



EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL ACTIVATION

Ethiopia | Drought EAP

18/11/2025



Pictures Taken by ERCS communication expert in October 2023 during First Drought Activation work by the community. Early actions like Range land management and Risk communication by ERCS Volunteers

EAP №: EAP2022ET02	Operation №: MDRET033	EAP approved: 08/09/2022	EAP revised timeframe: 08/09/2023 – 31/05/2026
Trigger date: 21/11/2025	Early action lead time: 1 month	Early action timeframe: 3 Months	

Budget: 141,672 CHF
To assist: 35,000 people

EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL ACTIVATION

Activation Overview

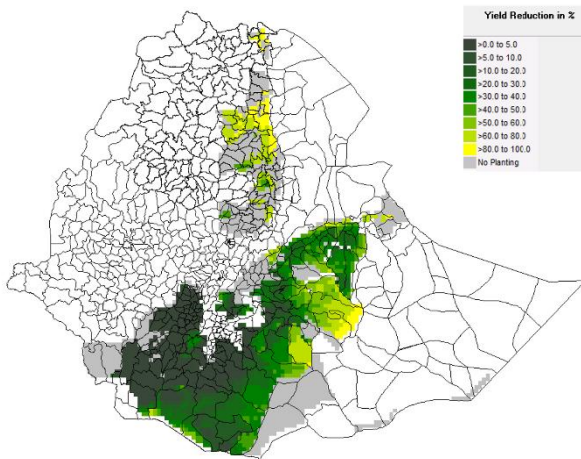


Figure 1: % reduction of October 2025 Crop yield reduction based on LEAP index

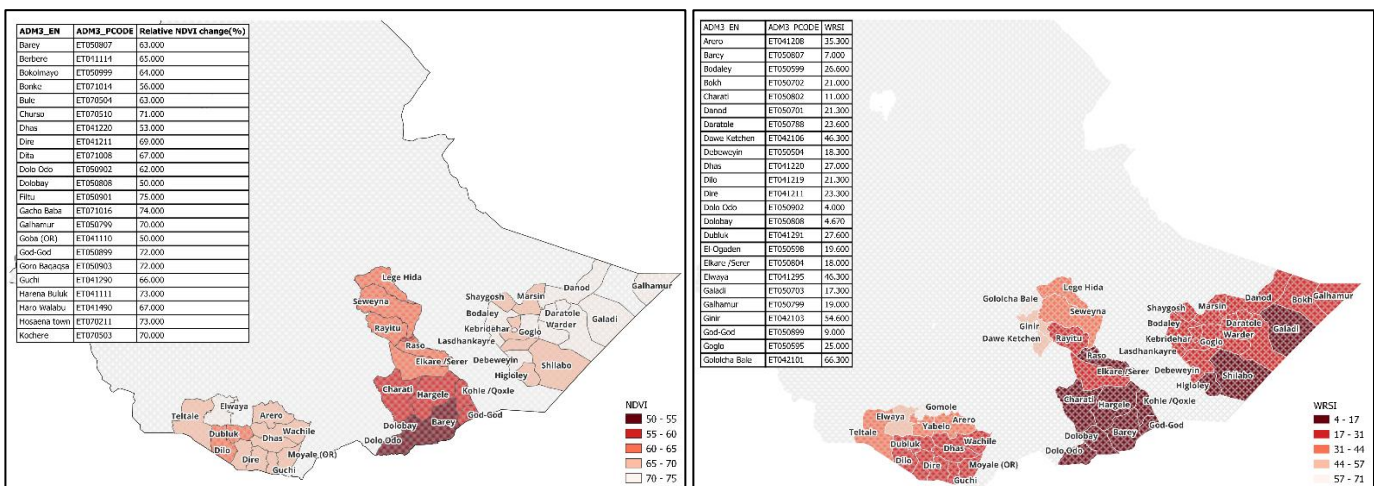


Figure 2: October 2025 pasture and water availability indicators. Left – percentage difference between October 2025 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) and the long-term mean/normal; Right- Rangeland Water Requirement Satisfaction Index (WRSI) in October 2025

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) has activated the second trigger of its Drought Early Action Protocol (EAP) for the Bega (OND) season.

The EDRMC LEAP index indicates that yield reductions were observed in parts of Amhara, Oromia, and South Ethiopia in October. The analysis of the LEAP indicators confirmed more than 50% crop yield reduction in the OND drought-forecasted areas of Oromia Region, specifically East Bale Zone, Rayitu, and Seweyna woredas, as shown in Figure 1. These woredas are also among the high-risk areas identified in the EAP where the FbF mechanism can be activated, meeting the requirements of the second trigger.

Given that the OND season is critical for the southern, eastern, and southeastern pastoralist areas of Ethiopia, the government prioritized rangeland and water satisfaction indicators for activation during this season. By the end of October 2025, rainfall across Rayitu and Seweyna was below average. Further analysis of key rangeland indicators including the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) and the Water Requirement Satisfaction

Index (WRSI) showed values below the long-term mean in both woredas, as illustrated in Figure 2. These trends indicate deteriorating pasture conditions.


The combined evidence of significant crop reduction, below-average rainfall, and declining pasture conditions points to likely negative impacts on Agriculture, water resources and the livestock sector. To reduce these risks before they escalate, anticipatory actions (AAs) must be initiated promptly and carried out over one month following the trigger date, in consultation with communities, government counterparts, and other stakeholders.


Based on the analysis of crop yield reduction, pasture degradation, and rainfall deficits, the EAP activation will focus on Rayitu and Seweyna woredas, where low rainfall, WRSI, and NDVI values indicate critical crop yield reduction, rangeland stress and heightened household vulnerability. Approximately 35,000 individuals in these woredas will be targeted under the Drought EAP.


Early Actions to be implemented in the target areas include hygiene promotion, cleaning and desilting of water sources, water allocation, livestock vaccination, provision of cash or in-kind support, and asset protection interventions through cash-for-work/food-for-work, among other measures outlined below.

Early Action Overview

PLANNED OPERATIONS

 Livelihoods	Female:	7500	39,197 CHF
	Male:	2500	AP Code: 007
Indicator:	% reduction of livestock death		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote systematic destocking (together with marketing) market assessment. 2. Promote systematic Migration with livestock to other pasture and water available areas (herd splitting like browsers can say behind a bit longer) whenever it is applicable 3. Vaccination of Livestock 4. Provide Cash/in kind for animal feed 1600 HH 5. Conflict resolution or negotiation of resource sharing 		

 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Female:	6000	8,328 CHF
	Male:	4000	AP Code: 110
Indicator:	Number of people reached with WASH interventions in advance of a hazard		
Priority Early Actions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create awareness and Implement hygiene promotion intervention focusing on potential health risks from WASH related diseases. 2. Introduce water allocation based on availability and needs 3. Engage the WASH sector for Water treatment 4. Cleaning and de-silting of water sources – river, springs, and wells to avoid mosquitoes breeding in stagnant water 		

	Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and recovery	Female:	10,500	81,473 CHF
		Male:	5,000	AP Code: 103
Indicator: % of households who has reduced food shortage months				
Priority Early Actions:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promote safe usage of alternative foods (wild foods, fishing, hunting etc.) Asset protection intervention through cash for work/ food for work 		

	Secretariat Services			9,053 CHF
				AP Code: 122
Objective:				
Priority Early Actions:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Technical accompaniment for the implementation of the early actions Support with reporting and lessons learned 		

	National Society Strengthening			3,621 CHF
				AP Code:124 & 125
Objective:				
Priority Early Actions:		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Activate Community and National platforms Conduct post Activation Lessons learned workshop 		

Budget

The total budget for the Activation has already been transferred to the NS, however they were not able to implement the activities for the second trigger since it was not met. With this notification they will be implementing activities planned for the second activation with a total budget amount of 132,619 CHF (inclusive of PSSR) and IFRC cluster budget of 9,053.

Contact information

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

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Reference



Click here for:

- EAP summary and budget
- Early Action Notification