



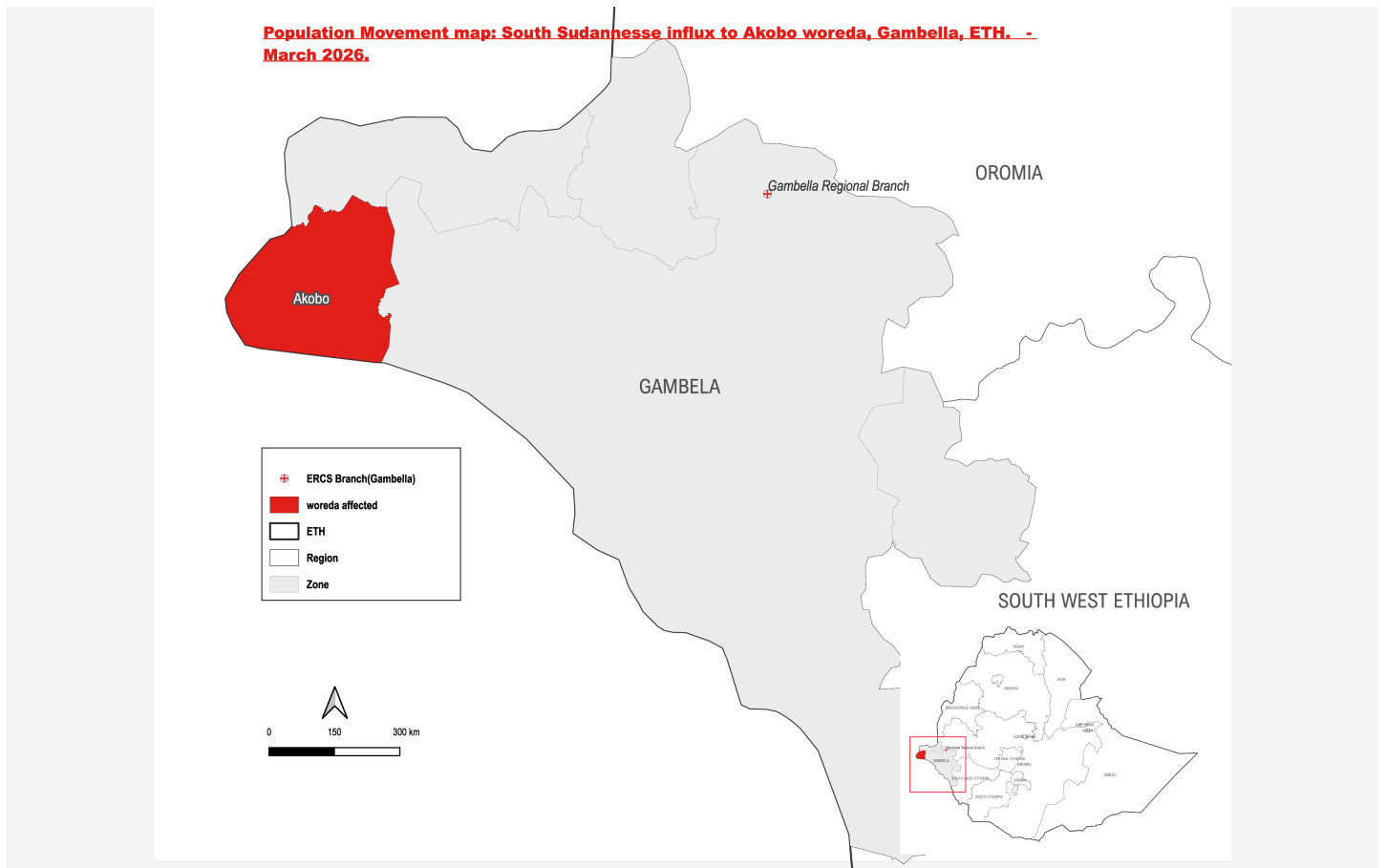
SOUTH SUDAN ASYLUM SEEKERS CROSSING THE RIVER TO AKOBA KEBELE ETHIOPIA

Appeal: MDRET040	Hazard: Population Movement	Country: Ethiopia	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 227,641	
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 148,784 people	People Targeted: 10,000 people	
Operation Start Date: 18-03-2026	Operation Timeframe: 3 months	Operation End Date: 30-06-2026	DREF Published: 26-03-2026
Targeted Regions: Gambella			

Description of the Event

Date of event

03-10-2026



What happened, where and when?

Since the escalation of conflict in South Sudan in December 2025, Akobo County has experienced significant population outflows, with increasing pressure forcing residents to flee beyond its borders in search of safety. It is estimated that approximately 270,000 people are at risk of displacement. On 6 March, the South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF) issued an order instructing civilians, UN agencies, and NGOs to vacate Akobo County ahead of planned military operations, further intensifying fears and uncertainty among affected communities. Shortly thereafter, on 10 March, the Nuer Zone administration declared a state of emergency and alerted Humanitarian actors, including Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) that approximately 60,000 people many of them women and children had crossed into Ethiopia in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection.

This latest influx adds to a pattern of repeated cross-border displacement of around 450,000 South Sudanese displaced across the Gambella region, which is already facing significant pressure from inter-communal violence and internal displacement. The combination of rising humanitarian needs, limited access, difficult terrain, and a rapidly evolving security situation has severely constrained the ability to conduct comprehensive assessments and deliver timely assistance.

These conditions underscore the urgent need for scaled-up humanitarian support to address immediate life-saving needs, including food, shelter, healthcare, WASH services, and protection, particularly for the most vulnerable populations arriving in already overstretched host communities.



ETHIOPIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (ERCS)

Alert Report Factsheet

Akobo, Gambella | Population Movement

12/Mar/2026
EM-20260310-Population_Movement-Gambella-woreda

Emergency Category: RED	Emergency Level: woreda	Alert Launched: 11/03/2025	Emergency Start date: 10/Mar/2026	Government Endorsed: Yes	Alert Type: Population Movement
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Alert Source: government body [Nuer zonal administration authority]

Overview: Since March 10 2026, a mass influx was recorded from South Sudan Akobo county of Jonglei state to Ethiopia to Akobo Woreda, Gambella region. Most of them are women, Children and elderly peoples carrying their only remaining possession by using small boats or wading through the water to seek refugee in neighbouring Ethiopia. According to the Nuer Zone administration report, the number of the peoples crossed the border to Ethiopia is has reached over 60,000 people.

The influx is overwhelming local resources on both side of the border. The majority of those crossing border are internally displaced persons who had previously fled to Akobo County from Urur, Nyirol and Akobo West of Jonglei state South Sudan. Now they are facing their second displacement. A humanitarian crisis is limiting access to food , clean water, shelter and medical care.

Impact on people*

Population pre-crisis	People Affected	Affected Displaced
* 88,784	60,000	60,000

* Initial estimation



Population Movement

Affected areas

Region: Gambella
Zone: Nuer zone
Woreda: Akobo



Branch Situation Report

- Physical damage to ERCS facilities: No damage
- ERCS staff of volunteers impacted: No
- Access status of the affected area(s): Fully accessible
- Immediate response taken by the region: engaging in Joint Assessment

ERCS Focal points:
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NS EOC_ALERT FACT SHEET

Scope and Scale

The influx of peoples from Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan is overwhelming local resources on both side of the borders. The majority of those crossing border are internally displaced persons who had previously fled to Akobo County from Urur, Nyirol and Akobo West of Jonglei State South Sudan. Now they are facing their second displacement within the same month.

Approximately 38,000 people have been registered by the Akobo Woreda (Ethiopia) Administration as of 10 March, mostly women, children and elderly who have crossed the Pibor Rier on small boats and makeshift rafts. Since the escalation of the conflict in the Upper Nile and Jonglei States in December 2025, an estimated 82,000 refugees have arrived in Ethiopia. This is in addition to the 450,000 South Sudanese refugees are already being hosted in the Gambella Region.

The situation within Gambella also remains a concern. In December 2025, inter-ethnic clashes between Nuer and Anuak communities caused the internal displacement of over 40,000 people, further straining the humanitarian response.

Ethiopia, the second-largest refugee-hosting country in Africa, with over 1.1 million refugees, has seen a surge in arrivals due to conflicts and drought in the surrounding region. Funding shortfalls have already forced aid agencies to cut emergency relief supplies by 70 percent in 2025. Malnutrition, poor access to water and hygiene, and loss of protective environments such as schools have put incredible strain on an already precarious situation.

Source Name	Source Link
1. OCHA	https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-new-influx-south-sudanese-asylum-seekers-gambella-region-dg-echo-dg-echo-partners-media-echo-daily-flash-11-march-2026
2. OCHA	https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-risk-new-influx-south-sudan-gambella-amid-increasing-tensions-dg-echo-partners-un-ocha-media-echo-daily-flash-3-february-2026



3. UNHCR	https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/eth
4. IOM - Household Needs Assessment	https://dtm.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd11461/files/resources/HNA%20R1_Methodological%20Note.pdf

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	Yes
Did the National Society respond?	No
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	-
If yes, please specify which operation	-

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

-

Lessons learned:

- Population movements in Ethiopia consistently show heightened protection risks, particularly for women, children, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities. Integrating Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) across all sectors is essential, identification of referral pathways, and coordinated prevention of gender-based violence.
- Large influxes often strain already vulnerable host communities. Responses must consider both displaced populations and host communities to prevent tensions and promote social cohesion.
- Displacement contexts evolve rapidly. Operations must be adaptable, with contingency planning and scalable interventions to respond to sudden increases in caseloads
- Strong coordination between government, National Society, UN agencies, and partners is key to avoid duplication and ensure efficient use of limited resources, particularly in complex cross-border contexts
- Providing immediate, multi-sectoral support at points of entry such as registration, health screening, WASH, and basic relief items has proven critical in reducing vulnerability during the first phase of displacement.
- Prolonged displacement in Ethiopia underscores the importance of early recovery and resilience-building interventions, including livelihoods and basic services, to reduce long-term dependency on aid.

Did you complete the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis in previous operations, what was risk level?	No
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Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

12-03-2026

Coordination	The ERCS is participating in a regional emergency coordination platform coordinated by DRM, RRS and UNHCR in the Gambella Region.
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Assessment	Yes, the ERCS has joined the UN agency joint assessment team for security assessment and rapid needs assessment in Akobo Woreda, Nuer Zone. Initial assessments indicate that Tiergol and KanKan Kebeles are the main sites for temporary shelter, however, this will need to be determined. The assessment will also determine other actors who are active in delivering services to support further coordination.
Resource Mobilization	The NS with the IFRC coordination has convened the in-country Movement Coordination Meeting for possible resource mobilization and response mechanism.
Activation Of Contingency Plans	No contingency plan in place for this specific emergency. However, the existing contingency preparedness materials for other emergencies will be revised to be deployed.
National Society EOC	The NS EOC is coordinating with the Gambella branch for data and information sharing; the alert has been Published in the ERCS EOC, while the information is already updated on the IFRC Go-Platform. Tools are in place to support the assessment at the field level. However, the local branch has neither EOC facility nor IM staff.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>IFRC Addis cluster has the presence in the country, and is providing Support for this response, including partners coordination, technical support, strategic coordination with the Regional and global team. Currently IFRC is supporting with the DREF drafting to access emergence fund for immediate support, support in assessment, while closely monitoring the situation.</p> <p>The IFRC is supporting the ERCS with DREF MDRET030 Population Movement from Sudan ending December 2026. This DREF targets specifically displaced persons from Sudan that have fled to Tigray, Amhara and Benishangul Gumuz regions.</p>
Participating National Societies	Swiss Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and IFRC participated in a Movement Coordination meeting hosted by the ERCS 12 March 2026.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC joined the Movement coordination in the emergency briefing session; however, no operational office is currently established in Gambella. Support is being provided to the ERCS through the Restoring Family Links (RFL) services, the implementation of the Safer Access Framework as well as through ambulance running and operational subsidies to the Gambella regional branch to enhance the branch's capacity in emergency response. ICRC will consider providing food and EHI kits, depending on the outcomes of the assessment, including access and the capacity to operate. Further information is awaited from ERCS and other actors regarding the specific needs on the ground and access, which will guide the enhancement of contributions in areas where they are most required and enhance complementarity. ICRC's effort will be further aligned with the priorities and needs identified by the ICRC and other stakeholders on the South Sudanese side.



Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	The country has availed refuge to the asylum seekers in Ethiopia, in collaboration with the UNHCR. A coordination mechanism at the Woreda and Zone levels has been established, and team is deployed to conduct security assessment to approve humanitarian actors access to the areas. In the meantime, limited information has been made available by government authorities, and request for Humanitarian support has not been published.
UN or other actors	UNHCR is engaged in conducting the assessment of the security and humanitarian situation. According to OCHA, as of March 13, 2026, no aid had reached the new arrivals. Aid agencies were forced to withdraw staff from the area on March 8th for security reasons.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

- Regional stakeholders coordination with government administration at the regional, zone and Woreda levels
- The RC movement partners at country level.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The situation in Akobo Kebele, and Nuer Zone is dire. New arrivals have no shelter, and the majority are staying in make-shift structures, while others are hosted by host communities. The influx has overstretched the host community capacity due to doubled needs of shelter within the same geographical space. Currently there is no assigned settlements for the entrants, however, the UNHCR and Government are working to designate safe and accessible areas for resettlement. The rainy season usually begins in May in the Gambella region, which will compound the humanitarian situation.



Health

The displacement poses significant risk to health, due to congested settlements, limited health and WASH services within the Woreda in addition to limited medical supplies and medical service providers. The massive numbers have exceeded the surveillance capacity at the PoE, thus increasing the risk of disease importation. The region is classified as a high malaria zone, increasing the risk especially for children and pregnant women. Procurement of LLINs and vector control measures will be considered in a future Operational Update following the results of the assessment.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The available potable water sources are insufficient to meet the needs of both the host community and the newly arrived populations. The lack of adequate shelter and sanitation facilities further exposes communities to open defecation, significantly increasing the risk of disease outbreaks. The sanitation situation among displaced populations is already insufficient, with 90.9% relying on open defecation (IOM).





Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Poor living conditions, limited transportation, and scarce resources have increased protection risks for families, particularly for women, girls, and children. Inadequate transportation prevents families from carrying essential household items needed for their safety and well-being. As a result, many families are left with insufficient clothing and basic protective materials against harsh weather conditions, with women and girls facing additional vulnerabilities that require special consideration.



Migration And Displacement

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported approximately 100,000 new arrivals into Ethiopia as of 13 March 2026, with continued movements reported toward border areas, including Nasir County. While this number has been disputed, the scale and speed of the influx have overwhelmed the capacity of the existing Points of Entry (PoE), where reception facilities and basic services remain extremely limited. As a result, newly arrived families are gathering in overcrowded and poorly organized reception areas after walking for days without adequate shelter, safe water, sanitation facilities, or immediate food assistance. Many arrive exhausted and with minimal belongings after long journeys, increasing their exposure to protection risks, health threats, and harsh weather conditions. The situation underscores urgent humanitarian needs for structured reception services, emergency shelter and NFIs, safe water and sanitation, basic health services, and protection support to ensure safe, dignified, and life-saving assistance for the most vulnerable groups, particularly women, children, and the elderly.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

The detailed needs of the newly arrived population are yet determined, this DREF will support an initial needs assessment and inform the needs and gaps and identify the roles of other partners. The immediate support will be provided to the most vulnerable while assessment is conducted. The area is challenged with security issues; currently the joint humanitarian security assessment is ongoing to evaluate access and the possibility of team's deployment.

The humanitarian situation in Gambella was reaching a crisis point prior to the influx of new arrivals. UN agencies, including WFP, UNHCR, and Regional Administration have stressed the need for additional resources to meet needs, particularly in the areas of food, shelter, and health. The current funding landscape will put additional strain on organizations to meet the growing needs within the region.

Transportation access within the region is limited, with road access to all sites being of particular concern. Water transportation along the Pibor river maybe possible, however, the region also experienced flooding in the same basin in 2025.

[Assessment Report](#)

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The objective of the DREF operation is to provide immediate, life-saving humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable populations fleeing South Sudan and seeking refuge in Abaya Woreda, Gambella Region. The response will ensure dignified reception services and deliver emergency dry food rations, essential shelter and non-food items (ESNFI), emergency health care, WASH, and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) services. The operation aims to reach at least 10,000 people through a participatory approach, with Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) integrated as a cross-cutting component to promote safe, inclusive, and dignified access to services for 3 months while monitoring the situation.

Given the remoteness of the affected woredas and the current information gaps, the initial phase of the operation will prioritize the deployment of teams to conduct detailed, joint assessments in collaboration with government authorities and relevant partners, to better inform the scale and targeting of the response.



Operation strategy rationale

The current operational strategy is to conduct a needs assessment conducted by the branch, the Woreda administration, and UNHCR. Once completed, the results of detailed assessment will inform the first month Operations Update to improve interventions based on the actual needs, aligned to other actors on the ground. To ensure immediate humanitarian support, this DREF will address the live saving needs targeting the most vulnerable groups, in line with the ERCS DRM strategy, targeting 10,000 people, (2000 HH) of the affected population in the following sectors. Given the dire humanitarian situation, challenging access, and complex partner landscape, this strategy assumes the ERCS acting as a key bridging partner operating Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) for displaced households, while offering complimentary humanitarian assistance in conjunction with other agencies.

A: Establishment of Humanitarian Service Points: Deliver Dignified reception services at the PoE where the arrivals will access supportive information, PSS and counselling services, Basic FA for wounded people, and emergency nutrition support, in form of dry rations food package comprising of Glucose biscuits and water for identified vulnerable children and pregnant and lactating women. The Restoring Family Link support services will be integrated to monitor the UAM and separated families.

B: WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene): Community volunteers and asylum seekers will be oriented to lead community engagement in Hygiene and health awareness to reduce the risk of disease outbreaks. The affected population will be provided with emergency water and sanitation through provision of water storage equipment, , installation of water tanks and trucked water installation of handwashing stations as well as inclusive emergency latrines at HSPs.

C: Shelter and EHI: Full NFI kits comprising of emergency shelter materials (2 tarpaulin and nails) and Essential Household Items (blankets, sleeping mats, Net, kitchen sets) will be provided to the most vulnerable targeted 2000 HH among the new arrivals.

D: Health and Care: ERCS will deploy the BDRT, along with BFA and PFA trained volunteers at the PoE to provide emergency services, support health facility with essential medicine to meet the needs of the heightened population, targeting to meet at least 5000 people.

E: Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): will be mainstreamed throughout the operation ensuring the needs of the marginalized groups are considered.

SGBV and protection issues will be addressed through the establishment of referral pathways and use of a community complaints and feedback mechanism that is capable of identifying and addressing sensitive feedback. Staff and volunteers deployed will be oriented and sign code of conduct. Community awareness on the availability and accessibility of ERCS services will be continuously conducted to ensure a community centred response.

F: Branch response capacity: To ensure the implementation of the plan, the branch will deploy a team of staff and volunteers to support the response operation, initially using the existing staff and professional volunteers from regional branch and later deploy technical teams, to provide training and enhance Regional and Zonal branch volunteers. Detailed assessment will be conducted to inform the needs and targeting of the response. Security monitoring will be frequently conducted for safety and security of service providers.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The operation will directly target 10,000 of the most vulnerable displaced people in the Akobo woreda, Nuer Zone, Gambella Region. The initial assessment will determine the most-affected Kebeles where displaced persons have settled, as well as coordinate assistance with other partners. It is reported, the total number of displaced persons in the Akobo woreda is approximately 60,000 hosted by 88,784, the population of Akobo woreda.

Particular attention will also be made to engaging both the displaced and host communities by setting up feedback mechanisms to inform operations while promoting social cohesion. Given the heightened number of population, and stressed resources, inadequate services like water, sanitation will heighten risk of outbreaks among the total population. Therefore, another 10,000 people will be indirectly targeted through hygiene promotion and awareness, installation of handwashing stations, and water tanks basing on assessment report.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The affected population is reported to be mostly unaccompanied and separated children, pregnant and lactating women, elderly persons, women-headed households, individuals with chronic illnesses, and those with serious injuries or wounds fleeing violence in neighboring South Sudan and the identified most vulnerable community. Initial reports describe a dire humanitarian situation with most arriving with few belongings and some injured due to ongoing fighting. It is assumed that most arrivals will meet the vulnerability criteria as described, with few receiving supports from other agencies.



Total Targeted Population

Women	2,520	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	2,770	Urban	-
Men	1,830	People with disabilities (estimated)	2%
Boys (under 18)	2,880		
Total targeted population	10,000		

Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	Yes

Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.

Risk	Mitigation action
Security in the region remains precarious, with instability continuing to drive cross-border, internal displacement and limit access for humanitarian actors. Upcoming elections in Ethiopia may exacerbate tensions already present. Protracted conflict may lead to aid dependency without a durable solution for integration/return.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Conduct security assessment and continuously monitor security situation in both South Sudan and Ethiopia. * Coordinate with external partners in sharing relevant security Information. * Engage with host and affected communities to ensure access and acceptance. * Identify specific triggers within Gambella region to activate existing ERCS Election Violence Contingency Plans. * Continue to engage with government at Region and National levels to advocate for settlement solutions.
Difficulty reaching the operational sites due to poor roads and longer distances from regional capital.	ERCS Gambella Branch will work closely with Region and Zonal administration to ensure efficient sharing of logistics infrastructure (warehousing, watercraft) in areas where NS capacity is limited.
Conflict in South Sudan worsens and continues for a longer period which may result in a significant population movement	Situation will continuously be monitored with the possibility of launching an Emergency Appeal and mobilizing resources from



which exceeds the capacity of this response plan.	other sources.
Tensions between new arrivals and local population over available resources and services.	Establishment of a community engagement and accountability mechanism to ensure transparency during implementation and ongoing communication with host communities to align the response to strengthen available community services and promote social cohesion between new arrivals and host community.
Delay in procurements hampering the response	Use the prepositioned stock from other projects or deploy the emergency procurement procedures to avoid any delays and ensure timely response.
Upcoming rainy season continues to worsen humanitarian situation, while limiting transportation access via roads and river.	Through the assessment, the operation will aim to identify safe and well-drained sites for temporary shelter construction with Woreda administration. The operation will continuously monitor environmental hazards.
Epidemic/Outbreak Risk: poor access to sanitation, lack of clean water, overwhelmed surveillance systems increase risk for water-borne disease outbreaks/other epidemics.	Train volunteers on hygiene/health promotion, coordinate with partners, government on improving surveillance. Coordinate with WHO/utilization of EWARs system to monitor outbreaks.
Procurement and supply chain disruptions due to Middle East conflict. Ongoing conflict in Persian Gulf may restrict international procurements.	Local procurement and utilization of existing stocks will be prioritized wherever possible. Regional Branch will advocate for use of government fuel reserves to conduct operations.
Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:	
<p>The Nuer Zone is categorized as Red security level through IFRC security monitoring. The transportation of materials from Addis might also face roadblocks in transit due to security challenges in the neighboring regions. IFRC Security officer jointly with NS security will conduct comprehensive security assessment to ensure safety and security of all staff and volunteers and orient the staff in the security procedures.</p> <p>Ethiopian National elections are scheduled in June 2026. The National Society and Movement Partners have established contingency plans in the event of election-related violence.</p>	
Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	No

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 80,974

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people reached with shelter support.	10,000
Number of assessments completed	1



Priority Actions

Full NFI kits comprising of emergency shelter materials (2 tarpaulin, 5m rope, and 2 kg nails) and Essential Household Items (2 blankets, 2 sleeping mats, 2 LLIN nets, kitchen set) will be provided to the most vulnerable households (1 kit per household). Shelter assistance will be coordinated through the UNHCR/RRS decisions on settlement locations once identified.

Planned activities:

1. Procurement & distribution of Full NFI kits; Emergency shelter kits and household items (kitchen sets, blankets, nets, solar lamps, mattresses).
2. Transportation of NFI Kits to affected areas.



Budget: CHF 15,723

Targeted Persons: 2,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people reached with first aid services.	2,000
Number of volunteers trained in BFA	15
Number of First Aid Kits procured	30
Number of volunteers and staff trained on PFA	20
Number of Health Facilities provided with essential medicines	2

Priority Actions

ERCS will deploy the BDRT, along with BFA and PFA trained volunteers at the PoE to provide emergency services. Training additional volunteers in BFA and PFA will localize the services by training volunteers from the Woreda Branch.

Planned activities:

1. Refresher training for BFA for local volunteers.
2. Procurement of First Aid kits.
3. Provide Psychological First Aid training to volunteers and health workers, and emergency medical team members.
4. Deploy volunteers to provide BFA and PFA at the PoE for 3 months.
5. Support Health Facilities with essential medicines.



Budget: CHF 47,411

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number people reached with safe water services through water trucking .	10,000

Number of people reached through hygiene promotion and awareness activities.	10,000
Number of hand washing stations procured and installed	50
Number of volunteers trained in hygiene awareness and promotion	25
Number of households reached with jerry cans/buckets	2,000
No of HH provided with soap, 4 bars each	2,000
Number of emergency latrines installed	2

Priority Actions

During this emergency stage, ERCS will address the gap of access to safe water by installing the water tanks and extending the supply through water trucking at the PoE and temporary settlements. Water treatment will be conducted at the source using chlorine. ERCS will also support with the construction of temporary sanitation facilities, including latrines, s and install hand washing stations. Water storage equipment and Hygiene kits will be provided for the most vulnerable targeted HH.

Planned activities:

1. Procure and distribute jerry cans/buckets/hygiene kits for targeted population.
2. Procure and distribute water tanks and supply with trucked water for 2 Months.
3. Procure and distribute chlorine tablets.
4. Procure and place hand washing stations at the PoE and high traffic areas in the temporary settlements.
5. Train volunteers on hygiene promotion and awareness.
6. Hygiene promotion and awareness sessions conducted by trained volunteers.
7. Installation of emergency inclusive latrines.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 13,359

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of assessments and analysis carried out incorporating protection, gender & diversity and inclusion considerations as part of emergency operations.	1
Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection.	10,000
Number of people trained on implementing the PGI Minimum Standards	50
Number of child safeguarding risk analysis conducted	1
No if women and girls received MHM kits	1,000

Priority Actions

Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) will be aligned with the Movement Protection Framework and positioned in strategic locations to minimize inadvertent exclusion. PGI will be mainstreamed through all activities and distributions and aimed at strengthening protection for displaced persons.



Planned Activities:

1. Conduct partner mapping and establish referral pathways at the Kebele, Woreda, and Zonal levels to link people at risk, and disseminate this information to all sectors.
2. Train staff and volunteers on protection and disability mainstreaming mechanisms such as protection principles, DAPS, and codes of conduct (minimum standards).
3. Conduct child safeguarding risk analysis, setting clear action plans.
4. Procurement and distribution of MHM kits for women and girls.
5. Provide information of available services and agencies, safe referrals to migrants



Migration And Displacement

Budget: CHF 21,217

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing assistance and/or protection at border crossings.	1
Number of people accessing RFL - through phone charging and free phone calls	1,000
Number of people reached with Psychological First Aid at HSPs.	5,000
Number of people reached with proper information and at the HSPs	10,000
Number of people provided with high energy biscuits	10,000

Priority Actions

Deliver dignified reception services at the PoE where the arrivals will access supportive information, PFA services, Basic FA for wounded people, and emergency nutrition support in form of high energy biscuits and water. Restoring Family Links (RFL) support services will be integrated to monitor the unaccompanied minors (UAM) and separated families once the needs assessment is complete.

Planned activities

1. Establishment of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs).
2. Provision of Restoring Family Links services.
3. Provision of high energy biscuits and access to drinking water for immediate support.
4. Provision of Psychological First Aid/PFA services to affected population.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 6,680

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of individuals who have access to safe reporting and referral mechanisms for sexual exploitation and abuse and child safeguarding incidents.	800

Number of opportunities for communities to participate in planning and managing the programme/operation (e.g., number of community committee meetings, planning workshops, focus group discussions, town hall meetings etc).	2
Number of communications channels established to collect community feedback.	3
Number of assessments completed.	1
Number of Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) conducted	1
Number of opportunities for communities to participate in planning and managing the programme/operation (e.g., number of community committee meetings, planning workshops, focus group discussions, town hall meetings etc).	4
Percentage of people surveyed who feel the National Society's support/services meets their most important needs/provides useful support.	80
Percentage of people surveyed who report they know how to provide feedback about the organisation/programme/operation	80

Priority Actions

The operation will ensure that CEA is integrated as an enabling approach to service delivery. Care will be taken to ensure both the affected population and host community feedback is incorporated into operational decision making through multiple communications channels.

Planned activities:

1. Conduct Inception session with community leaders in host and affected communities.
2. Establish community feedback mechanism and dissemination of the existing ERCS Feedback Phone Line.
3. Conduct Detailed assessment jointly with other partners.
4. Participate in coordination meeting to align our activities to ensure no duplication.
5. Post distribution monitoring of NFIs, WASH activities.



Coordination And Partnerships

Budget: CHF 0

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of coordination meetings held with Regional/Zonal Administration and/or UNHCR.	6
Number of coordination meetings held with in-country movement partners.	2
No of stakeholders coordination meeting held by ERCS	1

Priority Actions

Given the challenges with access, insufficient resources, and complex partner landscape, the operation will heavily rely on coordination and partnership to efficiently deliver assistance. The needs assessment will identify the specific partners and existing capacity, particularly in the areas of food, shelter, WASH, and protection to effectively coordinate and complement existing support programs.



Planned activities:

1. Participate in coordination forum with UNHCR, WFP, other UN agencies and Regional and Zonal Administration.
2. The ERCS will organise periodic updates and consultative meetings for in-country Movement partners regarding the operation.
3. Facilitate the stakeholders coordination mechanism.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 14,866

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of monitoring visits conducted	1
Number of coordination forums established.	2
Number of security assessment conducted	1
Number of DREF monitoring calls	1

Priority Actions

Planned activities

1. Provide technical and human resource support to NS.
2. Conduct monitoring visits.
3. Enhance coordination of the operation with movement partners, UN agencies, and other NGOs.
4. Participate in stakeholders forums.
5. Conduct security assessment.
6. Conduct DREF monitoring call one month after launch.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 27,409

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of volunteers mobilized for response.	50
Number of volunteers insured	50
Number of visibility materials procured	50
Number of NS personnel deployed to operation.	4
Number of volunteers receiving MHPSS response	50



Priority Actions

To ensure the implementation of the plan, the branch will deploy a team of staff and volunteers to support the response operation, initially using the existing staff and professional volunteers from regional branch and later deploy technical teams, and training the local volunteers.

Planned activities

1. Conduct monitoring of the response by HQ and Branch teams.
2. Identify NS HR gaps and recruit to support operation response for effective implementation, at branch and HQ level.
3. Equip volunteers with visibility materials, including Red Cross jackets and caps.
4. Contribute to volunteers' insurance.
5. Provide MHPSS for volunteers engaged in response

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

To initiate the operation, 4 staff and 3 BDRT Professional volunteers) will be deployed to orient at least 50 local volunteers mobilized to support the response operation on site. From the regional Branch, 6 staff and 8 sectoral and supporting units' staff from HQ

- 15 volunteers for WASH at the PoE, community for 3 days per week for 2 months.

- 15 volunteers for providing services at the HSP, including PSS, BFA, food distribution and information sharing at the HSP

4 ERCS staff members, including Project coordinator, Health and WASH, field officer and driver, will to be deployed to support the operation on site,

At regional, Zonal branch, the branch head will be responsible for resource management, and coordination with stakeholders, DRM coordinator operation lead, RFL, EMS officer, Finance, Logistic and admin will contribute to the operation support.

At HQ, 4 sector technical leads, Health and Wash, PGI, CEA, and Migration will support the field team, and the support functions PMER, Finance, Logistic and HR.

The DREF will also support NS the recruitment and deployment of a full time Project Coordinator and field officer on site for the operation.

Does your volunteer team reflect the gender, age, and cultural diversity of the people you're helping? What gaps exist in your volunteer team's gender, age, or cultural diversity, and how are you addressing them to ensure inclusive and appropriate support?

The deployed volunteers will comprise of both male and female volunteers from host community and will also include the affected population.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

The National Society has a strong procurement unit at HQ and branches with clear thresholds set in the procurement manual. The locally available supplies will be procured by the NS who will manage storage, transportation to the distribution sites. For items unavailable locally the NS will request the international procurement support through IFRC or other PNS in-country.

How will this operation be monitored?

The ERCS and IFRC PMER personnel will oversee and ensure quality and accountability with lessons from past operations ensuring clear indicator definition, quality data collection, aggregation, analysis and reporting of all gathered information during the DREF implementation period. ERCS branch offices staffs and volunteers will be trained on Kobo toolbox system for real-time reporting. All reporting timelines and tools will be oriented and well communicated at all levels for compliance. Post distribution monitoring, and lesson learned workshop will be organized for future programming. Coordination meetings will be held throughout the operation to ensure harmonized monitoring and capture learnings.



Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

Internal communication will be managed through existing ERCS channels according to standard practices and policies. Movement Partners (PNS, IFRC, ICRC) will continue to meet regularly through in-country Movement Coordination meetings. Communication with partners will be established at the Regional and Zonal branch offices in the Gambella region once identified through assessment and will be supported further at the National level at HQ.

ERCS has a well-managed communications team with dedicated staff to handle any media inquiries. Any communications or media support requests to the IFRC cluster team in Addis will be directed to the Regional IFRC communications team.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRET040 - Ethiopian Red Cross Society Population Movement

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	185 365
Shelter and Basic Household Items	80 974
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	15 723
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	47 412
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	13 359
Education	0
Migration	21 217
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	6 680
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	42 276
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	14 867
National Society Strengthening	27 409
TOTAL BUDGET	227 641

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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

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IFRC Appeal Manager: Asha Mohamed, Head of Delegation , Addis Ababa CCD, asha.mohammed@ifrc.org

IFRC Project Manager: Sahal Abdi, IFRC- Coordinator Program and Operations, sahal.abdi@ifrc.org

IFRC focal point for the emergency: Sahal Abdi, IFRC- Coordinator Program and Operations, sahal.abdi@ifrc.org

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