of wheat flour, 4,000 liters of cooking oil, and 120 quintals of beans. Each household was provided with a food package consisting of 75 kilograms of wheat flour, 2.5 liters of cooking oil, and 7.5 kilograms of beans. This distribution adhered to the standard household food package recommended by the national food cluster.

In total, 10 volunteers were engaged in the distribution process. Their roles included registering and documenting beneficiary data and distributing items to beneficiaries at each Kebele. Their contributions were vital to ensuring that the distribution was conducted smoothly and that all recipients received their allocated support.



Lessons Learnt

Impact of Support on Community Recovery:

The assistance provided to flood-affected community members was instrumental in facilitating their recovery and improving their access to essential food supplies. By delivering timely and adequate support, the intervention helped affected families address immediate needs and begin the process of rebuilding their lives. This aid not only alleviated immediate hardships but also contributed significantly to enhancing food security for the impacted households.

Effectiveness of Orientation and Support for Committees:

The orientation provided to selection committee members was crucial for ensuring a smooth and successful distribution process. Training committee members on their roles, responsibilities, and the selection criteria was essential for maintaining fairness and transparency throughout the operation. Furthermore, actively assisting and supporting these committees during their engagement—from the initial identification of beneficiaries to the final distribution of food and non-food items—proved to be highly effective. This support ensured that the process was conducted efficiently and that all intended recipients received the necessary aid. The comprehensive preparation and ongoing assistance facilitated a well-organized distribution, reinforcing the importance of thorough orientation and support in achieving successful outcomes.

Challenges

Damaged roads in the Somali region posed significant challenges for delivering items. The destruction necessitated the use of alternative routes, which were longer and resulted in delays in the distribution process.

Additionally, the poor communication network severely impacted telephone communication, forcing the team to resort to manual beneficiary registration methods.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 37,155

Targeted Persons: 53,000

Assisted Persons: 53,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households reached with WASH NFIs	1,600	1,600
# of volunteers trained on hygiene promotion	50	50
# of HHs reached with hygiene promotion	13,000	14,507
# of households reached with additional jerry cans	0	1,000

Narrative description of achievements

In the recent WASH operation, essential non-food items (NFIs) were procured, transported, and distributed to address urgent needs in the affected regions. Specifically, 1,600 jerry cans, 1,600 buckets, 8,000 bars of soap, and 26,000 sachets of water purification chemicals were procured. These items were transported to the distribution sites and allocated to the 1,600 targeted households (HHs). Each household received 5 bars of soap and 16 sachets of water purification chemicals, ensuring they had adequate resources for maintaining hygiene and safe drinking water. Additionally, due to remaining funds, 1,000 extra jerry cans were purchased and distributed to 1,000 more households.

To enhance community awareness on hygiene and sanitation, 50 volunteers were trained over a two-day period on hygiene promotion. Following their training, these volunteers were actively engaged in raising community awareness and mobilizing efforts across the

Oromia and Somali regions. They reached a total of 10,880 households, which equates to approximately 43,520 community members, including 32,000 males and 11,520 females.

The volunteers were equipped with knowledge and skills in community mobilization, hygiene and sanitation promotion, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), and the effective use of water treatment chemicals. They were also educated on the prevention and control of waterborne diseases and vector-related health issues. These trained volunteers were deployed for 30 days to their respective kebeles, where they conducted educational sessions to improve hygiene practices and promote the use of water purification methods among the local populations.

Lessons Learnt

Selecting, Training, and Engaging Volunteers:
Effective volunteer selection, training, and engagement are crucial for successful community mobilization. Volunteers who are active, knowledgeable, and able to engage with community members in their local languages and understand local cultural nuances significantly enhance the impact of hygiene promotion efforts. It is important to choose volunteers who are not only enthusiastic but also familiar with the community's specific needs and challenges. Comprehensive training should cover key topics such as hygiene practices, water purification methods, and health education, ensuring that volunteers are well-prepared to address the community's concerns effectively. This approach fosters trust and improves the overall efficacy of the intervention.

Involving Community Leaders and Faith-Based Institutions:
Engaging community leaders and faith-based institutions plays a pivotal role in community mobilization and acceptance. These leaders and institutions often hold significant influence and can effectively convey important health messages to their communities. Their involvement helps in gaining public trust and facilitating the adoption of hygiene practices. By integrating community leaders and faith-based organizations into mobilization events, the transfer of critical messages becomes more effective, and the community is more likely to embrace and support the proposed interventions. This strategy ensures that the messages are not only heard but also accepted and acted upon by the community members.

In summary, a targeted approach that combines the strategic selection and training of volunteers with the active involvement of community leaders and faith-based organizations leads to more effective hygiene promotion and greater community engagement.

Challenges

The poor road conditions in the Somali region severely restricted our ability to travel between kebeles during hygiene promotion and awareness creation events. To mitigate this issue, we adopted a strategic approach by focusing on one kebele at a time. We conducted targeted campaigns in each kebele, ensuring that our hygiene promotion activities were effectively implemented despite the transportation challenges. Additionally, we assigned volunteers to stay in each kebele throughout the mobilization period. These volunteers facilitated continuous community engagement and helped disseminate important hygiene messages, ensuring that all targeted areas received the necessary support and information despite the difficult travel conditions.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 23,001
Targeted Persons: 800
Assisted Persons: 800

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of staff and volunteers that receive orientation on PGI	60	50
# of women households that receive dignity kits	800	800
# of people referred to secondary services (SGBV, child protection)	100	0
# of referral pathways identified	2	2



Narrative description of achievements

A total of 50 volunteers were selected and trained on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) and Community.

Engagement and Accountability (CEA) minimum standards. This one-day orientation prepared the volunteers to handle various responsibilities, including beneficiary registration, distribution of food and non-food items, hygiene and health promotions, and feedback and complaint management. All volunteers were recruited from the respective kebeles to ensure local engagement and understanding.

The training focused on equipping volunteers with knowledge of the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) movement's code of conduct, particularly concerning Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), Child Protection, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). It also covered referral pathways to ensure that any reported cases are appropriately addressed. Out of 60 planned participants, 50 attended the training, while 10 were unable to attend due to personal and work-related commitments.

In response to the needs of women and girls of reproductive age, 800 dignity kits were distributed among the affected community. Each kit was accompanied by orientation on proper use, care, and disposal to ensure effective utilization and hygiene.

Two referral pathways were identified and disseminated throughout the communities in the Somali and Oromia regions. These pathways were communicated through existing community structures to ensure that all members are aware of the processes for reporting and addressing issues related to protection and support.

Lessons Learnt

Providing dignity kits to those in need, along with guidance on their utilization, has demonstrated a significant commitment to preserving and supporting the dignity of women affected by the crisis. These kits are not merely practical items but are also a vital component of the broader effort to ensure that women maintain their personal dignity and hygiene in challenging circumstances.

The distribution process, coupled with thorough orientation on how to use, care for, and dispose of the items, underscores the importance of addressing both the physical and emotional needs of women. This approach not only provides immediate relief but also affirms the respect and consideration for women's personal dignity. The intervention thus reflects a holistic care model, recognizing that support extends beyond material aid to include empowerment and respect for individual needs and rights. By focusing on these aspects, the program contributes to a more comprehensive and sensitive response to the needs of women in affected communities.

Challenges

Despite establishing and promoting referral pathways, and gaining community acceptance, the reporting of cases and seeking help remained minimal. This limited engagement is attributed to prevailing cultural norms, highlighting the need for further dissemination and awareness efforts to encourage more open reporting and support-seeking behaviors.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 10,226

Targeted Persons: 53,000

Assisted Persons: 53,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained on CEA	60	45
# of feedback mechanisms identified	3	3
# of PDM conducted	1	1
# Volunteers deployed to support CEA and PGI	10	10

% of community members who feel the aid provided by the operation currently covers their most important needs	90	85
# of and type of methods established to share information with communities about what is happening in the operations, including selection criteria	3	2
# of opportunities for community participation in managing and guiding the operation (e.g. number of community committee meetings, FGDs, town hall meetings etc)	3	2
% of community members, including marginalized and at-risk groups, who know how to provide feedback about the operation	100	90
% of operation complaints and feedback received and responded to by the NS	100	100
% of operational decisions or changes made based on community feedback	100	100

Narrative description of achievements

A half-day Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) training was conducted for 45 community volunteers. The primary goal of this training was to enhance the volunteers' ability to facilitate community participation across various intervention areas. The training equipped them with the skills needed to conduct community consultations and establish beneficiary selection as well as feedback and complaint handling committees.

In each kebele, two committees were established: one for beneficiary identification and registration, and another for handling feedback and complaints. This structure ensured a clear division of responsibilities and streamlined the process of managing both beneficiary selection and community feedback.

A dedicated team of 10 volunteers was tasked with integrating CEA and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) issues. These volunteers collaborated closely with community committees to manage feedback and address complaints. They collected feedback through various channels, including help desks, notice boards, and community meetings. The team successfully addressed all nine serious complaints, achieving a 100% resolution rate.

Feedback from the community included concerns about the late delivery of support. While the feedback was discussed with the committees and acknowledged, logistical challenges prevented immediate changes. The community was informed of the situation, and the National Society (NS) committed to improving future support. The transparent communication helped manage community expectations and reinforced the NS's dedication to addressing concerns and enhancing the efficiency of future interventions.

The group discussion (GD) participants noted that beneficiaries were well-informed about project activities, including distribution details, through beneficiary selection committees. Household survey results showed that 43 (67.19%) of respondents received timely information about the date, time, and place of the NFI distribution, while 21 (32.81%) did not. Additionally, 62 (96.88%) of the Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey respondents were informed about the amount and quality of NFI support, and 62 (96.88%) confirmed that the amount received matched the communicated details, with only 2 (3.12%) lacking prior information on NFI specifics.

Regarding complaint mechanisms, 35 (54.69%) of the household respondents were unaware of the available feedback and complaints channels, whereas 29 (45.31%) were informed. Despite this, GD participants reported that no complaints were raised about the NFI distribution process, which was noted to be transparent and participatory. Furthermore, 53 (82.81%) of the household survey respondents believed that NFI assistance was allocated based on need, while 11 (17.19%) were unsure about the eligibility criteria.

In terms of recognizing the aid provider, 62 (96.88%) of respondents identified the Ethiopian Red Cross Society as the NFI provider, while 2 (3.12%) were unaware of the organization, and 1 (1.62%) mistakenly identified the government as the provider. The GD discussions confirmed high community awareness and satisfaction with the aid process and provider.

Beneficiaries expressed high satisfaction with the NFI support, which they used for various needs such as paying debts, buying food, and acquiring livestock. Most beneficiaries appreciated the timely and sufficient support, finding it particularly surprising given the recent flood impact. Survey results indicated that 61 (95.31%) of the household respondents were highly satisfied with the support and

information provided. Additionally, 63 (98.44%) of PDM survey respondents reported significant improvements in family well-being due to the support, while 1 (1.56%) saw no impact. •

Lessons Learnt

Involving the community throughout the entire process and establishing mechanisms for receiving feedback and complaints were crucial for understanding community interests and identifying gaps in the intervention. Engaging community members directly allowed for a more responsive and adaptive approach, ensuring that their needs and concerns were effectively addressed. By actively listening to their feedback, the program was able to pinpoint specific issues and make necessary adjustments, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness of the support provided.

Executing Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) activities as planned significantly facilitated community involvement and fostered program buy-in. When CEA principles were integrated into the program, it not only encouraged greater community participation but also built trust and support for the intervention. This involvement was essential for achieving better outcomes, as it ensured that the community was both invested in and supportive of the program, ultimately leading to more successful and sustainable results.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 18,047

Targeted Persons: 8

Assisted Persons: 8

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# monitoring support conducted	2	2
# of DREF training organized for NSs and IFRC staff	1	1
# of People trained on DREF	0	30

Narrative description of achievements

One joint monitoring visit was conducted in the field with the involvement of both IFRC and ERCS. This visit was crucial in assessing the progress and challenges of the operation. Given the limited capacity of the Somali zones to implement effectively, the branch provided continuous support throughout the operation. This support was essential in ensuring that activities were carried out smoothly and any issues were promptly addressed.

A training session on the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) was held for 30 participants, including staff from IFRC CCD, ERCS HQ, and ERCS branches. The training, conducted over three days, aimed to equip participants with a comprehensive understanding of DREF tools and guidelines. Facilitators from both IFRC regional and global teams conducted the sessions, successfully meeting the training objectives. This training was instrumental in enhancing the participants' ability to manage DREF operations effectively.

Throughout the implementation phase, the program team actively gathered feedback from various stakeholders and engaged in discussions to ensure a comprehensive approach. This process involved capturing diverse community perspectives and insights, which played a pivotal role in shaping operational decisions and adaptations.

The collaborative approach not only enriched ERCS's understanding of community needs but also enhanced the relevance and impact of the initiatives. By prioritizing community input, the program was better aligned with the practical challenges and aspirations of the beneficiaries, leading to more effective and responsive support. This focus on community engagement underscored the importance of integrating stakeholder feedback into operational strategies to ensure that interventions are both pertinent and impactful.



Lessons Learnt

The DREF training significantly enhanced the National Society's (NS) capacity to effectively utilize and manage the DREF process. Participants gained a thorough understanding of the DREF tools and guidelines, which empowered them to approach and implement DREF operations with greater confidence and independence. As a result of this training, the NS is now better equipped to manage future DREF interventions with reduced reliance on IFRC support. This increased self-sufficiency not only streamlines operations but also strengthens the NS's overall ability to respond to emergencies more efficiently and effectively.

Challenges

During the implementation period, security and access issues prevented frequent visits to affected areas. Only one visit was made to the Somali region, while other areas were reached and managed by local branches.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 45,368

Targeted Persons: 53,000

Assisted Persons: 53,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
#r monitoring visits conducted	3	3
# of project staff recruited	1	1
# of RC jacket distributed	60	88
# of volunteer insured	80	25

Narrative description of achievements

During the response operation, a comprehensive monitoring and support structure was established. A joint monitoring visit was carried out by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) headquarters. This visit aimed to assess the progress of the operation and ensure alignment with the project objectives. In addition to this, multiple visits were conducted by the branches themselves to provide ongoing support to the zonal branches involved in the response. These branch-level visits played a crucial role in addressing operational challenges and facilitating smooth execution of the activities on the ground.

Under the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), the operation was supported by one dedicated staff member, specifically a project coordinator, for a duration of four months. This individual was instrumental in overseeing the day-to-day management of the project, ensuring that all tasks were completed efficiently and effectively. The presence of a dedicated project coordinator was essential for maintaining coordination, managing resources, and ensuring that the response activities adhered to the planned objectives.

To enhance the safety and visibility of volunteers working in the field, a total of 60 Red Cross jackets were procured and distributed. These jackets significantly improved the volunteers' visibility and protection during their fieldwork, allowing them to be easily identified and ensuring their safety while engaging with the community.

Regarding volunteer insurance, 25 volunteers were insured under the DREF, which was fewer than the initially planned 80. This shortfall was due to fluctuations in insurance pricing from the companies engaged. Despite this challenge, the National Society (NS) utilized its available mechanisms to cover the remaining volunteers, ensuring that all volunteers were protected. This approach ensured that the necessary insurance coverage was provided, even though the original target could not be fully achieved due to external factors.



Lessons Learnt

Dedicated staff at headquarters are essential for managing operations effectively, providing strategic oversight, and ensuring coordination. However, additional support is necessary at regional and zonal levels to address local challenges, manage logistics, and align field activities with overall strategies. Strengthening support through increased staffing, additional resources, and improved training at these levels can enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness.

Challenges

Limited capacity at zonal branches increased the workload for regional teams, particularly in the Somali region, where the affected zone was over 300 km away with damaged roads. Future operations should focus on strengthening the capacity of branch and zonal levels to effectively manage and implement response activities.

Financial Report

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRET034 - Ethiopia - Flood

Operating Timeframe: 04 Dec 2023 to 31 Mar 2024

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/12-2024/8	Operation	MDRET034
Budget Timeframe	2023/12-2024/8	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 15/Aug/2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	486,716
DREF Response Pillar	486,716
Expenditure	-479,441
Closing Balance	7,276

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction		2,191	-2,191
AOF2 - Shelter	134,165		134,165
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	218,754	468,670	-249,915
AOF4 - Health			0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	37,155		37,155
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	23,001		23,001
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	413,075	470,861	-57,786
SF11 - Strengthen National Societies	55,595	2,263	53,332
SF12 - Effective international disaster management			0
SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC	18,047	6,317	11,730
Strategy for implementation Total	73,641	8,579	65,062
Grand Total	486,716	479,441	7,276

[Click here for the complete financial report](#)

Please explain variances (if any)

The budget variance represents the difference between the budgeted amount and actual expenditure. In this instance, the planned budget for the period was CHF 486,716, while the actual expenditure totaled CHF 479,441. The variance, calculated by subtracting the actual expenditure from the budgeted amount, is CHF 7,275. This balance represent 1.5% of the total allocation for this intervention. CHF 7,275, indicating that the actual spending is closely aligned with the budget. The discrepancy is minimal and does not have a significant impact on the overall financial management of the project, showing that the budget was largely adhered to. This balance will be returned to the pot after the publication of the present report.



Allocations and budgets are recorded by the Secretariat based on budget categories to ensure alignment with standards and IFRC-DREF requirements. For the closure of the operation, expenses follow the same principle, except for the National Society (NS) expenditures recorded as a single consolidated line item for all funding received. As a result, cost category variances are not consistent in the report.

The attached report presents the overall budget execution by the NS, totaling CHF 440,065 (90% of the total allocation). The NS financial report follows its own internal financial system rather than IFRC cost categories. However, all expenses incurred by the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) have been reviewed to ensure alignment with the approved plan, budget & applicable IFRC procedures. Further financial breakdowns remain internal.

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[Click here for reference](#)

