

Ethiopia | Africa | Landslides and windstorm



Ethiopian Red Cross Society volunteers from the Sawla zonal branch working with communities in the search and rescue of people buried in the landslide disaster that hit the Gofa zone in the southern region of Ethiopia. (Photo credit: ERCS Comms)






Appeal No: MDRET036	To be assisted: 25,500 (5,100 HHs) affected by the windstorm and landslides (18%)	Appeal launched: 01/08/2024
Glide No: LS-2024-000125-ETH	DREF allocated: CHF 1,000,000	Disaster Categorisation: Orange
Operation start date: 31/07/2024	Operation end date: 30/07/2025	

IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: CHF 3.5 million
Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 6.0 million¹

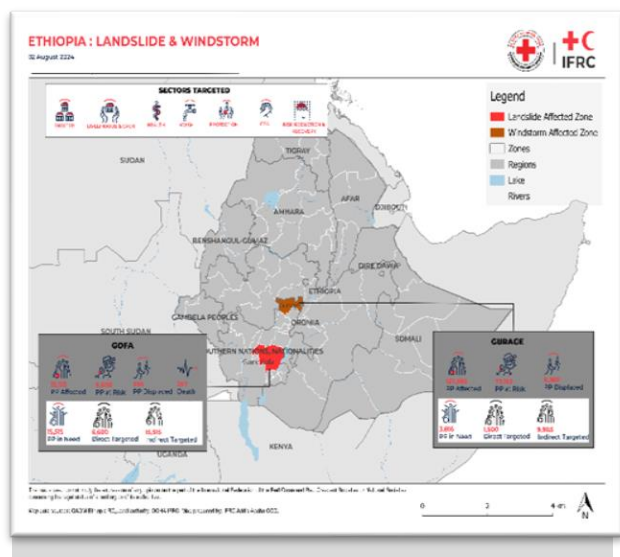
¹ The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Ethiopian Red Cross Society in response to the emergency. It includes the Ethiopian Red Cross Society's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC Secretariat (CHF 3.5 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

TIMELINE



- **June 2024:** The Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission, through cluster coordination, develops a multi-hazard contingency plan basing on the EMI KIREMT forecast, prioritising anticipated hazards such as floods, disease outbreak, landslides, and strong windstorms.
- **July 2024:** The ERCS EOC reports on the impacts of the windstorm in Central Ethiopia, in the Gurage zone, affecting more than six kebeles, leaving more than 1,200 households displaced.
- **July 2024:** The ERCS receives the assessment report of the landslide from the Gofa zone of Southern Ethiopia, which claimed the lives of more than 230 people, displacing 596 and leaving more than 15,000 at high risk.
- **July 2024:** The ERCS, as the first responder, mobilises relief materials to support the affected population, providing search and rescue, evacuation, shelter, WASH, and health (EMS and MHPSS) assistance, and requests international support.
- **August 2024:** The IFRC issues a Federation-wide Emergency Appeal of CHF 6 million to support the most vulnerable 5,100 households affected by the landslide and windstorm for 12 months.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT



Heavy rains between 21 and 22 July triggered successive landslides in the remote mountainous Gezei Gofa Woreda of the Gofa Zone Southern Ethiopian Region, causing significant loss of life and devastation. The region's topography and vulnerability to extreme weather make it prone to floods and landslides.

The landslide's toll was staggering. As of 26 July, the situation in Gezei Gofa Woreda was reported to have left 236 confirmed dead and 13 rescued making it Ethiopia's deadliest landslide. The deceased include 30 pregnant or lactating women and one child under the age of five, and it is feared that the death toll will continue to rise.

Search, rescue, and recovery efforts, supported by the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) and community volunteers, are continuing despite resource constraints. The mountainous region makes it nearly impossible for heavy machinery to reach the area. Dozens of people have spent days digging and excavating manually, searching for the missing using their bare hands, shovels, and axes. The victims include health and agriculture workers who were living near the landslide.

Emergency operations are challenging due to the rugged terrain, continuing rains, and the risk of further landslides. Additional assessments are ongoing across the region in

all high-risk areas to determine the risk magnitude based on topography and weather forecasts. The latest assessment estimates the total number of people directly affected (as of 25 July) at over 15,515 including 6,750 people in Koncho Gozji Kebele and 7,765 people in Koncho Wiza Kebele.

Local authorities reported that more than 6,000 of the most vulnerable individuals required immediate evacuation to safe spaces, though this number is expected to increase as the situation unfolds. Many of these people are at high risk of further landslides and urgently need to be relocated to safer areas. The federal government has worked closely with regional and zonal authorities to finalise plans for their evacuation to safer locations. This includes approximately 1,320 children under the age of five and 427 pregnant or lactating women.

The detailed assessments will report the magnitude of the damage to housing, social, and public infrastructure, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services/facilities. The likelihood of increased risk of disease outbreaks is high due to damage and displacements. Significant shocks to income-generating activities are strongly expected, along with prolonged displacement. ERCS assessment teams observed many women and men in need of psychological support.

In addition to the impact from the landslides, on 18 July, six kebeles in Gurage Zone, Inor Ener Meger Woreda were hit by a windstorm, and according to rapid assessments by the ERCS, over 1,200 households were directly affected with homes and farmland damaged, and property damaged or destroyed. Approximately 1,101 hectares of farmland were affected, including enset (false banana, the main food in the area), coffee plantations, chat, fruit, and vegetable crops.

In recent weeks, the southern regions have continued to experience heavy rainfall and flooding, further exacerbating the already severe humanitarian conditions.

1. Impact on accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness of goods and services.

While more than 240 lives were lost, 45% of people in two kebeles in the Gofa zone remain displaced, having fled their homes, which were identified as being at very high risk of further landslides. These displaced individuals now reside in temporary shelters across five small evacuation sites, either in small, congested rooms or sharing mass shelters, a situation that poses a high risk of protection concerns and epidemics, such as cholera, malaria, and measles. Access to essential basic needs, including food, health, sanitation, and safe water is being jeopardised. The kebele has a health post with only two staff members, inadequate essential medicines, and limited medical services, with no readily available transport for referrals. Some of the affected population in the evacuation sites are located far from the health post, making access challenging due to the ongoing rainy season and the risk of further impacts.

The government has restricted access to the affected area following a further risk assessment and has ordered the urgent evacuation of the remaining 55% of the population. The disaster has impacted the lives and livelihoods of the communities, since they largely depend on farming for their food and income. As a result, they are anticipating increased vulnerability due to the destruction of their primary sources of income.

The area's topography also hinders effective response efforts, as spaces for temporary shelter construction are limited, causing some to live in churches, schools, village offices, and small open spaces. Roads to the village have also been affected, but efforts are ongoing to restore access to the area.

The windstorm that struck seven kebeles in the central Ethiopian region has left more than 1,200 households (HHs) without food or income, after destroying more than 1,000 hectares of essential crops and displacing several families.

2. Impact on physical and mental well-being

Most residents in the Gofa zone are grappling with a deep sense of despair and uncertainty about their future. The destruction caused by the landslides has shattered their dreams of stability and security, leaving them vulnerable and without a clear path forward. This is especially true for children who lost one or both parents, elders who lost their children on whom they are dependent, and women who have become widows. Over 100 children lost one or both parents, and according to a report from a village leader, the bodies of six have not been recovered, even after search and rescue efforts concluded. This tragedy has had significant psychological effects, making it difficult for individuals to envision rebuilding their lives and communities. The loss of homes and declining living standards have exacerbated the trauma for children, many of whom have also witnessed mass deaths.

3. Risks and vulnerabilities

There is growing concern that continued heavy rainfall may trigger further landslides in hilly or mountainous areas, especially where the soil is saturated. Low-lying communities near water bodies are at risk of flooding, while urban areas may also be at risk due to overwhelmed stormwater drainage systems. Additionally, areas downstream from large reservoirs or rivers could experience flash flooding after intense rainfall. In response, the federal government, in collaboration with regional and zonal authorities, as well as humanitarian partners, has set up an Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) and is finalising an evacuation plan, which is not limited to Gofa, but covers all high-risk areas identified in the assessment.

CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

1. National Society response capacity

1.1 National Society capacity and ongoing response

Ethiopian Red Cross Society Core areas of operation 	Number of staff:	2,218
	Number of volunteers:	258,525
	Number of zonal branches	39
	Number of Woreda branches	182
	Kebele Red Cross Committees	5,580
	Trained NDRT/BDRT	16/229

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) has an active Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) that coordinates emergencies throughout the country, providing early warning and media monitoring. Through its EOC, the ERCS received alerts of windstorms and landslides and responded immediately by mobilising search and rescue teams together with relief items.

ERCS capacity in the affected regions

	Zones	Woreda	Staff	BDRT	Volunteers	Vehicles	Ambulances
South region	Gofa zone	11 (4 Twon Admin.)	1 Focal point	0	50	0	7 (5 unfunctional)
Central region	Gurage zone	24	52	6	1102	2	5

ERCS ongoing emergency response activities are as follows:

- The ERCS was among the first responders to arrive on the scene. From the zonal branch, four staff and 54 volunteers joined the search and rescue team, evacuation, and rapid assessment with two ambulances, three logistics vehicles, and relief items in the Gofa zone, while four staff and 30 volunteers joined the rapid assessment and distribution of food in the Gurage zone.
- The ERCS dispatched and distributed relief materials, including emergency food, WASH items, emergency shelters, and essential household items from their pre-positioned stocks (500 emergency shelter sets, 1,000 blankets, 1,000 jerrycans (10 litres), 2,500 bars of soap (250 grams), 1,000 sleeping mats, 500 tarpaulins, and 500 kitchens sets). Biscuits and supplementary food were provided to 1,567 children under five years of age.

Table 3 – ERCS HQ and Branches mobilised relief materials

Sector	ITEM/supplies	ERCS HQ	Gofa zone (Wolita & Gamo)	Sidama Branch	Gurage
Shelter and basic HH items	Blankets	1,000	127	100	
jerry cans	Sleeping mats	1,000	30		
bars of soap	Tarpaulins	500	85		
sleeping mats	Kitchen sets		500	2	
tarpaulins	Cups/cooking pots/ plates/jugs		100 cups	40 pots, 200 plates, 200 jugs, 30 ladles	
WASH	Jerrycans	1,000	50	250	
	Bars of soap	2,500	7 cartons		
	Buckets		20		
Food security and livelihoods	Food (wheat flour)		6,000kg		5,000kg
Buckets	Biscuits			100 cartons	
Health	Ambulance/First aid kits		2		1
Cups/cooking pots/ plates, jugs	Plastic sheets (for burials)		24		

- ERCS National Headquarters (NHQ) deployed personnel and assets to supplement branch capacity in conducting a detailed assessment.
- The ERCS participates in humanitarian coordination co-chaired by the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) and OCHA at the national, regional, and zonal levels. The ERCS woreda focal person works with the incident command point (ICP), which is coordinated from Wolita woreda, overseeing all activities and reporting daily to the ECC.
- Through the zonal emergency coordination, the ERCS was requested by the government to provide technical support in search and rescue, evacuation, shelter, WASH, and health assistance (EMS and MHPSS), together with the distribution of emergency food for people evacuated to newly allocated temporary camps.
- In addition to this response, the ERCS has an active DREF covering four woreda in the East and West Guji zones, with an allocation of CHF 499,838 to provide immediate support to 62,775 of the most vulnerable people ending 30 September 2024. The ERCS also has two active appeals, the Hunger Crisis appeal that covers six regions affected by the drought and conflicts, (Oromia, Amhara, Somali, SNNP, Tigray, and Afar), and the Sudan Population Movement appeal that was launched to support refugees and returnees to Ethiopia due to the ongoing conflict in Sudan, hosted in two regions, Amhara (Gonder zone) and Benishangul Gumuz (Asosa zone). The activities under all these operations are being closely coordinated to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication.

1.2 Capacity and response at the national level

The government has established an Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) at the Zonal level in Sawla town, and an incident command point at Geza woreda, to coordinate the humanitarian response. Senior EDRMC officials were deployed to the area, including the Commissioner of the EDRMC, who is providing leadership in close collaboration with partners, with OCHA co-chairing the efforts. United Nations agencies and partners have deployed technical teams to support the ECC. The zonal level ECC is coordinating all support provided by humanitarian actors to ensure effective distribution to the targeted population. The National Emergency Coordination Centre (NECC) will continue to be the coordination body at the Addis Ababa level.

The regional DRMC has identified five temporary sites for the evacuation of 6,600 people at risk. The zonal administration office has provided emergency shelter and household items to 130 people, and supplementary food for 850 affected people. The zonal and woreda governments are also working to allocate permanent land for relocation of the affected population. The government has designated one of the stores in Wolita, the woreda town, for storing relief materials and allocated an area in Kencho Geza kebele for establishing a temporary warehouse, where WFP has erected a tent for storage. The Federal EDRMC, UNICEF, IOM, WHO, and others are dispatching or promising to send various forms of humanitarian assistance and professional teams (food, emergency shelter/household items, nutrition, WASH, trauma, and emergency health kits). OCHA and the EDRMC are co-chairing the emergency coordination unit established in Gofa zone.

2. International capacity and response

2.1 Red Cross Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

IFRC membership

The IFRC has a Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in Ethiopia, which also covers Djibouti, and is supported by the Africa Regional Office in Nairobi. The delegation is staffed by international and national experts in programmes and operations, and quality and accountability management. The IFRC cluster supports the ERCS in operational implementation, reporting, and accountability, in addition to strategic coordination with in-country Participating National Societies (PNSs), the ICRC, and external actors, and actively engages in humanitarian diplomacy and resource mobilisation to support the response. The IFRC Africa Regional Office in Nairobi is a backstop multi-technical hub to support the capacity of cluster operations while strengthening coordination and accountability services, including finance, PMER, risk management, communications, and resource mobilisation.

Through its already established Movement Operational Coordination (MOC) platform, the IFRC has been providing information on the current situation, coordinating the flow of information, and mobilising resources. It has deployed two staff members to support the ERCS's resource mobilisation and coordination efforts to reach people in need of humanitarian assistance and has initiated coordination with the national PNS for humanitarian assistance in the disaster-affected areas in the Gofa zone in the southern region and the Gurage zone in the central region.

Participating National Societies with an in-country presence include the Austrian, Danish, Finnish, German, Italian, the Netherlands, Norwegian, and Swiss Red Cross Societies. In addition, others, such as the British and Canadian Red Cross Societies, are remote partners. PNSs are an integral part of the emergence response in Ethiopia and have jointly developed the Multi-hazard Contingency Plan for the 2024 Kermet forecast aligning with the government's MultiHazard Contingency plan (MCP) and are mobilising resources to contribute to the windstorm and landslide crisis, either bilaterally or multilaterally as detailed under the Federation-wide approach.

PNS in Ethiopia supporting ERCS

NS name	Climate and environment	Disaster and crisis	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Value, power and inclusion	Enabling functions
Host NS- ERCS	o	o	o	o	o	o
IFRC secretariat	o	o	o	o	o	o
Austria RC	o	o	o	o	o	o
Canadian RC		o	o			o
Danish RC		o	o	o		
Finish RC		o	o		o	o
German RC		o	o		o	o
Italian RC		o	o	o		o
Netherland RC		o	o	o	o	o
Norwegian RC			o			o

PNSs support different operational areas across the country in priority areas of need, interest, and expertise. Of note are the disaster preparedness efforts, including the capacity building of response teams and the prepositioning of stocks that are in place, made possible by donors such as DG ECHO.

ICRC

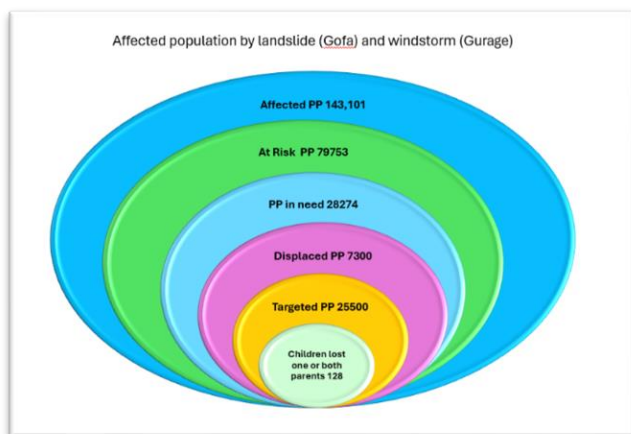
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation in Addis Ababa and four sub-delegations in Gondar, Jigjiga, Mekelle, and Nekemte, providing services to communities affected by conflict through multiple interventions. In addition to its specific operations, the ICRC supports the ERCS in different regions of the country through its annual Cooperation Programme and restoring family links. The ICRC works closely with Movement partners, offering support in security scanning but no direct support to this response.

2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholder capacity and response

International humanitarian stakeholders are actively participating in the emergency response. UNOCHA is co-chairing the Emergency Coordination Centre established in the Gofa zone alongside the EDRMC. An interagency assessment was undertaken jointly with the government, facilitated by WFP, UNDSS, UNFPA, OCHA, WHO, IOM, and UNICEF, to evaluate the landslide situation, assess the impact of the incident, including the displacement of individuals and damage to livelihoods, and provide an overview of the response, focusing on further at-risk areas and the emergency evacuation of vulnerable populations.

WHO, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, has supported the zone with essential medical supplies and has established four health clinics to ensure access for IDPs. UNICEF is currently providing support through WASH household items, including laundry soap, jerrycans, water purification tablets, Bishangari sachets, water storage tanks, and plastic sheets. It has also conducted nutrition screening to more than 1,200 children under five and 340 pregnant and lactating women. Save the Children has supported capacity building for healthcare workers on integrated case management, surveillance, and infection prevention and control. The African CDC has deployed a team of health professionals to support surveillance, case management, and epidemiology. IOM has delivered emergency kits and plans to provide additional jerrycans and water purification tablets. World Vision has donated 200 insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) and is supporting nutrition screening.

3. Gaps in the response



There is an urgent humanitarian need for the people affected by the impacts of the ongoing Kiremt rainfalls, as identified in the government's multi-hazard contingency plan. In the Gofa zone, local authorities report that more than 15,000 people have been affected, including those displaced and those living in at-risk areas requiring urgent evacuation. In the central region, more than 1,200 HHs have been impacted by windstorms, affecting their livelihoods.

The forecast predicts continued heavy rainfall through September, which may trigger further landslides in hilly or mountainous areas, especially where the soil is saturated. Low-lying communities

near water bodies are at risk of flooding, while urban areas may also be at risk due to overwhelmed stormwater drainage systems. Additionally, areas downstream from large reservoirs or rivers could experience flash flooding after intense rainfall. In response to these ongoing impacts, the assessment has identified the following immediate needs and gaps:

Priority area	Needs
Shelter and household items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency shelter kits. Standard shelter household items (bedding, cooking, solar torches and lamps, mattresses, mosquito nets, tents, blankets). Personal protective equipment (e.g. umbrellas, gumboots), clothes and shoes, and the restoration of latrines. Recovery – support the construction of houses with latrines in the newly allocated sites.
Health and care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental health and psychosocial services, both community and facility-based, including child friendly spaces. Health education and awareness to prevent the eruption of diseases. EMS, ambulance and basic first aid. Provision of essential drugs/supplies and services. Search and rescue, safe and dignified burials.
WASH	<p><i>Households needs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard hygiene kits (hand wash, bar soap, powder soap, and sanitary pads). Water storage facilities (buckets, jerrycans, and tanks) and water treatment chemicals. <p><i>Public needs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water tanks at the camps. Improved public toilets at the evacuation camps with hand washing. Extension of water lines to the camps. Water quality testing in water sources such as boreholes. Hygiene promotion in the camps and the community at large.
Food and nutrition, livelihoods, and agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency food support including maize/wheat flour, beans, sugar, and cooking oil. Supply of agricultural inputs including short-term maturity seeds. Support the families of orphans, widows, and elders with small ruminants for livelihood support. Skills training and startup kits for youth and women.
Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgent need for PGI and child protection services at IDP sites.
National Society strengthening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ERCS branch in the disaster affected area has low capacity in terms of staffing, volunteer training, logistics support, office space, and supplies. Visibility materials are a key need.
Disaster risk reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement and capacity building on further disaster risk reduction activities through eVCA, safe shelter awareness, and epidemic control measures. Strengthening the National Society response capacity in terms of human resources, skills, equipment, and logistics at the national and branch levels.

Needs analysis²

Shelter and essential household items. Approximately 596 households were forced to leave their homes in two kebeles: Kencho Sacha Godzi and Kencho Woyza Cafa. Eighty-eight households had their shelters destroyed by the landslide, while an additional 357 households were displaced due to the ongoing instability caused by the natural hazard. The ERCS has distributed jerrycans, buckets, water drinking cups, laundry soap, and fluid soap, while the IOM plans to support additional jerrycans and water purification tablets. UNICEF is currently providing support through WASH household items, including laundry soap, jerrycans, water purification tablets, Bishangari sachets, water storage tanks, and plastic sheets. In terms of logistics, local authorities have highlighted a critical shortage of storage facilities for both food and household items at the zonal, woreda, and affected kebele levels, and are requesting that partners help establish a Mobile Storage Facility. Specifically, the EDRMC and humanitarian partners are seeking a storage capacity of 1,000-2,000 metric tons in the woreda capital and 300-500 metric tons in affected kebeles. Immediate needs include emergency shelter kits and shelter household items for those whose homes were destroyed and those displaced due to ongoing landslide-related tensions.

Health and care. The traumatic events have posed a significant health risk to the community. There is a critical need for mental and psychosocial support for those with severe anxiety and stress, especially for children who have lost one or both parents, and families that did not recover the bodies of their relatives (six people were not rescued). The temporary shelter puts women and girls at heightened risks of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Basic sanitation and safe water coverage are inadequate, thus increasing the risk of infectious diseases such as cholera, malaria, and measles. Access to safe and adequate water supply should be prioritised, in addition to essential health services which remain inadequate, with a shortage of tents to conduct mobile clinics, emergency medical teams, basic WASH facilities, and infection prevention and control mechanisms. Vaccination, safe and adequate water supply as well as the distribution of ITN nets, along with environmental management, should be prioritised. To effectively support the community, there is a critical need for medical supplies, psychosocial support, nutrition assistance, emergency medical services for referrals, and improved coordination among response teams.

WASH. Field assessments and coordination reports indicate severe WASH needs in the targeted communities. Water supplies have been disrupted, and access to toilets has been compromised, increasing the risk of disease transmission. The displacement and loss of livelihood income has also led to a shortage of essential hygiene items. In areas affected by the landslides, water sources have been disrupted, and overcrowded evacuation sites lack adequate WASH facilities to meet the needs of the entire population, with less or no consideration for people with special needs. There is an urgent need for WASH household items for displaced households, including water treatment chemicals. The rehabilitation of damaged water systems and the expansion of the water supply infrastructure are crucial. Additionally, constructing emergency latrines with handwashing facilities, distributing hygiene kits, and raising awareness on proper toilet use and handwashing are essential. This includes disseminating key hygiene and sanitation messages and conducting environmental and sanitation campaigns to the affected communities.

Food, nutrition, livelihoods, and agriculture. The assessment has identified an immediate need for emergency food assistance for 6,600 people evacuated from high-risk areas. Currently, families in Gofa are receiving fresh meals provided by the Youth Alliance from Geze Gofa, the woreda capital town.

² [IFRC and ERCS Landslide Gap/Need assessment report August-2024.](#)

This support is temporary and does not address the needs of specialised groups. With the government's directive to evacuate the entire community, the number of people in need is expected to rise to at least 15,000. The Food Cluster has confirmed that there is enough food supply for the next two months for 14,000 people donated by the EDRMC, WFP, and other generous contributors. However, it is crucial to secure additional resources—either in cash or in-kind donations—to ensure that families can meet their basic food needs for at least nine months, until they can relocate to designated shelters and begin farming in newly allocated areas. The displaced households in the Gurage zone have yet to receive food support, with only 5,000kg issued by the ERCS.

In addition to food assistance, there is an urgent need for livelihood support, particularly for displaced households that have lost their possessions in the landslide, as well as for youth and children who have lost their parents, and elders who have lost their primary caregivers. Given that the community relies on pastoral farming, the integration of small ruminants and farm inputs will be essential to accelerating the recovery process.

Protection. The displacement has forced many people into camps, raising significant protection concerns, particularly for women and children who are at heightened risk of SGBV. The prevailing sociocultural norms often prevent women from speaking out, further marginalising them from decision-making processes and increasing the risk of discrimination. The services provided at evacuation sites are extremely limited, with little to no privacy, which compromises the dignity of women and girls, especially in meeting their specific needs. Children who have lost one or both parents need specialised care and close monitoring within the foster families with whom they are placed. It is vital to strengthen child protection mechanisms and increase community awareness. The lack of dedicated spaces in emergency shelters for children to play and interact underscores the urgent need for integration activities to support their mental well-being. Additionally, all evacuation and relocation plans must address the specific needs of persons with disabilities.

Education. The displacement and impact of the disaster took place when schools were closed; however, the situation now threatens children's education as schools are being used as shelters. Children have lost all their scholastic materials, household purchasing power has been significantly affected, and the mental distress experienced by the children further compounds the problem. Among the youth, eight university students lost one or both parents and have reported needing support. There is an urgent need to consider the children's educational needs when planning the response.

Disaster risk reduction. According to the latest assessment from local authorities, continued heavy rainfall may trigger further landslides in hilly or mountainous areas, especially where the soil is saturated. The government has ordered the relocation of more than 15,000 people from the affected areas, including evacuees living in temporary camps. Efforts are underway to identify a new relocation area, and the government has requested support from partners to ensure relocation by mid-September. However, community knowledge and capacity to respond to emergencies remains low, and the capacity of the government and partners to respond is also limited. There is a need to improve both community and organisational capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters, including the development of community disaster risk reduction activities, prepositioning of stocks, skill development, and providing proper equipment for search and rescue.

OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

- **Seasonal outlook:** The forecast indicates continued rainfall through the end of September. The affected areas and nearby regions are experiencing excessive rains, which could lead to further disasters and possible damage to infrastructure. Additionally, the prolonged and compounded

nature of the disaster, coupled with underfunded humanitarian response plans, may exacerbate humanitarian needs beyond the already stretched response capacity.

- **Logistics and warehousing:** The regional DRMC and ECC in the affected area have identified a critical shortage of warehouse space for storing essential household items. There is an urgent need for additional warehouse capacity and better coordination among partners as more supplies are moved to the affected area, this also highlights the ERCS's capacity in the affected area, where it currently has no office or warehouse for storing relief materials.
- **Branch capacity:** The zonal branch is new and lacks a permanent office. It has a limited number of staff to engage in response implementation and participate in ECC coordination platforms. There is a shortage of vehicles to facilitate the response; only one ambulance is available, with an additional ambulance and service vehicle sent from the regional office. Trucks from headquarters delivered essential household items and then returned. The branch has volunteers who have yet to receive intensive training on basic response guidelines and lacks visibility materials. Relevant support is being provided by the regional office located 160km away.
- **Humanitarian access.** Humanitarian access in Ethiopia is not guaranteed due to the security situation in the country. While the southern and central regions have been assessed as relatively secure, in yellow, the route from Addis passes through other regions and is identified in red, which may hinder the delivery of essential services and supplies.

FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

The Emergency Appeal is part of a **Federation-wide approach**, based on the response priorities of the Operating National Society and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The approach, reflected in this Operational Strategy, will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and will assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the IFRC network in the country to maximise the collective humanitarian impact.

The Federation-wide funding requirement for this Emergency Appeal encompasses all support and funding directed to the Operating National Society in response to the emergency. This includes the domestic fundraising efforts of the Operating National Society, the fundraising initiatives of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the funding request from the IFRC Secretariat. The IFRC and ERCS are currently developing a resource mobilisation plan and a communications strategy to raise awareness about the ongoing emergencies, including the current appeal for the landslide and windstorm, the Kermet forecast multi-hazard contingency plan, and the ongoing cholera response efforts.

Eight PNSs are currently operating in Ethiopia, supporting the National Society in preparedness, response, and development programmes. These in-country PNSs were actively involved in developing this Operational Strategy and are using this plan to determine the type and level of support they will provide to the Emergency Appeal in alignment with the response operations. The proposed support from the PNSs will be both technical and financial, through bilateral or multilateral contributions. Special attention will be given to areas where partners have ongoing programmes to ensure alignment and leverage existing capacities. Additionally, special consideration will be given to areas where disasters have been reported through the EOC.

A resource mobilisation coordination mechanism has been activated among all partners and has already led to some contributions to the Emergency Appeal. This includes bilateral contributions of

15,000 euros from the Netherlands Red Cross and 280,000 euros from the German Red Cross. Multilaterally, the Emergency Appeal has also received confirmation of funds from the Finish Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, the Korean government (through the Korean Embassy in Addis Ababa), as well as from DG ECHO through an approved replenishment of 150,000 Swiss francs to the DREF loan. Resource mobilisation efforts are ongoing and the ERCS is liaising with other non-Movement donors with existing engagements for further contributions.

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Vision

Through this Emergency Appeal, the IFRC aims to support the ERCS in responding to the impacts of recent climate shocks, including landslides and windstorms, which have severely affected communities in the southern and central regions of Ethiopia.

The Emergency Appeal combines emergency response, recovery, and resilience building for future disasters. The operation will provide humanitarian support through three approaches:

- Search and rescue (evacuation)
- Emergency response
- Recovery and resilience building-resettlement

Proposed Strategy

The operation has an integrated assistance approach that merges immediate humanitarian assistance, recovery, and resilience building initiatives to support communities and promote sustainability and continuity. During the emergency phase, families will receive emergency shelter, food, water, sanitation, hygiene, and emergency health services, including ambulance, basic first aid (BFA), and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), while managing associated risks. In the transition phase, the ERCS will focus on transitional shelters, rehabilitating water sources, community disaster risk reduction plans, and strengthening livelihoods, all while adhering to protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) standards throughout the operation.

The approach begins by replenishing the costs incurred by the ERCS branch during almost seven days of search and rescue operations, which involved ERCS staff, volunteers, communities, and other humanitarian actors in both the central and southern regions affected by disasters. In the Gofa zone of the southern region, the ERCS branch deployed four staff members and 50 volunteers to assist with search and rescue efforts, providing first aid and emergency medical services, including the deployment of two ambulances. After a tremendous effort, 13 people were rescued, and 236 bodies were recovered, with families receiving support for dignified burials. More than 6,600 people were evacuated from high-risk areas and relocated to temporary camps spread across five locations within the same kebele. ERCS volunteers, in collaboration with government authorities, assisted in constructing temporary shelters and relocating the most vulnerable families to designated camps.

In Central Ethiopia, 20 volunteers and three staff members joined the regional Disaster Risk Management Unit to conduct rapid assessments in six kebeles in the Gurage zone impacted by

windstorms and provided emergency food to affected households. Additionally, the ERCS deployed a team of four individuals from headquarters to support the region in conducting rapid assessments.

The operation will support displaced families by strengthening the provided emergency shelters and with essential household items. In the evacuation site of the Gofa zone, Southern region, the assessment team observed that the shelters constructed during the emergency were weak, leaking, and had water flowing through them. These displaced families will be provided with additional shelter materials to reinforce their houses and create divisions for privacy, including two tarpaulins and two kilogrammes of nails per household. The ERCS will conduct safer shelter construction training for volunteers and community members, who will then work with the communities to renovate and strengthen the temporary shelters ensuring they are sufficient for use with no further harm. The most vulnerable households will be provided with shelter kits to support the management of the shelters, comprising shovels, hoes, spades, tape measure, and hammers. The people affected in the Gurage and Gofa zones will also be provided with household items including kitchen sets, blankets, nets, solar lamps, and mattresses to meet basic living standards in addition to the emergency relief materials, which were issued earlier, to help address gaps and replenish the ERCS stock used during the emergency.

Following the continuous assessment, the government has identified the landslide affected zone to be at high risk of further disasters and will relocate more than 15,000 people to a newly identified area. Through this appeal, in the recovery phase, the ERCS will complement government efforts by supporting the most vulnerable families, who were initially evacuated to temporary camps, to relocate to newly identified permanent locations. This support will include assistance for constructing transitional houses through conditional cash grants, where households will receive cash in instalments at various stages of construction, based on criteria set through community engagement, ensuring compliance with local building codes and regulations. The National Society has recently conducted shelter market assessment which will guide the response operation.

The ERCS will work closely with the existing Ethiopia Shelter Cluster led by the IOM³ to ensure a coordinated shelter response between existing shelter actors jointly with the authorities. The IFRC is deploying a Roving Shelter Cluster Coordinator surge profile to support the coordination of the landslide emergency response. With this support, the ERCS will enhance its coordination capacity with other shelter actors and strengthen its shelter and settlements response. The IFRC Global Shelter Cluster support team will also provide technical support to ensure that the shelter and settlement sector is well-coordinated and that a comprehensive, quality, coherent, and consistent response is implemented.

This operation aims to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable families by providing emergency food assistance for three months. Each month, a standard food package for a family of six—consisting of 75kg of wheat or maize flour, 7.5kg of beans, five litres of edible oil, and 1kg of salt—will be distributed, in line with the food cluster's approved guidelines. Children under five will be provided with supplementary food comprising corn soya blend (CSB) and oil to nourish their health.

As families transition to resettlement, the operation will work to enhance economic stability and improve access to essential services through three rounds of **multi-purpose cash assistance**.

³ In Ethiopia, the Shelter Cluster, led by the IOM, has been activated due to the internal conflict. Since the July 2024 landslides, the Ethiopian Shelter Cluster team has requested additional support from the IFRC on Shelter Cluster coordination.

Activities will include cash feasibility and market assessments, community engagement, and mobilisation, such as inception workshops, orientation sessions for community committees, and cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and livelihood training for volunteers.

The operation will also focus on accelerating livelihood restoration by boosting agricultural productivity and enhancing livestock management. This will be achieved by providing farm inputs and small ruminants, with the assistance of agricultural experts who will oversee the selection and purchase of healthy, productive livestock, high-yield crop seeds, and appropriate farm tools. Animal health services, including treatment and vaccination, will be offered in collaboration with government veterinary technicians.

Additionally, the ERCS will engage the affected communities, particularly youth and women, in skill training programmes. These programmes will include basic vocational training for skills development. After completing the training, participants will be supported in joining existing formal support groups, such as Village Savings and Loans (VSLA) groups and pursuing income-generating activities (IGAs) of their choice.

The operation will focus on **enhancing healthcare services in emergencies** based on the assessments conducted in the affected areas. The ERCS response aims to strengthen emergency medical services by ensuring continuous ambulance services for referral cases and providing effective community-based first aid, particularly for the displaced population. Given the traumatic events experienced by communities in the affected areas, the ERCS will collaborate with technical teams from the health bureau and other partners to strengthen MHPSS.

An **MHPSS desk will be established** to provide information and access to services for those in need. Additionally, awareness campaigns will be conducted to educate communities on the signs and symptoms of mental health challenges. Community volunteers will receive training to help create demand for MHPSS services and support community events organised with the assistance of technical health staff. The operation will also support healthcare workers in delivering specialised MHPSS outreach services in affected villages to address critical needs, and child-friendly spaces will be established to ensure the health and safety of affected children. The operation will use the Multi-sectoral MHPSS Needs and Resources Assessments Toolkit from IASC (<https://www.mhpssmsp.org/en/assessment/assessment-tools>) and contribute to improve MHPSS services during implementation.

Additionally, community volunteers will be trained in integrated **epidemic control** to equip them in conducting public health and hygiene awareness campaigns aimed at preventing and controlling outbreaks, including vector-borne diseases, such as malaria, dengue, and yellow fever. The operation will also provide long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets (LLINs) to all high-risk populations.

This operation will support the affected population during both the **emergency and recovery phases with WASH** interventions to ensure access to safe water, hygiene, and sanitation services. The approach will address needs at both the household level and within public services. During the emergency phase, the ERCS will distribute water storage equipment to displaced households, including 20 litre jerrycans, 20 litre buckets, and wash basins. Targeted communities will also receive monthly hygiene supplies, consisting of a standard package for each household that includes body soap, body oil, laundry soap, toothpaste, and toothbrush to promote best hygienic practices among families.

In the affected areas, where over 140,000 people reside, the operation will directly target 25,500 people (5,100 households) with WASH interventions to improve access to safe water, sanitation, and

hygiene practices. During the emergency phase, safe water will be provided by distributing household water treatment products and storage equipment, orientation on water treatment chemicals, and rehabilitating water supplies. The ERCS will also assist in building or improving emergency toilets and handwashing facilities in camps, in consultation with various stakeholders, to meet the needs of vulnerable groups. Environmental sanitation needs will be addressed through community mobilisation and the provision of materials for maintaining family and public latrines. Hygiene promotion will be conducted at the household and community levels by trained Red Cross volunteers.

During the recovery phase, in the newly established living areas, the ERCS will support the affected communities by constructing boreholes, based on water assessments, to ensure sustained access to safe water. Additionally, toilets will be built at both the household and institutional levels to further improve sanitation.

PGI will be mainstreamed throughout the operation as it ensures gender equality, inclusiveness, and the well-being of adolescents, women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities through comprehensive support systems and capacity. The operation ensures the safe and equitable provision of basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors. Notable activities under the PGI component will include facilitating referral pathways at the kebele, woreda, and zonal levels to link people at risk with available services, as well as disseminating information to all sectors. Training will be provided to staff and volunteers on PGI in emergencies, and a community child protection committee will be established for case management related to child protection concerns, while capacity training for CP experts, volunteers, and community members on CP case management and MHPSS will also be conducted. Most importantly, significant time will be invested on the ground to raise awareness within the affected community on child rights, negative coping mechanisms, GBV, and referral pathways through community meetings and printed materials.

In every ERCS operation, **CEA** is a key component to be mainstreamed in every sector. This emergency operation is expected to enhance accountability and community satisfaction through effective CEA practices and information dissemination. The major activities identified under this category include: an inception session to ensure communities and stakeholders are aware of the project's objectives, identifying and setting up the feedback mechanism, deploying a focal person to manage complaints and feedback, distributing CEA materials, providing refresher training for staff and volunteers, conducting post-distribution monitoring surveys, and holding review meetings with relevant stakeholders. The National Society's CEA capacity at both the branch and HQ levels will also be strengthened to ensure community concerns are addressed and feedback informs programme decision-making.

The operation seeks a long-term **risk reduction, climate adaptation, and recovery strategy** by applying an improved community resilience and response capacity, enhanced search and rescue capabilities, and risk mitigation planning. The operation will introduce activities such as vulnerability and capacity assessments, which will guide how to effectively reduce climate risks and improve community resilience, while also highlighting the needs of affected communities across multiple sectors. Moreover, the operation is dedicated to mobilising tree planting campaigns in collaboration with government offices on the newly established living sites, while also supporting improvements to existing early warning mechanisms to provide timely information to communities, allowing them to take protective actions before disasters strike.

Essentially, the operation will strive to strengthen the National Society's search and rescue capacity through rigorous training by engaging staff and volunteers, it will also support the prepositioning of

search and rescue equipment in the affected areas. Through this operational plan, the ERCS will engage relevant government and development partners to prioritise longer-term resilience activities within existing programmes. This emergency operations strategy is aligned with the Ethiopian government's policies and strategies to address climate change, such as the Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) and Climate Resilient Strategy, which highlights options for building resilience in agriculture, forestry, livelihood protection, and adaptation activities.

The Operational Strategy takes into account **the response capacity of the National Society** by carrying out a range of activities, including assigning relevant personnel at the branch level, equipping branches with IT equipment and data collection tools, providing salary support and contributions for key project personnel, and offering staff training on topics such as monitoring and evaluation, financial management, and supporting the communications unit to document and publish operation activities. Additionally, the strategy covers volunteer insurance and visibility costs.

For successful implementation of the operation, the ERCS will coordinate with the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) in the planning and implementation of emergency response actions and is a member of the National Operations Centre. Through its regional and zonal branches, the ERCS works with the federal government in delivering humanitarian services.

Anticipated climate-related risks and adjustments in the operation

According to the Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (EMI), summer rainfall is expected to be heavy until the end of September. Based on this forecast, it is expected that flooding in the target areas will have a devastating impact on infrastructure such as roads, bridges, water points, and farmlands. As a result, there will be a high risk of accessibility issues in these areas, and due to polluted water points, a cholera outbreak is inevitable, and more food shortages are expected as many of small farmers lose their croplands. In the short-term, this operation will provide temporary shelters in accessible areas, provide multi-purpose cash that can be utilised for the purchase of food items, and prioritise the provision of clean water and hygiene and sanitation awareness activities to prevent a cholera outbreak. In the long-term, however, the ERCS will work with the government and other partners to support a lasting recovery through income-generating activities, the construction of durable shelters, and the rehabilitation of water points; beyond this, the operation aims to promote climate-smart conservation practices that will mitigate the recurrent landslide hazards in the area.

The ERCS, in partnership with IFRC, will also liaise with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and local actors to establish early action protocols for flooding, landslides, and windstorms. These protocols will ensure continuous monitoring and early warning mechanisms, strengthen readiness and risk reduction efforts, and support contingency planning processes. Climate-smart and environmentally sustainable activities will also be prioritised, with efforts made to raise awareness and support initiatives that reduce future climate risks and allow communities to adapt to existing climate change, in line with the current ERCS Strategic Plan 2020-2025, the IFRC Pan-African Tree Planting and Care Initiative 2021-2030, and the global IFRC concept of Green Response.

Targeting









1. People to be assisted

This appeal will target 25,500 of the most vulnerable people (5,100 households) affected by the windstorms and landslides in the Kencho Gozdi and Koncho Wiza kebeles in the Geze Gofa Woreda, Southern region, and in Inor Ener Meger Woreda in the Central Ethiopian region's Gurage zone, respectively, with lifesaving, emergency response, and early recovery activities.

The strategy of the ERCS is to provide humanitarian assistance to 25,500 people (18% of those affected) of the affected population and meet the recovery needs of 8,100 people (6%) of the affected population with emergency and transitional shelters, livelihood and basic needs (including CVA), health and care, WASH while mainstreaming PGI and CEA, and forecasting for further disaster risk reduction.

ERCS targeting criteria will consider vulnerable households who have lost their homes and access to livelihoods, including children who lost one or both parents, women-headed households, elderly-headed households, displaced families, and those struggling to meet their basic needs. Priority will be given to children who lost their guardians in the landslide, widows, pregnant and lactating mothers, and people with disabilities. These vulnerable groups are at greater risk and need immediate support and assistance.

POPULATION TARGETING

SECTOR		Shelter, Housing and Settlements 		Livelihoods and MPCT 		Health & Care 		Water, Sanitation and Hygiene 	
		South reg- Landslide	Central reg - windstorm	South reg- Landslide	Central reg - windstorm	South reg- Landslide	Central reg - windstorm	South reg- Landslide	Central reg - windstorm
Emergency phase	M	1920	720	1920	720	7447	4793	7447	4793
	F	2080	780	2080	780	8068	5192	8068	5192
Total		4000	1500	4000	1500	15515	9985	15515	9985
Recovery / transition phase	M	960	336	960	336	4468	2876	5958	3834
	F	1040	364	1040	364	4841	3115	6454	4154
Total		2000	700	2000	700	9309	5991	12412	7988
			PGI		CEA		DRR		NSD


2. Considerations for protection, gender, and inclusion and community engagement and accountability


During emergencies, women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities are the most affected and are exposed to potential protection risks, including SGBV, trafficking, sexual exploitation, and abuse. Acknowledging that women, girls, men, and boys of diverse ages, disabilities, and backgrounds have different needs, risks, and coping strategies, the ERCS will mainstream PGI throughout the response to ensure communities' dignity, access, participation, and safety, with specific attention given to these vulnerable groups.

Response teams will be comprised of both male and female staff and volunteers, and the operation will promote and encourage the participation of men and women of different age groups and diverse backgrounds through orientation and consultation. During the initial and in-depth needs assessments, specific questions to capture data and information on PGI needs will be incorporated into the assessment tools, and sex, age, and disability-disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analysed to inform the emergency response. Continuous dialogue among the different stakeholders will be maintained to ensure that programmes mainstream the dignity, access, participation, and safety (DAPS) approach, relevant to the needs and priorities of humanitarian imperatives on the ground. A community feedback mechanism will also be in place to make sure that the emergency operation services are provided in a transparent and accountable manner.


PLANNED OPERATIONS

INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

 Shelter, Housing, and Settlements	Female > 18: 1,782	Female < 18: 1,782	CHF 996,000
	Male > 18: 1,518	Male < 18: 1,518	Total target: 6,600 people
Objective:	Improved living conditions for affected populations through the effective distribution and replenishment of essential shelter and household items.		
Priority Actions:	Humanitarian phase: Support displaced families in strengthening the provided emergency shelter and essential household items		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Distribution and replenishment of shelter household items (kitchen sets, blankets, nets, solar lamps, mattresses) for both windstorm and landslide affected communities to meet the needs of 960 households. ✓ Train 50 community members and volunteers on safe shelter construction and the distribution of shelter kits. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Facilitate the construction/strengthening of temporary shelters including divisions for privacy using locally sourced materials (e.g. tarpaulin, wood, nails), and advocate for safer shelter for 360 households. 		
	Recovery phase: Support the most vulnerable with sustainable solutions by building transition shelters		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Conduct surveys to determine the specific shelter needs of resettled families, including household size, age, land acquisition/ownership, and any special requirements. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support the construction of transition shelters, ensuring compliance with local building codes and safety regulations. 		


 Livelihoods	Female > 18: 1,782	Female < 18: 1,782	CHF 484,000
	Male > 18: 1,518	Male < 18: 1,518	Total target: 6,600 people
Objective:	Improve the livelihood resilience of vulnerable families by improving agricultural productivity and livestock management through farm inputs and targeted support for livestock.		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support displaced rain-fed seasonal farmers with farm inputs – 360 households (seeds/fertilisers). • Conduct basic livelihood training for 30 volunteers, 15 volunteers per region. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct skills training and support to 100 youth, and provide starter kits for livelihood strengthening, based on an assessment of the skill needs. Orient trained communities to VSL/group support, adapting to existing community programmes. Provide restocking support to vulnerable families, targeting 360 households at five animals each (shoats). Provide veterinary services – provision of animal health services, treatment, and vaccination.
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 Multi-purpose Cash	Female > 18: 4,478	Female < 18: 4,478	CHF 268,000
	Male > 18: 3,815	Male < 18: 3,815	Total target: 16,585 people
Objective:	Improved economic stability and access to essential services for households through multi-purpose cash assistance provided in three rounds.		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train 60 volunteers, 30 per region on CVA. Conduct needs/cash feasibility/market assessments. Work with communities to establish targeting criteria and transfer value amounts aligned and coordinated with the government and the national Cash Working Group. Conduct orientation to community committees and volunteers on the targeting process, including inception workshops. Finalise the ongoing CVA feasibility review, including a market analysis, to facilitate the implementation of the most optimal CVA modalities. Implement mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the impact of CVA, including exit surveys and post-distribution monitoring. Allowances for CVA /livelihood volunteers for registration, verification, and cash distribution: 10 days per month for six months. 		

HEALTH AND CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

(MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT/COMMUNITY HEALTH)

 Health and Care <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health/Medical Services)</i>	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 229,000
	Male > 18: 5,865	Male < 18: 5,865	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	Improved mental health and emergency response capacity of affected communities through enhanced MHPSS services and support systems.		
Priority Actions:	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide MHPSS training to 60 volunteers and health workers, and emergency medical team members. Establish an MHPSS desk and provide technical assistance on community needs for four days per week. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy two health staff to provide specialised mental health services, four days per week. • Deploy 40 volunteers to provide community-based PSS, child-friendly spaces (CFS), and first aid service three days per week for six months. • Establish CFS for care and support in the Southern region. • Organise community-based PSS events for men, women, girls, boys, once monthly for six months. • Integrate grieving, ambiguous loss, and distress, with other ongoing awareness activities. • Develop and distribute leaflets/IEC materials with psychoeducation messages at the MHPSS desk. <p>Community Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct public awareness campaigns on disease surveillance and the prevention and control of outbreaks, including vector-borne diseases (malaria, dengue, and yellow fever) on a quarterly basis. • Provide long lasting insect treated bed nets (LLINs) to all high-risk populations (two nets per household) for 960 households. <p>Emergency Medical Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide BFA training to 60 volunteers and emergency medical team members. • Support the Branch Ambulance management for 12 months, including staff, maintenance, equipment, and running costs. • Provide 80 first aid kits to ambulance and community-based services.
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	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 207,000
		Male > 18: 5,865	Male < 18: 5,865	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	Improved Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) conditions and practices in affected communities.			
Priority Actions:	<p>Improve access to safe and clean water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide displaced households with water treatment chemicals for three months; one sachet/tablet treats 20 litres of water, and one family is expected to treat 7.5 litres/person of drinking water per day (37.5 litres for five members of a family, equivalent to two jerrycans). Thus, two sachets/family/day is the recommended distribution (960 households x two sachets daily x 90 days = 172,800 sachets). • Provide and replenish distributed water storage equipment to displaced households, comprising a 20 litre jerrycan, a 20-litre bucket, and one wash basin, for 960 households. • Erect a 10,000-litre water storage tanker at each of the three temporary IDP settlements for 6,600 households. • Maintain and rehabilitate water sources in the temporary camps, and construct and expand new water sources at the identified new living site to meet the needs of displaced people. • Establish, orient, and equip Community Water Management Committees in communities where boreholes are rehabilitated or 			


constructed to ensure the sustainability of the boreholes after the project ends.

Improve hygiene and sanitation of the affected community


- Distribution of household hygiene materials including five pieces of body soap (250g), five pieces of laundry soap (200g), one tube of toothpaste, and five toothbrushes.
- Provide dignity kits for women and girls of reproductive age, comprising four reusable sanitary pads, underwear for girls and women (nine pieces) with three different sizes per household: one hair comb, three toothbrushes, and one tube of toothpaste – for 800 people.
- Train 60 volunteers on integrated Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) – IFRC manual.
- Conduct monthly mass environmental cleaning campaigns through community mobilisation for six months.
- Engage trained volunteers to promote integrated health and proper hygiene and sanitation practices as well as train target households in the use of water treatment chemicals through household sessions, community gatherings, and school visits for six months, three months in the evacuation sites, and three months in the new permanent living sites.


PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

(PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION (PGI), COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION, RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION, AND RECOVERY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION)


 Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 103,000
	Male > 18: 5,865	Male < 18: 5,865	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	Enhanced protection and well-being of adolescents, women, and children through comprehensive support systems and capacity.		
Priority Actions:	<p>Vulnerability criteria will be applied to select the most vulnerable households. The operation ensures the safe and equitable provision of basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate PGI in the needs analysis. • 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. • Provide three days of capacity development training for 50 ECRS volunteers and government protection experts on protection case management and community-based protection mechanisms. • Establish a community child protection committee for case management for identified girls and boys with child protection concerns. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold awareness-raising sessions for the affected community on child rights, negative coping mechanisms, prevention of SGBV, and referral pathways, through community meetings as well as by issuing printed materials. • Establish child-friendly spaces for care and support in the Southern region (indoor and outdoor play materials/kits, mats, balls, drawing tools, skipping ropes, etc.) • Deploy and train community-based social service volunteers to manage the information desk for protection concerns, feedback, and complaints from communities. • Organise community dialogue from the two Woredas on gender-sensitive issues, including factors for gender-based discrimination, consequences, and coping mechanisms. • Build the capacity of staff and volunteers on protection and disability mainstreaming mechanisms such as protection principles, DAPS, and codes of conduct (10 staff and 40 volunteers). • Provide dignity kits to women and girls of reproductive age, comprising four reusable sanitary pads, nine pieces of underwear for girls and women in three different sizes per household; and one hair comb. • Conduct child safeguarding risk analysis, setting clear action plans. • Participate in PGI coordination platforms.
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 Community Engagement and Accountability	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 58,000
	Male > 18: 5,865	Male < 18: 5,865	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	Enhanced accountability and community satisfaction through effective CEA practices and information dissemination.		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct the project inception meeting for community consultation with a project focal point. • Train and deploy community-based social service volunteers to manage the information desk for protection concerns, feedback, and complaints from communities. • Develop and print three types of CEA materials specific to the proposed operation in local languages (1,000 pieces). • Conduct CEA, CoC/PGI/PSEA refresher training for 120 staff and volunteers engaged in the programme. • Collaborate on PMER for post-distribution monitoring surveys, exit surveys, and review meetings. • Raise awareness and advertise about the identified feedback mechanism through community awareness sessions. • Integrate CEA key tools with PDM exit surveys. • Conduct consultative project evaluations and the documentation of best practices in collaboration with the PMER service. 		

 Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 128,000
	Male > 18: 5,885	Male < 18: 5,885	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	Improved community resilience and response capacity through enhanced search and rescue capabilities and risk mitigation planning.		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The eVCA will be conducted across two woredas. This assessment will indicate how to effectively reduce climate risks and improve community resilience, while also highlighting the needs of affected communities across multiple sectors and guiding the development of targeted community plans. • Tree planting. Under this operation and in coordination with the woreda, trees will be planted on the newly established living site. The type and quantity of trees will be decided in consultation with both the woreda and communities. • Strengthen the National Society's search and rescue capacity. This operation will address the identified gap by prepositioning search and rescue equipment, establishing and training a national multi-hazard search and rescue team, and engaging staff and volunteers for capacity development. • Strengthen the response capacity of branches by equipping Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRTs) with the required skills. 		


Enabling approaches


 National Society Strengthening	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 524,000
	Male > 18: 5,865	Male < 18: 5,865	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	Ensure that the National Society has the capacity and resources required to deliver and sustain humanitarian assistance to communities affected by the drought		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring mission: Operation monitoring by branch/region and HQ. • Cover field vehicle running costs. • Identify NS HR gaps and recruit to support operation response for effective implementation, at branch and HQ level. • Equip branches with IT equipment (four computers and 20 tablets for data collection). • Orient 15 branch staff on financial management. • Train 30 project staff and volunteers in planning, monitoring, and reporting. • Support the communications unit in documenting and publishing operation activities. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase equipment (video camera/camera) for the ERCS communications mini studio. • Contribute to volunteers' insurance. • Equip volunteers with visibility materials, including Red Cross jackets and caps. ✓ Support two branch boards and management with quarterly updates and consultation meetings. ✓ Orient 60 volunteer leaders in good governance and leadership.
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 Coordination and Partnerships	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 0
	Male > 18: 5,865	Male < 18: 5,865	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	Ensure that the response is <u>well</u> coordinated with members under the Federation-wide approach; ICRC and external partners, including respective regional governments, and other humanitarian stakeholders (UN and INGOs)		
Priority Actions:	Movement Coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that Movement cooperation and coordination mechanisms are in place at the strategic, operational, and technical levels with further reinforcements in emergency operations coordination. • The ERCS, with support from the IFRC, will organise periodic updates and consultative meetings for in-country Movement partners regarding the operation. • The IFRC, through its mandate, will continue engaging in-country Movement partners on both technical and financial support, especially when transitioning to the recovery stage. • The operation will organise joint planning, monitoring visits, and or review meetings for Movement partners. And the operation manager will conduct a bi-weekly meeting with the ERCS team and provide bi-monthly updates to ERCS senior management and the IFRC. • Operations coordination, inter-sectoral, and operation management meetings will be held for updates, reviews, and planning purposes. • Active social media and email groups will be maintained for the operations team to share information, seek guidance, and enhance and decision-making. External coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IFRC will continue to participate in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), representing RCRC partners. • As a participant in disaster/humanitarian coordination co-chaired by the EDRMC and OCHA at the national and regional levels, the ERCS will continue to participate in meetings, share updates, and actively engage in the ECC established in the Gofa zone. • The ERCS will continue to participate in inter-agency sector working group meetings (cash, food and non-food 		

	<p>security, nutrition, emergency shelter/household items, protection, and education), coordination clusters, and the taskforce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IFRC, PNS, and ICRC are also complimenting the National Society with their engagement in the UN cluster system in the areas of their expertise. <p>Sub-clusters in the regions are equally activated and the ERCS, through its regional and zonal structures, is an active participant and has been involved in the operation.</p>
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 Shelter Cluster Coordination	Female > 18:	Female < 18:	CHF 0
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:	Total target:
Objective:	<p>Ensure the shelter sector is well-coordinated, supporting a comprehensive, quality, coherent, and consistent shelter and settlements response, through the deployment of a Roving Shelter Cluster Coordinator.</p> <p>Refer to website: Ethiopia Shelter Cluster</p>		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the delivery of shelter and settlements assistance through coordination meetings. Guide strategic decision-making for the humanitarian response. Advocate and fundraise for the shelter and settlement sector. Conduct monitoring and reporting. Support capacity building shelter and settlements actors, including the ERCS. 		

 IFRC Secretariat Services	Female > 18: 6,885	Female < 18: 6,885	CHF 503,000
	Male > 18: 5,865	Male < 18: 5,865	Total target: 25,500 people
Objective:	<p>The IFRC Secretariat ensures high quality support services to in-country IFRC member societies</p>		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support resource mobilisation and financial management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in external communications on behalf of the National Society with external partners. Carry out advocacy and external meetings for funding. Orient staff on the IFRC's finance policies, guidelines, and MOUs/contract reviews, and provide financial reports to donors/ funders. Provide technical and human resource support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orient ERCS staff and volunteers on relevant policies and guidelines. 		

- Provide HR that includes a Surge Officer, Project Coordinator, Senior Finance Officer, and Operations Manager for the operation.
- Support the development of planning and sector prioritisation based on updates from the field (provide mentorship to the National Society's operations staff).
- Provide logistics support:
 - Procurement of leasing vehicles.
 - Provide technical support in the international procurement of relief items.
 - Develop and publish the mob-table.
- Conduct periodic technical monitoring visits to the National Society and the field:
 - Lead in learning in both during and after the response.
 - Carry out monitoring planning and evaluations.
- Conduct a mid-term review and evaluation sessions.
- Enhance coordination and management of the operation, including follow up on the satisfaction of the target population (PDM, exit surveys).
- Monitor and strengthen the security system:
 - Conduct a security assessment.
 - Support the security orientation of volunteers and staff, including specific mitigations for working in landslide and flood-prone areas.
 - Review security scanning every time IFRC staff are engaged in the field.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)

Focus is placed on encouraging continuous assessment of the situation, monitoring the services provided, and gathering feedback from the targeted population. Analysis of monitoring observations will help with timely decision-making. Attention will be given to data management for displaced people, women, children, and older people (including GBV and protection cases), inclusive of the collection of disaggregated data of targets, storage, and analysis. Continuous communication with field teams, along with the issuance of necessary updates of the operation, including the final report, will be managed accordingly.

A Federation-wide inception workshop will be held in the early stages of the operation, where a monitoring and evaluation plan (M&E Plan) and an indicator tracking table (ITT) will be developed using a Kobo collect platform to collect information both online and offline with all concerned Movement Partners. Movement Coordination and PMER support will be provided by the IFRC's Ethiopia and Regional Office to assist with the coordination and development of Federation-wide financial tracking, narrative, and indicator tracking tools. A lesson learned workshop and post-implementation evaluation will be organised at the end of the operation. Coordination meetings will be held throughout the operation to ensure harmonised monitoring.

Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) will be carried out after each distribution, with market monitoring added to this process. The objective is to assess the level of satisfaction of the targeted population, evaluate the process, and draw lessons to make the necessary corrections and adaptations to improve

the quality of future interventions. In addition, feedback data collected from the targeted population through the feedback mechanism will be analysed alongside post-distribution monitoring data so that corrective actions can be taken to address any concerns, questions, suggestions, or rumours.

Information Management: Given the large amounts of secondary data produced by various partners on the affected population, as well as the strong in-country assessment capacity of the National Society, the IFRC IM functions will not focus on the production of primary assessments. Instead, they will concentrate on supporting PMER with the production of Federation-wide and Movement pictures and other IM products necessary for the Federation-wide emergency crisis response (i.e. Situation Reports, Operations Updates, etc.), visualising the data on the IFRC GO dashboard, and producing the Funding and Situation Updates.

Security Management: Active risk mitigation measures must be adopted to reduce the risk of personnel falling victim to crime, violence, or road hazards. Security orientations and briefing for all teams prior to deployment will help ensure the safety and security of response teams. Standard security protocols about general norms, cultural sensitivity, and an overall code of conduct will be put in place, and minimum-security requirements will be strictly maintained. All National Society and IFRC personnel actively involved in the operations must successfully complete, prior to deployment, the respective IFRC security e-learning courses (i.e. Level 1 Fundamentals, Level 2 Personal and Volunteer Security, and Level 3 Security for Managers). IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout the operation. Area specific Security Risk Assessments will be conducted for any operational area where IFRC personnel are deployed, and risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented.

Risk management

A detailed risk register has been elaborated and discussed between the HoD of the Cluster, IFRC Operations Manager, ARO Operations colleagues, and the Risk Management Coordinator for Africa. In this register, more details are included, such as the risk owner and the residual risk after implementing mitigation actions. A risk management plan will be developed to ensure it will be properly implemented. This register is being reviewed and updated every two weeks by the persons mentioned above.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Inflation	High	Medium	Consistent monitoring of the market and communication with the targeted population. The budget includes flexibility for inflation over the coming months.
Extreme climate events or other disasters may impose additional humanitarian needs	High	Medium	Frequent updates and early warning mechanisms, activation of contingency plans and existing EAPs when triggers are met, scaling-up the ongoing DREF operation, and updating the appeal in terms of scope, geographical targets, and funding.

Insecurity, tension, and conflict	Low	High	<p>Regular monitoring of the security situation, with security and risk management measures put in place.</p> <p>Having in place a security management framework which supports continuous risk identification, analysis, mitigation, monitoring, reporting, and escalation.</p> <p>Utilising existing networking, information sharing, and collaborative frameworks.</p> <p>Observing MSR.</p> <p>Security management support from the regional team.</p>
Procurement delays – lengthy bidding processes and lack of local suppliers	Medium	High	Effect quick approvals, activate emergency procurement.
Delay in securing land for relocation	Medium	Medium	Advocate for the government to initiate the process early.
Staffing recruitment delay – limited human resources	High	Medium	The National Society will use the roster method, deploying NDRT from other branches.
Unavailability or limited availability of items in the market	Low	Medium	Conduct a comprehensive assessment of markets and suppliers prior to implementation.
Dissatisfaction among the targeted population	Low	Medium	<p>Engage the community from the initial stage by informing them of ERCS plans and support and establish a community committee to assist in targeting people.</p> <p>Conduct exit surveys, PDM, deploy an effective feedback mechanism managed by communities, and analyse all feedback and review plans accordingly.</p>
Protection risk due to loss of homes and adoption	Medium	High	<p>Raise awareness on SGBV, child protection, and safeguarding (protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and child safeguarding).</p> <p>Ensure that all staff and volunteers are oriented and sign the code of conduct.</p>

			<p>Conduct PGI assessments and child safeguarding risk analysis, putting in place clear actions.</p> <p>Engage the community and set the PGI desk at the community level with clear standard operating procedures (SOPs) on handling sensitive feedback.</p>
Quality and timeliness of implementation	Low	High	The operation will deploy technical staff to support the operation of each sector, e.g. WASH, Shelter, Health, etc.
Fraud, corruption, misuse of funds	Low	High	<p>The ERCS has sound finance guidelines, policy standards, and systems which will be adhered to during implementation to ensure that funds are utilised as planned.</p> <p>All key staff and volunteers will be trained in financial management.</p> <p>Deploy effective feedback and complaint mechanisms to ensure communities know their rights, and how to report cases of fraud or corruption.</p>
Technical risks	Medium	High	<p>The programme will adhere to IFRC/sphere standards and align with the country's guidelines on all planned activities.</p> <p>The operation will be carried out by technical staff, and if communities are engaged, formal orientation will be provided before deployment.</p>

Quality and accountability

Sector	Indicators	Targets
Shelter, Housing, and Settlement	# of HHs supported with shelter kits	1,500
	# of HHs that received emergency shelter materials	1,500
	# of community members and volunteers trained on safe shelter construction	50
	# of HHs that received conditional cash for transition shelter construction	550
	# of HHs that received essential household items	1,500
Livelihoods	# of HHs that received farm inputs including seeds and fertilisers	1,500
	# of volunteers trained in basic livelihoods monitoring	60

	# of youth trained in skills development and supported with starter kits	200
	# of communities oriented on VSL/Group support to adopt existing available schemes (three sessions)	200
	# of HHs/families that received shoats and accessed veterinary services	550
	# of displaced HHs that received emergency food	1,500
	# of affected children supported with nutritious food (u5)	500
Multi-purpose Cash	# of HHs that received multi-purpose cash grant (three rounds)	1,500
	# of volunteers trained on multi-purpose cash	60
	# of market assessment conducted	2
	# of cash monitoring sessions conducted (PDM, exit surveys)	3
Health and Care	# of people successfully referred using the deployed ambulances	300
	# of volunteers and staff employed for search and rescue	50
	# of volunteers, health workers, and emergency medical team members trained on MHPSS	60
	# of volunteers and medical team members trained on BFA	60
	# of community-based PSS events organised	6
	# of people reached during community-based PSS events	12,000
	# of National Society team members trained in TOT to conduct safe and dignified burials	20
	# of HHs that received long lasting insect treated bed nets	1,500
	# of volunteers deployed to provide community-based PSS and FA at the CFS	20
	# of health staff supported to provide specialised mental health outreach services	6
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	# of HHs supported with water treatment chemicals and orientation on their usage	1,500
	# of HHs that received water storage and washing equipment	1,500
	# of HHs that received hygiene materials/kits	1,500
	# of HHs that benefited from water trucking	1,500
	# of community members reached with hygiene awareness	15,000
	# of volunteers trained on integrated Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV)	60
	# of people reached during mass environmental cleaning campaigns	6,000
	# of community and health facility latrines rehabilitated	3
	# of water sources repaired	3
	# of water quality testing sessions conducted	2
	# of boreholes constructed	3
Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	# of volunteers trained in PGI/CEA mainstreaming	220
	# of volunteers and government protection staff trained in protection case management and community-based protection mechanisms	50
	# of sessions on SGBV and child safeguarding conducted	8
	# of people reached with awareness-raising sessions SGBV and child safeguarding	2,000

	# of women and girls who received dignity kits	2,000
	# of people who participated in gender-sensitive dialogue sessions	2,000
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation, and Recovery	# of community-based EVCA sessions conducted	2
	# of communities implementing EVCA plans	2
	# of trees planted	12,000
	# of drone operators trained	4
	# of drone sets procured	2
	# of people trained on multi-hazard search and rescue TOT	20
	# of S&R equipment prepositioned	25
	# of boats and navigation equipment prepositioned	1
	# of life jackets prepositioned	50
	# of buoys prepositioned	25
	# of fire protective gear prepositioned	25
	# of regional volunteers trained (BDRT)	40
Community Engagement and Accountability	# of people that participated in the inception meeting	40
	# of needs assessments conducted	2
	# of volunteers and staff trained in CEA, CoC/PGI/PSEA	120
	# of types of CEA materials printed	6
	# of feedback mechanisms in place	3
	# of trained volunteers deployed to manage the information desk	20
National Society Strengthening	# of staff recruited at HQ and branch level to support the implementation of the operation	15
	# of vehicles deployed to support the operations	2
	# of computers and tablets procured to support the operations	24
	# of staff trained on financial management	15
	# of staff trained on PMER	20
	# of sessions conducted for DRM, business development and project management in emergency settings	7
	# of project documents developed and published	2
	% of contributions to branch office construction	TBC
Coordination and partnerships	# of Movement coordination meetings conducted	6
	# of external coordination meetings conducted/attended	4
Secretariat services	# of surge officers deployed to support the operation	2
	# of staff supporting the operation	4

Funding requirement

FEDERATION WIDE FUNDING REQUIREMENT CHF 6M

- National Society domestic fundraising
- IFRC Secretariat funding
- Partner National Society funding.

SECRETARIAT FUNDING REQUIREMENT CHF 3.5M

**For more information on the Federation-wide funding requirement, refer to the section: Federation-wide Approach*

Federation-wide funding requirement*

Breakdown of the IFRC secretariat funding requirement



OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

MDRET036 - ETHIOPIA LANDSLIDES AND WINDSTORM

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Planned Operations	2,473,000
Shelter and Basic Household Items	996,000
Livelihoods	484,000
Multi-purpose Cash	268,000
Health	229,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	207,000
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	103,000
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	128,000
Community Engagement and Accountability	58,000
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	1,027,000
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	503,000
National Society Strengthening	524,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	3,500,000

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact information

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

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For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisations table support:

- **Global Logistics Services -**
- **Logistics Coordinator Africa,** Allan Kilaka Masavah, Head, Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management, Africa; email: allan.masavah@ifrc.org +254 113 834 921

For Performance and Accountability Support (Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting enquiries):

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Reference



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates