

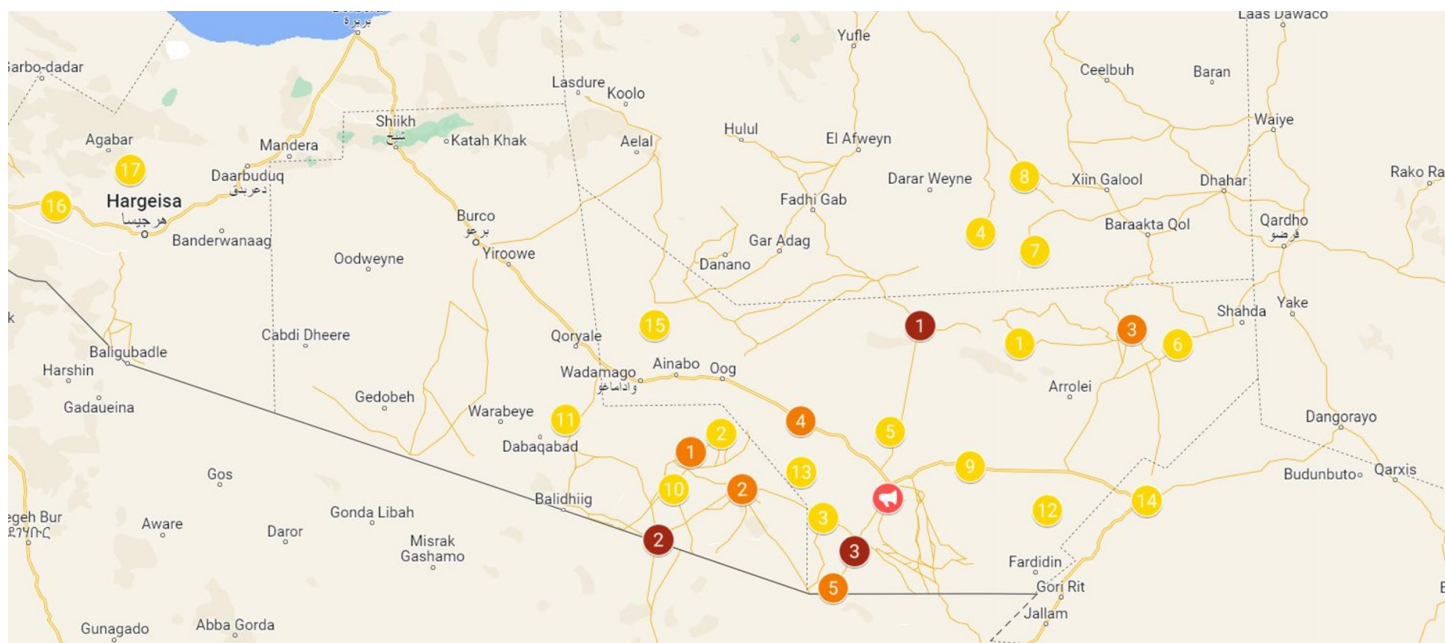


Displaced families receiving Shelter NFI in Kalabaydh district

Appeal: MDRSO015	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 500,587	Crisis Category: Orange	Hazard: Civil Unrest
Glide Number: OT-2023-000019-SOM	People Affected: 126,000 people	People Targeted: 10,200 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2023-02-17	New Operational End Date: 2023-07-31	Total Operating Timeframe: 5 months
Targeted Areas: Sool			

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



What happened, where and when?

The escalating conflict in Laas Caanood witnessed on February added to an already complex humanitarian situation behind the launch of a DREF intervention to support the communities that were reported displaced and affected by the situation from NS data and OCHA report of 9th February 2023 (more than 126,000 people with over 40 casualties and over 60 injured)

The main cause of the fighting is related to the killing of popular community members in Lasanod and the resultant demonstrations that kicked off on 26th of December 2023. On the 6th of February, 2023, prominent traditional leaders (Garaads) and the 33 SSC committees released a declaration stating these regions are under the jurisprudence of the federal government of Somalia and that Somaliland forces must leave the region. This resulted in fierce clashes between Somaliland forces and organized clan militia. The fighting has been ongoing to date. In over 170 people have been killed and over 500 injured so far. Clashes started on the 26th of Dec 2022 with demonstrations in Lasanod city between Somaliland forces and protestors. Since then, the situation has deteriorated into active conflict forcing most civilians to flee from their homes to neighboring areas – including surrounding districts of Lasanod, Buhoodle, Togdheer, Sanaag regions, Puntland, and Ethiopia.

Somalia, a country already grappling with a severe drought and ongoing security challenges. Laas Caanood City is currently in the midst of a deadly conflict that has resulted. The Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) staff and volunteers from Sool Branch quickly mobilized and began to support the affected communities.

Through the inter-agency coordination meeting conducted on 12 February 2023 in Somaliland, which government and humanitarian partners attended to agree on immediate action to help the displaced households, SRCS agreed on key intervention pillars include WASH, Health and Relief assistance for both Somaliland and Puntland displaced communities. SRCS requested IFRC's support through the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) to provide relief to the most vulnerable families targeted in the IDP settlements and host communities in coordination with the local government and humanitarian agencies.



Figure 1 Shows displaced female beneficiaries receiving dignity kits from SRCS..



Figure 2 shows SRCS Distributing Shelter NFIs to the displaced people from Lasanod Conflict.

Scope and Scale

In Puntland:

A joint Inter-Agency assessment conducted on February 11 to 13 2023, the violence in the town has been increasing. The main purpose of the assessment was to assess the impact of the conflict on civilians in the Lasanod and surrounding areas of Sool region and establish the number of displaced and/or affected. Fighting starting from 26th of December 2023.

On February 9th, 126,000 PEOPLE were reported displaced by OCHA, while from the inter-agency assessment about 190,000 people end-up displaced from Lasanod and an additional 50,000 trapped in the town since the fighting started as per the report findings. The Majority of the displaced are women, girls, children, elderly and disabled who need special care. The displacement has adversely affected the population in all spheres of their life including the education, WASH, health, Nutrition, livelihood and shelter. Among the displaced and affected are those whose lives and livelihoods have been disrupted or destroyed by past drought episodes and conflict. The displaced people are struggling to access basic services including water, food, shelter, health and protection needs.

According to UNHCR, more than 100,000 people have fled to Ethiopia. UNHCR has reported that more than 185,000 internal displaced persons (IDPs) have been displaced by the fighting in Laas Caanood. The refugees are mostly women, children and older people as well as unaccompanied and separated children.

In Somaliland:

The displacement has adversely affected the population in all spheres of their life including the education, WASH, health, Nutrition, livelihood and shelter. Among the displaced and affected are those whose lives and livelihoods have been disrupted or destroyed by past drought episodes and conflict. The displaced people are struggling to access basic services including water, food, shelter, health and protection needs. The current conflict has only compounded the situation to a population that was struggling to cope with the impact of prolonged drought following failure of past rainfall seasons.

Partners report indicated that the situation on the ground was dire, with moderate acute malnutrition observed in many of the children under 5 and in pregnant and nursing mothers. There is a high risk of disease outbreaks with worrying reports of measles cases. Humanitarians are continuing to verify locations and the numbers of people displaced with various sources of data.

- Triangulating the information, SRCS estimated that between 154,000 and 203,000 people have been displaced by the fighting since late December 2022.
- Those displaced have reportedly moved into villages in the Sool, Togdheer, and Sanaag regions. Many IDPs initially arrived on the outskirts of the Lasanod city and surrounding districts and villages had no shelter or water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities at the time of the IDP's arrival.

The SRCS, the Somaliland government, and other humanitarian partners responded to some of the needs of the IDPs including protection services, water, shelter, food, health, and other necessities.

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	IFRC had sustained the capacities of the National Society. The IFRC DM Delegated and IFRC Regional Office for Africa provided supported needed to the national society for better implementation of the DREF include mobilized to support the Hunger Response Operation (Health, FSL, Communications, PMER/IM). In addition, operational standing support from the Finance, Logistics, and Security were provided remotely and field visit for proper implementation of the DREF.
Participating National Societies	Country partners such as the Finnish, German, Norwegian, Canadian and Danish Red Cross have active programmes in Somalia. - The Norwegian Red Cross distributed cash for health program in Sool regions for 3,870 people (645 HHs) for four months each households received \$85. - The German Red Cross distributed unconditional cash transfers to the 5,400 people (900 HHs) displaced people in the Lasanod conflict for three months. - The Canadian Red Cross distributed unrestricted cash assistance to 1,230 people (205 HHs) for three months started from March and ended May 2023.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC provided the following support to affected people:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provided cash grants to 23,802 people (3,967 HHs) for three months - Distributed 38 first aid kits to the SRCS. - Supported and mobilized four ambulances, complete with drivers and SRCS Volunteers to ferry the wounded to hospitals. - War wounded kits for hospitals and dressing kits - Protection for unaccompanied minors, RFL, dead body management.
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Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	<p>On February 7, 2023 media release, the Somaliland Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation requested all international agencies to assist. The Ministry of humanitarian affairs and disaster management (MoHADMD) in Puntland and the National Disaster Management Agency (NADFORD) in Somaliland registered affected people and provided the limited distributions of NFIs.</p> <p>On 12 February, National Displacement and Refugee Agency in Somaliland convened a coordination meeting in Hargeisa. The meeting was attended by Ministers- of Interior, Minister of Planning and Finance, the National Disaster Management Agency, and most of the international organizations working in</p>

	Somaliland. The NDRA has updated participants on the situation in Las Anod and called for immediate assistance to crisis victims.
UN or other actors	<p>The UN agencies provided contingency support to the people affected and considering launching its appeal.</p> <p>An inter-agency rapid assessment was conducted to provide a more in-depth assessment of the impact on the affected areas and populations. Inter-cluster coordination groups in Puntland and Somaliland finalized a contingency and response plan.</p> <p>WFP provided unconditional cash transfer (Safety net) to 27,000 people and supported nutritional service to 5,674 people, UNICEF supported health and nutrition to 24,000 households and reached WASH water trucking 400 households. UNFPA distributed 3,000 dignity kits and 2,000 menstrual hygiene kits.</p> <p>Food security partners are distributed in-kind food assistance to 5,665 IDP families (about 34,000 people) displaced from Lasanod in settlements.</p> <p>Nutrition Cluster partners are supported nine (9) fixed outpatient therapeutic programme and Infant and Young Child Feeding facilities and one stabilization center for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications in Buhoodle District. They supported 10 mobile Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme sites in Buhoodle District, which could be further used to reinforce the response to Laas Caanood displacement.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

- In Puntland: humanitarian actors and response are coordinated by the Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA). SRCS works closely with HADMA and the Government. Regular monitoring and planning meetings for the response planning and resource mobilization were held, SRCS attended the cluster meetings the Humanitarian Affairs Disaster Management Agency (HADMA), the Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs (MOWDFA), and other humanitarian partners forums.
 - In Somaliland, the overall displacement response is led by the National Displacement and Refugee Agency (NDRA) and supported by UN agencies, INGOs, and the Red Crescent.
- On 12 February, the National Displacement and Refugee Agency in Somaliland convened a coordination meeting in Hargeisa. The meeting was attended by the high-level ministerial nominated Somaliland president, UN agency, International NGOs, ICRC, IFRC, SRCS, local NGOs, and other partners to respond to the displaced people from the Lasanod, the partners discussed the importance of having coordination to avoid resource and intervention duplications. SRCS hosted a joint meeting with the active partners in Lasanod to respond to the disaster and has had important of section criteria. A Sector task forces have been established at national, and regional level with the participation of all stakeholders and the SRCS is an active participant in all levels in coordination with other actors.
- The various clusters are active, SRCS and movement partners are part of them, and this was also used for information sharing on different sectoral approaches.
 - This province is a pole already existing humanitarian actions and presence, including SRCS actions which is conducting other operations to support IDPs, food insecurity, and drought-affected communities. Considering that aspect, the coordination will also include a bilateral coordination system between all the ongoing SRCS projects and movement partners' interventions for complementarity. Regular meetings and updates will serve that purpose as well as sharing information on targeting and distribution.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Due to the ongoing drought and food insecurity, women and children were already at risk and the level of vulnerability has increased. They were already experiencing children dropping out of school (especially girls). In addition, protection risks and

sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are now at even greater risk as they flee the violence in Las Anod.

The scarcity of resources during emergencies created tensions and heightened the risks of SGBV, primarily for girls and women.

Women and children travelling without male family members were at increased risk of exploitation. In addition, there were concerns about secure places to sleep, access to appropriate sanitation facilities, and a lack of access to health and other services.

The feeling of fear, the frustration of many of the displaced population, and the general feeling of insecurity were also considered in the PGI approach.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Somalia's current hunger crisis showed that SRCS had updated information on the WASH situation in the areas. Water and sanitation were enormous challenges to tackle. As a matter of urgency, it was essential to provide potable water. Some deep tube wells were unsafe and had to be tested and purified (flushed). However, the need initially had to be covered by water tankers and the provision of large water tanks closer to the IDP settlement. ICRC WASH engineers undertook the water testing for the areas where there were huge, displaced people.

The area where displaced people fled had some water fetching capacity even though it led to additional stress because of the large influx of newcomers.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

People have been fleeing Las Anod since the escalation of violence, leaving their belongings behind and going empty-handed to relatives or safer areas. The displaced population were mainly women with children, elders, and families already on the move due to the droughts, were already a vulnerable/at-risk population in the climate-socio-economic context, which had impeded them sustaining their normal livelihoods and faced worsening food insecurity and malnutrition day after day.

Therefore, the displaced population likely had limited or no resources to sustain their daily needs and will rely on support from the hosting communities for an unknown period. Moreover, the new arrivals had put more strains and hardship on those host communities facing the same or worse (especially in the rural areas) impact of the protracted crisis.

The successive droughts and failed rains have affected the population's food security. The last IPC results from December 2022 estimate that currently, between 35% to 50% (the highest percentage in existing IDP settlements) of the population of Las Anod is in IPC3 and more (crisis and emergency phase of acute food insecurity). Displaced people moved to areas where half the population are in IPC3+ (rural part of Las Anod, south of Sool, Buuhoodle in Togdheer, or Garowe city in Puntland already hosting large IDPs settlements). Those areas are projected to be at risk of IPC5 Catastrophe by April-June 2023.

Therefore, the displaced families' most urgent needs were currently food, drinking water, and other basic needs (such as communication costs, hygiene items, and cooking fuel), and also to the host communities sharing their limited food, scarce water and shelter.



Health

Hospitals and clinics in Las Anod (Laascaanood) and in all the areas where the population has fled, such as other areas in the Sool and even in Bosaso and Garowe, have received hundreds of injured. SRCS mobile clinics in the area immediately responded to assist the wounded and kept doing so in both fixed and mobile clinics as much as the safety of the staff allowed. As the SRCS staff and volunteers are from the area and thanks to the mobile clinics, they can respond well.

There is an urgent need for the type of medical consumables kits needed to treat the injured for the mobile and fixed clinics and for the first aid kits to be used by SRCS volunteers. ICRC has provided First Aid kits, war wounded kits, and dressing kits; however,

due to the high number of injured, additional dressing kits are needed, and OPD kits to ensure the continuity of much-needed integrated health services.

Women, children, the elderly, and others from the civilian population have reportedly fled without being able to bring many belongings, some even just walking along the roadside. And there are reports of family separation and unaccompanied minors among the IDPs. Psychosocial support activities for the population and the SRCS Volunteers, including Psychological First Aid, were needed according to the first rapid assessment of the SRCS branch. SRCS Trained 25 Volunteers in psychosocial support, psychological first aid. The area is already one of the worst affected by the drought. The already existing water scarcity immensely increases the risk of infectious diseases such as acute watery diarrheal diseases, respiratory tract infections, and measles. Malnutrition rates were already very high in the Sool region, and ensuring continuity of care for malnourished children is essential. Additional medicines and nutritional supplements are needed to ensure the clinics can maintain their vital support. Cash voucher assistance may be required for families with malnourished children.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The rapid needs assessment shows many fled the city with little notice and could not take even the most necessities stressing existing resources, while others have formed spontaneous settlements. There are reports of people sleeping on the ground with nothing but the clothes they were wearing and the cover of a tree as protection.



Community Engagement And Accountability

During the conflict, access to information changes. For some time, communications networks were down, just as was electricity. This made communicating with impacted populations and receiving of feedback more difficult. As regular networks were affected, and access to electricity (and phone charging ability) became fewer, people needed to have a way to receive information about support available, how to access humanitarian assistance, and how to stay safe and healthy. There was a need for a way for people to share information about their needs and how they could best receive assistance to meet their needs. It was ideal to have a place where the community gave feedback on the support, they received and essentials that they know how to report issues.



Migration

With an escalation of violence in Las Anod, people flee, leaving their livelihoods and belongings behind. The displaced population included those who had already been forced to move due to the ongoing drought and a lack of food security. Families were separated and people flee Las Anod and spread across many small communities. Appropriate support for reestablishing family links was essential and needed to be provided.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The overall objective of this operation remained to assist 10,200 people (1,700 HHs) for both displaced and host communities displaced from the conflict of Lasanod by providing the needed assistance such as emergency shelter, essential household items, livelihood support, WaSH, and basic health services all integrated with Protection, Gender, and Integration (PGI) services.

Being an auxiliary to the regional and national government, SRCS worked in close collaboration with the government to ensure harmonization of the efforts carried out by governmental and humanitarian partners. This happened through the government appeals for coordination meetings where the humanitarian partners are invited to participate in and exchange the updates with the support of UNOCHA. Usually, this coordination meeting is held on monthly basis except ad hoc meetings which are organized accordingly.

Operation strategy rationale

On 05 February 2023, Somalia Red Crescent Society (SRCS) launched a DREF operation to provide assistance to the identified 10,200 people in need, displaced by the conflict while ensuring minimum prevention messages are reaching at least 61,200 people for both IDPs and Host Communities affected by the conflict of the Laas Caanood.

The NS coordinated with partners and based on data triangulation was able to put in place an integrated response to the targeted families that could tackle their immediate needs by providing the necessary emergency shelter, cash support, essential household items, basic health services all integrated with Protection, Gender and Integration (PGI) services. The cash approach and the complementary relief intervention delivered contributed to alleviate as much as possible the diversity of needs that occurred due to the displacement.

The intervention was also designed with insurance of non-duplication of efforts and adaptation to priorities. NS prioritized the following sectors for the DREF intervention:

- 1) Shelter needs: through essential household items and multipurpose cash grants.
- 2) Basic needs: through multipurpose cash grants, and solar-powered community chargers for phones.
- 3) Health needs: through support to existing mobile health clinics, health promotion, distribution of essential household items, and multipurpose cash grants to eventually support the access to health services or mitigate the immediate factors for health condition deterioration.
- 4) WASH: through distribution of essential household items, aqua tabs, hygiene promotion, and multipurpose cash grants.
- 5) PGI and CEA: through training and mobilization of volunteers but also promotions and integration to sectoral priority approach.
- 6) The effective coordination system played a key role in addressing any risk of overlapping in this assistance and other stakeholders' actions. This response was conducted as a complementarity approach both with internal projects and interventions of other actors. The coordination system included a mechanism for sharing information between the different SRCS projects, mainly on targeting and relevant approaches and gaps in the distributions conducted.

To address the need of collecting more information on needs and updating gaps, SRCS supported by IFRC and Red Cross Red Crescent partners, performed a multi-sectoral assessment to ascertain the precise needs of people displaced in the Sool, Togdheer (Buhoodle district) and Nugaal regions. The assessment report aimed to update on priorities for possible additional support. Especially with considerations of evolution of the humanitarian situation and stakeholders' intervention. The planned assessment also aimed to ensure information is cross-checked and real time update done while considering other partners' assistance and changes in priorities in any case.

- NS took part of the main coordination platform and has ensured complementarity with others ongoing support from partners.
- The coordination mechanisms were established at different levels to ensure information sharing and avoid overlapping of the different interventions.

National Society and IFRC delegation were part of all the coordination systems in place which served

To strengthen the operation and monitoring, a strong structure was put in place that include:

- A Disaster manager delegate in the country was involved to support the assessment and all the intervention for quality and timely implementation. The ops delegate deployed for hunger crisis also complemented the support provided to this operation as both operations coordinated efforts and operations teams working in the ongoing operations.

The protection, Gender and inclusion considerations were high for this intervention and integrated into the other response sectors and actions as a blended approach with the application of gender analysis to targeting and implementation of FSL, health, and WASH activities. Gender Focal Persons were identified to coordinate gender activities in the respective operational areas. Through SRCS programming, staff and volunteers followed the DAPS principles, which allowed everyone to have an equal opportunity, no one is left behind, left out, or left unsafe when targeting the vulnerable groups to be included through the implementation of project. It also supported by ensuring communities had full participation during the initial stage of the project. The volunteers' teams were balanced in terms of gender representation to avoid gender biases and strengthen gender participation, and to ensure women's participation in community engagement sessions.

This operation looked at a real-time learning exercise to generate expertise for future crises and formulate the appropriate contingency plan to respond as currently, there is no contingency plan that exist for this operation and the situation was a major risk to be included in the DRR map.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

This was in line with all partners from the movement. Both displaced, and host communities were supported, and the focus was on the most socio-economically vulnerable households.

The plan was set to target 10,200 persons (1,700 HHs), displaced from their home region due to the violence in Laas Caanood (starting with a focus on those in the Sool Region and Nugaal Region).

Based on the field assessment, the assistance focused on the following:

1/ Households moving to informal camps/settlements without shelter, food, or financial resources to cover primary needs, to receive a mix of both in-kind and cash to cover shelter and basic needs.

2/ Households moving to informal camps/settlements to make a shelter but with no other resources to cover basic needs. They will receive multipurpose cash.

3/ Households moving to relatives' houses, where resources are already limited, and the hosting communities are taking another burden by hosting families. They will receive multipurpose cash.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The primary selection criteria was based on the IDP status and hosting families. Due to the larger scale of needs and many displaced people, priority was given to households compounding social vulnerabilities, such as women, children, elderly or disabled heads of households, households with children undernourished, disabled or ill member(s) in the families, minority households, high dependency rate, and with no community support or income.

Total Targeted Population

Women	1,788	Rural	100%
Girls (under 18)	1,551	Urban	-
Men	3,105	People with disabilities (estimated)	10%
Boys (under 18)	3,056		
Total targeted population	10,200		

Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Fighting in Las Anod could spill into the surrounding region and is likely to happen at no or very short notice.	Liaise and keep in contact with SRCS branches and volunteers on the ground, ICRC, INSO and the UN networks to get early warnings.
The situation remains volatile, and people cannot return to their homes; further financial support will be needed.	Monitor the situation, and look for continuity of support through emergency appeals (hunger crisis or new appeal)
The situation remains very fluid, and the massive population movement makes it hard to provide accurate information.	Take part in joint assessments, attend coordination meetings, and follow media reports.

Violence/unrest can shift at concise notice; there is a risk that volunteers are caught up in hostile territories.	SRCS monitors the situation non-stop and gathers feedback from their branches and volunteers to keep them updated. We have budgeted for insurance to ensure volunteers working in this area are taken care of.
Communication such as internet and telecom providers maybe cut off as it was reported in December.	Ensure alternative modes of communication, such as Sat phones, VHS etc., are provided where appropriate and legal.
Clan affiliations and biases	Right people to be deployed to the region after consulting with local authorities, which the SRCS has been doing.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The fighting intensified, and the parties to the action were mobilizing other assets. Heavy weapons were deployed, which may have indicated further escalation or intent to fortify current positions. The situation in Somalia can be tough to predict. There were no signs that the fighting would ease soon and therefore, the field offices were given dedicated and robust security support.

Volunteer security - Ensured volunteer safety and protection was taken into consideration (the duty of care for them sits with the SRCS) and for them to provide adequate training, mechanisms to prevent and address issues such as harassment and exploitation, and personal protective equipment where appropriate.

Implementation



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 104,929

Targeted Persons: 10,200

Assisted Persons: 10,200

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# households received essential household items	1,700	1,700

Narrative description of achievements

SRCS engaged with the active technical humanitarian committee/taskforce which was responsible for the overall coordination of the humanitarian assistance provided by the displaced people in the Lasanod Conflict. This was led by the Somaliland National Displacement, and Refuge Agency (NDRA) and the Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) in Puntland who were responsible for monitoring and planning meetings for the response, planning and resource mobilization and to harmonization with other planned responses.

Under this agenda item, the joint selection committee approved the following selection criteria to be used for the targeted beneficiaries in the IDPs affected.

Based on the field assessment, the assistance focused on the following:

1. Households moving to informal camps/settlements without shelter, food, or financial resources to cover primary needs. They received a mix of both in-kind and cash to cover shelter and basic needs.
2. Households moving to informal camps/settlements to make a shelter but with no other resources to cover basic needs. They received multipurpose cash.
3. Households moving to relatives' houses, where resources were already limited, and the hosting communities were taking another burden by hosting families. They received multipurpose cash.

Throughout the discussions with the partners, the national society provided emergency shelter support to the affected communities.

- Tarpaulins (2 Pcs/HH)
- Blankets (3 Pcs/HH)
- Rope,
- Mosquito nets (3 Pcs/HH)
- Jerry cans (3 Pcs/HH)

The other humanitarian partners responded with unconditional cash for lifesaving, non-food items and dignity kits. During the committee's meeting, it was recommended by the joint coordination to avoid duplication of services.

SRCS Staff and volunteers provided practical training to the displaced communities on the use of tarpaulins and shelter tools for safe shelter construction to help the IDPs establish their own houses.

Moreover, SRCS registered and verified the beneficiary lists for shelter, livelihood, and household items and sensitized them through a number of community engagement sessions by SRCS volunteers and branch-level staff.

Lessons Learnt

- Continued grassroots-level capacity-building activities are also important.

Challenges

- Accessibility: The several areas in deep villages in the district were not reachable due to security concerns.
- SRCS could not reach all the displaced households from the conflict through this DREF, and many affected households were left out, SRCS expected other humanitarian partners to fill in the left gap by SRCS however this gap remained not responded to.



Multi-purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 200,431

Targeted Persons: 9,000

Assisted Persons: 10,266

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households who successfully received cash for basic needs after being identified and processed for transfer	1,500	1,711

Narrative description of achievements

SRCS responded with unconditional cash transfers to allow displaced households to cover the most urgent needs through mobile money cash modality. A total of 10,266 people (1,711 HHs) of the displaced people received Unconditional cash grants for one-off transactions. The reason for overachievement of targeted 1500hhs to 1,711 HHs is that there was additional fund provided to Puntland to increase the number of target household.

It has been an efficient and preferred modality and mechanism for the households, used by SRCS since the drought in 2017, and currently to respond to the ongoing drought response. The cash working group is active in the country and supports the FSL cluster through price monitoring activities and updated transfer values for each region. SRCS used the last updated transfer value (Sept 2022).

The beneficiaries in the above table were successfully registered with the help of the criteria approved by the joint selection committee and again sensitized by the SRCS volunteers and branch-level staff. The joint selection committee from the communities was part of the selection of the beneficiaries through the set forth criteria justified in the above part.

Cash assistance was speed-up with the direct activation of existing FSP contract. The verified registered beneficiaries were also shared with the FSP to distribute the cash to the beneficiaries. The SRCS had conducted market assessment, and the result of the assessment was the function of the market especially in areas where people displaced but the problems was the increase price of food and other items due to conflict.

Based on the PDM Conducted, the SRCS was able to evaluate the impact and relevance of the cash intervention, as well as the prioritization made by the targeted families with the installments.

- On the use of the cash: 51% of the cash were purchased food items, 17% spent on shelter/housing, 9% of medicine/health, 5% in education, 5% utilities like electricity, water, phone bills and etc. In addition to that, 4% used in cloths and food wear, per 3% in savings and household items. While, per 1% used in hygiene items and loan/debt repayments.
- The overall satisfaction on distribution process, 100% of the respondents were very satisfied with the distribution process and the financial Service Provider FSP used.
- Furthermore, 96% of the respondents were strongly agreed that the cash intervention reflected their priorities and at least feel discussed with them in prior project design and 4% agreed.

Lessons Learnt

- There is need for SRCS to modify the number of months being implemented in the livelihood projects and adjust with the needs of the targeted people with enough time at least 3 months as suggested by the Somalia cash working group.
- Cash preparedness: It is important that the NS capacity in cash is strengthened ahead of operations (training of staff and volunteers, elaboration and update of SOPs, discussion with service providers), so that they are prepared and ready to intervene as soon as an operation requires it.

Challenges

- SRCS could not reach all affected displaced households through this operation and many affected households were left out. SRCS was expecting other humanitarian partners to fill in the left gap by SRCS however this gap remained un-responded.
- Following the documented lesson learned workshop of the operation, One-off transaction of unconditional cash transfer was not enough to cover the basic needs of the displaced beneficiaries.



Health

Budget: CHF 73,372
Targeted Persons: 10,200
Assisted Persons: 10,200

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of volunteers trained on CBHFA	25	50
Number of people supported with FA or other medical support	9,000	10,200
Number of health clinics supported through this situation	3	3

Narrative description of achievements

The purpose of the DREF project was to provide health promotion awareness sessions to respond to the health needs of the displaced communities affected by the conflict of Las-anod. SRCS procured and distributed mosquito nets to 1,700 HHs each family received 3 pieces.

SRCS also deployed volunteers to conduct hygiene and health promotion sessions for the displaced people they have conducted 3 sessions and a total of 1,500 individuals were reached with health care services.

The SRCS rehabilitation center distributed 5 wheelchairs and 3 walking frames to the hospitals for patient transfer wards, and registered people who needed physiotherapy. In the clinic, SRCS visited 6 patients who needed 6 by 2 crutches. Getec University Guesthouse, registered 16 patients, 5 of them by 2, 10 Lo Crutches (shilke). Somcare Hospital 20+ 2 new patients. 9 of them by 2, 18 crutches. Additionally, two medical teams with mobile vehicles were working in the IDPs every day to treat the health cases in the villages.

- The SRCS ambulance ferried wounded people to the hospital. Two mobile health clinics were also relocated to the Lasanod IDPs. SRCS also trained 50 volunteers on the CBHFA.

Lessons Learnt

- Training of the community health workers and deploying during the crises to conduct hygiene and health promotion sessions is essential to the implementation of the project.
- Health ToT are needed to increase the capacity of volunteers and ensure some sustainable competencies are there to cascade the skills, especially in long standing situation.

Challenges

- Limited funds allocated for the health sector were challenged to reach large, displaced communities.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 98,588

Targeted Persons: 9,500

Assisted Persons: 23,094

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of women received dignity kits	500	1,399
# of families received hygiene kits	1,700	2,450
# households distributed with jerry cans	1,500	1,700
# households distributed with aqua tabs	1,500	1,500

Narrative description of achievements

A total of 23,094 people benefited from WASH services and relief support including water treatment products (aqua tabs), hygiene kits, and dignity kits.

- People in the Laas Caanood district were displaced as a result of ongoing armed conflict. Those affected included women, the elderly, and children. A significant number of infrastructures including WASH facilities were completely or partially destroyed or damaged in Laascaanood. Severe water shortages were reported across all the locations hosting the newly displaced people exacerbating the situation by putting pressure on the scarce resources available such as water points.
- SRCS provided immediate support for the most vulnerable and in-need displaced households from the Lasanod conflict. Aqua tablets were procured and distributed to 1,500 HHS. Demonstrations and teaching sessions on the use of aqua tabs were done during the distribution. Training and monitoring were conducted on safe water storage and safe use of water treatment products.
- In villages where there was a high concentration of internally displaced people, SRCS distributed WASH NFI Kits including Hygiene kits – Body soap (75g 1x person), Laundry soap (200g 1x person), Combs (2x per family), Nail clippers (1 1x per family), Razors (1 x multipack), Rope, Pegs (1x per family), Bucket (20l with lid) to 2,450 families.
- The displaced and most vulnerable also received dignity kits comprising of underwear (3 pcs- 3 sizes per person) and sanitary pads (3 pcs reusable) for 1,399 females.

Lessons Learnt

- The community in its decision-making process was given preference which helped SRCS to a better understand the needs of the community.

Challenges

- Accessibility of some villages due to security issues was a major challenge.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 833

Targeted Persons: 2,500

Assisted Persons: 2,500

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% of staff and volunteers oriented on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)	100	100
The minimum percentage of targeted reached with PGI/SGBV	50	50

Narrative description of achievements

NSs mainstreamed PGI in all sectors with special consideration to gender, age, disability to minimize any stigma and discrimination or additional risks and vulnerabilities. Representatively of all groups were ensured in the assessment and post evaluation but also all the focus group and community discussion.

- Women and girls were at the center of all the project interventions where the selection criteria included women-headed/child-headed IDP families. Dignity kits through multipurpose cash grants and mosquito nets were distributed targeting areas that were sensitized on SGBV awareness, referral pathways, and child protection.
- Staff and volunteers engaged in the response were sensitized on PGI mainstreaming and ensuring protection in all response activities as well Internal as prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence to be able to address any arising during as well as post-implementation period.
- SRCS has trained 50 volunteers on protection gender and inclusion and established helpline (telephone line, social media) to receive complaints (PGI issues inclusive) and all the Feedback received were addressed and solved. All the SRCS staff and volunteers involved this operation were briefed on SRCS Code of conduct, sexual exploitations and abuse and safe referral of SGBV cases including child protection concerns.

Lessons Learnt

- The national society needs to train TOT for continued and increased capacity development for volunteers in PGI.

Challenges

- Lack of trainers for PGI on the ground.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 2,942

Targeted Persons: 9,500

Assisted Persons: 9,500

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% of staff and volunteers oriented on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)	100	100

Narrative description of achievements

All SRCS volunteers were active and insured under the IFRC support in the Lasanod branch and Garowe Branch. To ensure community feedback was addressed, SRCS put up a short toll number in the settlement for the community or the beneficiaries to call or send their complaints. This ensured that the data and the information of the caller were protected.

Additionally, the PMERL team developed a checklist for the community feedback and complaints, which was uploaded to the Kobo Collect tool to register the community feedback and complaints easily. The PMERL team trained the holder of the short-toll number to effectively manage the data and the confidentiality of the callers.

SRCS provided posters in the project location with clear information about the short toll number written in the local language, and the volunteers in the field also disseminated the number among the beneficiaries.

Most of the valid calls were appreciations, requests for an increase in the number of target households for interventions, and suggestions about the continuation of cash grants. All feedback collected was acted upon. Monthly monitoring visits (5) were conducted.

Lessons Learnt

SRCS had community volunteers target project locations before the DREF operation, fortunately with the DREF operation. SRCS had to recruit volunteers at the community level to handle any SRCS operation in the locality to avoid the deployment of branch-level volunteers into the settlement.

Challenges

- Among the challenges encountered during the implementation of the DREF project was working overtime in many circumstances due to the load of the work, including the registration time.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 13,609

Targeted Persons: 300

Assisted Persons: 300

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
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Narrative description of achievements

IFRC has a Country Cluster Delegation based in Nairobi, covering Somalia and Kenya, to support operations and response. The IFRC has a DRM Delegate based in the Hargeisa coordination office and the operations manager in Puntland is supported by mobilizing the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement surge capacity and other resources to support the scale-up of the operation.

IFRC Monitoring missions were not conducted due to security issues and the limitation of access to the Intervention sites.

Lessons Learnt

- The IFRC Surge team is essential for the deployment during crises for their support on response and resource mobilization.

Challenges

- The security issue was a major challenge that limited the IFRC monitoring visit.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 5,883

Targeted Persons: 300

Assisted Persons: 300

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
#of team members (staff and volunteers) mobilized and trained	300	300

Narrative description of achievements

All the NS briefed 26 staffs and 250 volunteers on their roles and responsibilities and the risks they could face during the implementation of the DREF. All SRCS volunteers were insured under the IFRC support in the Lasanod branch, and volunteers that have been functional and operational during the DREF operation completed trainings on security briefing, CEA and PGI both online and offline.

At the end of the operation, a lesson-learned workshop was held to collect feedback about implementation and lessons learned to consider for future operations.

To mitigate the risk of overlapping assistance, the following coordination system and communication platform were activated or used.

- 1) The NS took part in Government coordination meetings regularly conducted by Government disaster management agency. Information sharing, planification complementarity and strategic positioning was sought by the NS in a frequent basis to update the intervention priorities.
- 2) NS/IFRC attends to the various clusters coordination to align the approach with other partners on various sections, especially for cash, shelter and livelihood support and this continued during the DREF implementation.
- 3) At Red Cross and Red Crescent movement level, the current planification was explained and information sharing from all members maintained with frequent update and meetings on that. Where possible, joint actions were conducted.

Lessons Learnt

SRCS should maintain good volunteer management practices in the branches to reduce the volunteer retention.

Challenges

- No challenges documented.

Financial Report

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/2-10	Operation	MDRSO015
Budget Timeframe	2023/1-12	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 16/Nov/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRSO015 - Somalia - Population Movement, Laas Caanood, Sool Region

Operating Timeframe: 17 Feb 2023 to 31 Jul 2023

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	500,587
DREF Response Pillar	500,587
Expenditure	-491,240
Closing Balance	9,347

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction		6,419	-6,419
AOF2 - Shelter	104,929	44,068	60,860
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	200,431	203,654	-3,223
AOF4 - Health	73,372	155,237	-81,865
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	98,588	76,862	21,726
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	833		833
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	478,153	486,241	-8,088
SF11 - Strengthen National Societies	8,825	3,004	5,821
SF12 - Effective international disaster management			0
SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC	13,609	1,995	11,614
Strategy for implementation Total	22,434	4,999	17,435
Grand Total	500,587	491,240	9,347

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

Please explain variances (if any)

The DREF allocated CHF 500,587 to the intervention for population movement in Laas Caanood. The SRCS implemented 98% (CHF 491,240) of that budget and the balance of CHF 9,347 will be returned to the DREF pot.

The overall variance is mainly resulting from custom fees from international procurement that were finally not conducted as the ODP kits were replaced by NFIs and the monitoring cost from IFRC side not used as per planned.

Detailed variances per cost category are as follows:

1- Relief items, Construction, Supplies - though the budget was split into various NFIs, when the procurement was made through Danish RC, the invoice from Danish RC was booked lumpsum in A/c 5711. Hence, under Other Supplies & Services we have a big negative variance while here there seems to be no expense.

Due to inability to purchase the OPD kits as per planned from IFRC Geneva logistic department, the budget for OPD kits planned under medical and first aid was allowed to be used for Cash and NFIs additional support needed. The procurement process faced significant delay since April and were not be possible to be completed under the DREF timeframe.

2- Logistics, Transport & Storage - Consider the consolidated group for Logistics, transport & storage. Sometimes it was difficult to split activities per specific account code between the sub-categories: Storage, Distribution & Monitoring, Transport & Vehicles Costs. Hence some mix accounting that made appear as underspent variances in some or overspent in others. In general, the budget was fully used and the general variance of CHF 846 is negative as NFI were extended, requiring few additional resources for the distribution/manutention.

3- Personnel : NS staff mission allowance and volunteers allowances budgeted under the same code (667 - volunteers cost category) while the effective expenses was accounted separately. From financial monitoring efficiency, these two costs will be either split in two lines for SN staff and Volunteers or expenses be combined to limit variances.

4- Financial charges: negative variance is significant due to realized forex losses with important financial fluctuation during the intervention.

5- IFRC cost such as field/mission communication and travel were finally not used. The travels didn't take place and the monitoring was mainly done remotely or through the support from team already present at local level.

Contact Information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[Click here for reference](#)