

Opening Bank account for Beneficiaries

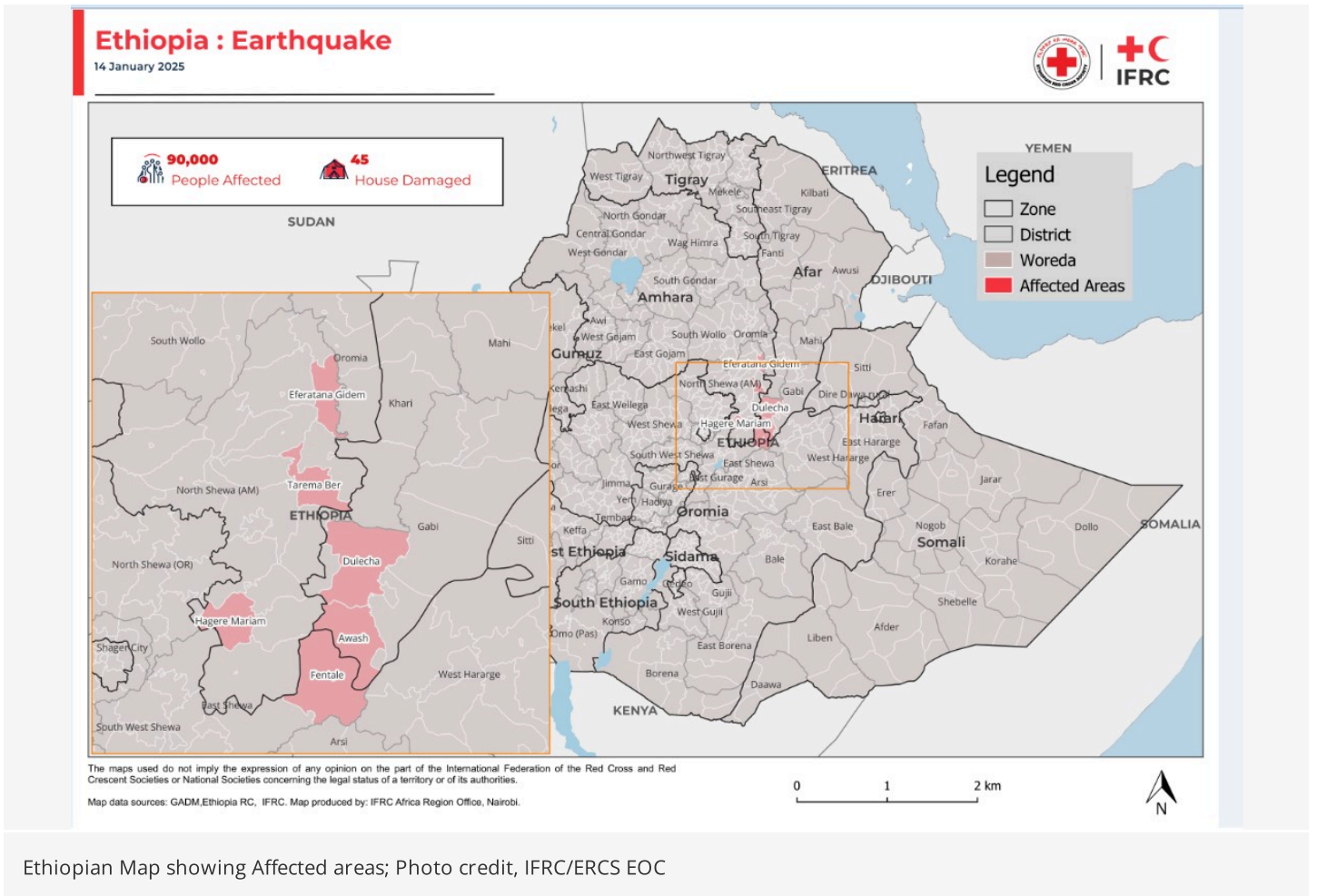


Bank Account opening for beneficiaries

Appeal: MDRET037	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 491,271	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Earthquake
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 99,950 people	People Targeted: 10,000 people	People Assisted: 17,355 people
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 20-01-2025	Operational End Date: 31-05-2025	Total Operating Timeframe: 4 months

Targeted Regions: **Afar, Amhara, Oromia**

Description of the Event



Date of event

04-01-2025

What happened, where and when?

The Fentale volcanic complex, located in the Main Ethiopian Rift, experienced heightened seismic activity in late December 2024. Earthquake frequency spiked during this period, with several events of notable magnitude recorded. This seismic surge was accompanied by the opening of steam vents, which released steam and underground gases.

Between 4 and 6 January 2025, more than 20 earthquakes struck the Awash Fentale area. The most significant was a magnitude 5.8 tremor that occurred on 4 January near the Dofen mountains. This earthquake caused considerable damage to community shelters and critical social service infrastructure. Experts believed the increased seismic activity was linked to underground magma movement, although it remained unclear whether an eruption would occur, and if so, from which location—Fentale, Dofen, or a potentially new vent.

Approximately 99,000 people across three regions were affected: 60,000 in Afar, 20,000 in Oromia, and 9,000 in Amhara. Many residents expressed uncertainty about appropriate protective actions in the face of the volcanic risk. Around 90,000 individuals had already been displaced, and government evacuated them to new safer place within the respective zones.

The displaced people faced urgent humanitarian needs including food, safe water and shelter. The Ethiopian Red Cross Society's Branch Disaster Response Team (BDRT) joined the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) and other partners to conduct a joint assessment in the affected areas and timely reported to the HQ for urgent support.

The assessment highlighted several pressing humanitarian concerns. While only two casualties and a number of minor injuries were reported, significant damage was observed across key infrastructure, including homes, health facilities, schools, and roads. These developments occurred amid the ongoing cholera outbreak affecting the Awash River Valley, further compounding the vulnerability of the affected communities.





Safe water supply by water truck



Latrines constructed at Dalakara IDP site



PSS activity at community



Community engagement in beneficiary selection

Scope and Scale

Since October 2024, a series of tremors and a major earthquake affected the Main Ethiopian Rift, particularly the Afar, Amhara, and Oromia regions, with seismic activity centered around the Fentale volcanic complex. The area had shown signs of ground deformation since 2021. Seismic activity intensified in late December, opening steam vents and releasing gases linked to underground magma movement. While the risk of eruption remained uncertain, possible sources included Fentale, Dofen, or a new unidentified vent.

In Afar region, over 50 earthquakes struck the Awash Fentale area between 4 and 8 January and continued to March 2025. The strongest, a magnitude 5.8 quake on 4 January near the Dofen mountains, caused significant damage to homes, health centers, schools, roads, and the Kesem Sugar Factory including its irrigation and water infrastructure. Two people were seriously injured, and social services were left non-functional. Approximately 100,000 people were affected in southern Afar, Oromia and Amhara and were relocated in Awash Fentale and Dulecha woreda of Afar region, Fentale Woreda of Oromia region and North Shoa Zone of Amhara, bordering Afar. All the affected people were relocated to safer sites identified by the government.

Concerns grew over the structural integrity of the Kesem/Sabure Dam and Ethiopia-Djibouti railway and farms around the 3 areas. The affected people were left on critical needs of emergency shelter, food, WASH, health services, and psychosocial support.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. ERCC - Emergency Response Coordination Centre	https://ercportal.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ECHO-Products/Maps#/maps/5125
2. UNOCHA and IASC cluster coordinators and partners.	https://Flash_Update_Ethiopia_SeismicSituation_6January2025_7pm.pdf
3. Addis standard, July 7th	https://x.com/addisstandard
4. ERCS EOC	https://eoc.redcrosseth.org/
5. Relief web flash update	https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-flash-update-2-seismic-situation-afar-and-oromia-10-january-2025



National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	Yes
Please provide a brief description of those additional activities	Following the needs of the affected population, on the closure of this operation, ERCS secured funds from local resource mobilization to continue providing safe water through water trucking for additional 3 months while continuing monitoring the situation and resource for sustainable solution.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	IFRC Country Cluster Delegation team has been working closely with ERCS to respond to the emergency, however due to security situation, IFRC was unable to travel to the site, and continued providing technical support remotely, and coordinating with other RCRC partners in-country and other humanitarian actors.
Participating National Societies	Currently there are 8 PNS supporting the NS bilaterally, including Austrian RS, Finish RC, British RC, German RC, Norwegian RC, Italian RC, Swiss RC, Netherland RC. They were well informed of the situation through the emergency coordination and were continuously updated on the situation and response.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC maintained Coordination with movement partners through existing coordination platforms and provided security updates through the security coordination with the NS. In areas where there was active conflict which hinders the access some dissemination session and security assessment were conducted to ensure safer access to NS staff and volunteers.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	In response to the 2025 earthquake in Ethiopia, the government, with support from international organizations, launched an immediate humanitarian response, including evacuations, provision of aid, and establishment of coordination centers. The government evacuated over 60,000 people from high-risk areas including areas experiencing tremors, rockfalls, and near the Fentale volcanic complex. The incident Command Posts (ICPs) were established to streamline coordination co-chaired with UNOCHA in Awash (Afar) and Metehara (Oromia).

With the support from the UN and NGOs, the Government provided food, water, health and sanitation services, shelter, and essential non-food items. Through the health bureau, and other health partners, the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services were offered in temporary clinics.

Jointly with UN and NGO, the government conducted a Multi-Sector Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) was conducted to identify needs and guide relief efforts. To Monitor the seismic activities, Government deployed the Addis university and other technical organization to conduct Scientific assessments and continue to evaluate infrastructure vulnerabilities and monitor volcanic activity. In order to protect the salvaged livestock and protect the community movement for pasture in the prone areas, the government provided foddors and animal treatment.

Mental Health Support:

UN or other actors

UN and other actors participated in Humanitarian coordination meetings co-chaired by UNOCHA and the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) to guide the response to the earthquake impacts across Afar, Oromia, and Amhara regions.

Key WASH actors, including UNICEF, FEPR, SWAN, and World Vision, contributed to emergency water trucking services to evacuation sites, alongside the distribution of hygiene supplies and water treatment packages. The World Food Programme (WFP) has planned provided food assistance to support displaced populations. The local NGO ASDEPO is facilitating facilitated transportation of animal feed and veterinary medicines, and health and nutrition services.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) deployed two technical experts, focusing on Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), and the Durable Solutions. Within the SWAN consortium, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) led Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Item (ES/NFI) activities, with the warehouse established in Awash Sebat and prepositioned partial and complete ES/NFI kits for approximately 2,800 households which were distributed according to the needs.

UNICEF supplied essential nutrition and health kits for affected communities in Afar, including 6,275 cartons of RUTF, 263 cartons of F-75, 112 cartons of F-100, two Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) kits, 10 cartons of Resomal, 5,000 bed nets, and two Cholera Treatment Centers (CTCs). Ten emergency tents and 20 medical kits were also deployed to serve up to 50,000 people. they also supported Nutrition screening for pregnant and lactating women, and children.

Additionally, UNFPA, UNICEF, NRC, and the Bureau of Women and Social Affairs (BoWSA) provided 725 dignity kits for displaced women and girls, along with four recreational kits to support psychosocial wellbeing.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

National coordination mechanism was activated, co-chaired by EDRMC and UNOCHA.

The Zonal Incident Command Posts (ICP) was established in Metehara (Oromia region) and Awash (Afar region), led by the Disaster Risk management Commission (DRMC) and cochaired by OCHA, with focal points from the various humanitarian clusters. The cluster coordination was effective in both operation sites, to ensure coordinated response and quality assurance. The usual emergency coordination within the RCRC continued to monitor the emergency.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

More than 90,000 people were evacuated from risk areas. Government identified relocation sites, and partners provided the evacuation support. Urgent shelter and essential HH items were urgently required to the displaced populations. Three relocation sites were in the Awash woreda: Daido, Asbole Boda, and Medala; four sites in Dulecha woreda: Garrayto, Hadale Abur, Gudili, and Daido; and other sites in Oromia: Tututi, Turo, Gidara, Alge, Galcha, Fateledi, Sarawayba and Matahara town.



On the other hand, it has been challenging to evacuate pastoral communities, due to their established environment and more concerns of abandoning their livestock, which are vital to their livelihoods, as well as the potential disruption of their social connections.

Widening of fissures posed risks, to impact settlements, farmlands, roads, irrigation systems, and water sources. The Kesam/Sabure irrigation dam, which holds a significant volume of water posed a big Concerns in case of increased fissures which could lead to catastrophic downstream flooding, endangering shelter of hundreds of thousands of people.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The destruction of farmland and displacement exacerbated food insecurity and disrupted livelihoods, creating an urgent need for emergency food assistance for displaced households. Approximately 1,000 hectares of farmland were destroyed, key irrigation schemes along the Awash River were damaged. Main and internal roads were damaged, and additional fissures threatened critical transport links including roadways and the Ethio-Djibouti railway. Infrastructure damage and insecurity forced the increase food and commodity prices. Significant damage to a sugar factory resulted to loss in jobs to significant number of people who were working on the factory, leading to livelihood losses for the local community.



Health

In Sagento and Durufli kebeles, health posts have been completely destroyed, leaving people with special needs without access to health services during this period. To address this, the government, in collaboration with partners, has established mobile health services at evacuation sites. However, maintaining operational health services in the new IDP sites is essential, along with the provision of additional medical supplies and community-based health services.

Equally important is the need for mental health and psychological support, particularly for children and individuals with chronic illnesses experiencing distress. The ERCS, as the primary partner of public authorities for emergency transport services, has been actively supporting people with special needs. However, the displacement has increased the demand for referrals from mobile clinics to main hospitals.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

In the assessed areas, water sources were reported as contaminated, irrigation schemes were damaged, and there was high likelihood of water depletion due to the intrusion of hot volcanic spring water. Most displaced individuals were relying on unclean surface water to supplement the limited supplies available. Livelihood disruptions further threaten household hygiene, as increased family needs strained limited resources.

To tackle these challenges, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, coupled with essential supplies, behavior change initiatives, and environmental cleaning campaigns, are vital in the new IDP sites to help communities adapt and prevent disease outbreaks. Repairing and rehabilitating water sources near the sites is essential for sustaining the emergency water supply. Additionally, the construction, proper use, and maintenance of public emergency latrines must be prioritized and emphasized throughout this emergency period.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Vulnerable groups, including women, children, and individuals with disabilities, faced increased risks such as protection concerns and potential gender-based violence. In Awash Fentale woreda, the population had endured secondary displacement following previous flood-induced displacements, complicating efforts to provide targeted assistance.

Children experienced trauma and slept outdoors due to fear of earth tremors. The displaced community as a whole felt insecure in the fear of tremors and the expanding land fissures. Nevertheless, the knowledge in earthquake and seismic actions was very limited among the affected communities and local authorities.

To mitigate these challenges, continuous monitoring and community education on safety and protection measures were deployed to prevent further loss of life, injuries and property while fostering a sense of connectedness among affected populations. Evacuation plans prioritized the needs of vulnerable groups.





Education

The quakes and fissures severely damaged public services. Significant damage was recorded, with 16 schools severely damaged, and 21 partially, including Sagento Elementary School, which serves over 1,200 pupils, as well as other schools in nearby kebeles. Education in the affected areas was completely disrupted. Establishing temporary learning spaces at the new IDP sites, providing scholastic materials and supporting teachers seem to be critical to ensure continuity of education for displaced children. The integrating psychosocial support (PSS) for children was essential to help them adapt to their new environments.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The overall operational objective was to provide relief assistance to the 10,000 most vulnerable people (2000 HH) displaced due to the earthquake and seismic actions, in the affected woredas in Afar, Amhara and Oromia relocated and registered at the IDP sites, by conducting multisectoral activities including: ambulance support, MHPSS and BFA, Emergency Shelter construction, emergency latrine construction, Hygiene promotion and materials distribution, safe water distribution, PGI and CEA awareness and feedback collection for 4 months.

Operation strategy rationale

The operation strategy was developed to meet immediate needs of displaced population basing on the joint assessment conducted with other humanitarian actors,

1- Following market assessments conducted by the National Society (NS), cash was identified as a feasible and effective response mechanism. The Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) implemented one round of multipurpose cash assistance to affected households in both Oromia and Afar regions. The transfer values were aligned with the respective regional Minimum Expenditure Baskets (MEBs) as defined by the regional Cash Technical Working Groups—ETB 9,700 per household in Oromia and ETB 14,430 in Afar.

The cash modality offered flexibility for households to prioritize their most pressing needs and enabled ERCS to deliver assistance more efficiently, especially in areas where the transportation of in-kind materials was constrained due to security concerns. ERCS is cash-ready, with a pre-identified financial service provider (FSP), the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE), which has nationwide coverage. For this operation, the same contracted FSP facilitated the cash transfers.

To strengthen the implementation of multipurpose cash transfer (MPCT) activities, ERCS deployed a Cash Expert from its headquarters to support capacity building of staff and volunteers in the targeted regions. Additionally, ERCS continues to play a key coordination role as the co-chair of the Federal Cash Technical Working Group.

2- WASH: As the displaced population were relocated to new camp sites with limited WASH infrastructure—such as latrines, water points, or wells—this operation aimed to address these gaps by providing essential WASH services through:

- Safe water through water trucking, rehabilitate water sources.
- Erect the emergency latrines in the IDP sites
- Provision of hygiene supplies
- Conduct hygiene promotion campaign to waterborne diseases.

3- Health: The response contributed to protecting the health of the affected vulnerable families including children and women through.

- Capacity building to staff and volunteers on provision of community based psychological service and basic first aid.
- Organizing PFA and PSS events at community level and identifying referral channels.
- Distribution of Mosquito nets and hang up orientation.
- Provision ambulance services for referral cases.
- Procurement and distribution of first aid kits for

4- Shelter: The operation prioritized provision of emergency shelter materials and essential household items to most vulnerable 2000 families relocated in new camps aligned to the country shelter cluster guideline, comprising of 2 tarpaulins, 5m rope and 4kg nails per family. The EHI (essential Household items) comprise 1 kitchen sets, 2 blankets, 2 solar lamps, 2 sleeping mats. The full shelter package support aimed to maintain dignity and protection of the affected population. For ensuring quality of the of the shelter, volunteers were trained on safe shelter construction and deployed to support the families in shelter installation.

5- PGI minimum standards were adopted to ensure targeting, distribution and awareness activities are inclusive and gender sensitive. In addition, the registration lists were prepared in collaboration with the community committees and local authorities to ensure vulnerable affected people or at risk are the targeted, and receive specific attention and their needs are addressed, including people with disabilities.



Different communication channels were deployed to make sure information is widespread and accessed to everyone. Distribution points were planned to ensure access to all groups, to avoid exclusion. Specific attention was given to gender and age to align to cultural sensitivity. Continuous awareness on the risk and protection was given to communities. To ensure continuous protection, earthquake and seismic actions risk awareness was provided to community through different channels. ERCS with other partners continued to monitor the seismic activities and share relevant information to communities through different communication channels.

6- Disaster Risk Reduction: Risk awareness was provided to community through deferent media. ERCS with other partners continued to monitor the seismic activities and share relevant information to communities as the needed. Additionally, community leaders were oriented in risk awareness and preventive measures and participated in risk awareness through formal and informal channels and the existing community based early warning systems. Specific activities to ensure right information is timely shared:

- Volunteers and community leaders were Orientated on seismic actions, and protection measures
- Awareness creation through accepted and trusted channels on risks and protection measures

7- ERCS has engaged affected community in the response operations by establishing community beneficiary selection committee. The communities were consulted during needs assessment, to understand priority needs. communication on support available and beneficiary selection criteria was shared during community meetings, and the distribution sites and dates were jointly agreed. Health and hygiene promotion campaigns were community based with active engagement and involvement of affected people. Appropriate feedback and response mechanisms were established and communicated to ensure people provided feedback in a timely manner with resulting actions reported back to individuals and communities. Specific activities included:

- Establishment of community committees
- Orientation to Community committees on feedback management, registration and
- Risk communication and timely information sharing providing clear, accurate, and timely updates about the earthquake's impact, safety measures, and ongoing response efforts through various channels like radio, social media and community leaders.
- Identify and address and correct any misinformation or rumors circulating in the community to reduce panic.

Inclusive participation

- Engage all segments of the community, including women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities, in decision-making processes related to the response.
- Engage and leverage the trust and knowledge of local leaders and community groups to facilitate communication and engagement.
- Identify relevant communication channels for sharing detailed information about the distribution of aid and resources, including what is available, who is eligible, and how to access it.
- Ensure that the distribution of aid is fair, equitable, and based on assessed needs, with clear criteria communicated to the community.

Monitoring and accountability

- Involve community members in monitoring the response to ensure accountability and transparency in the use of resources through post distribution monitoring to determine beneficiary satisfaction and operation efficiency, through the established community committees.
- Public reporting: regularly share updates on response activities, challenges, and progress with the community to maintain trust and transparency.
- Engage the community in planning and implementing recovery and rebuilding efforts to ensure they are appropriate, sustainable, and meet local needs.
- Incorporate lessons learned into recovery efforts to build resilience against future disasters.

Targeting Strategy

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The directly targeted 2000 families were identified among the registered evacuated Households, through community engagement mechanism, which ERCS has experience on from other responses, in collaboration with local authorities, and representatives of people affected by the earthquake.

The target criteria considered most vulnerable unsupported displaced families living in the IDP sites, with children, pregnant and lactating women, people with chronic illness, elderly and women headed households, of the affected families, who lost their income sources and not targeted or partially supported by other organizations, in coordination with incident command and other partners working in the respective sites.



Total Assisted Population

Assisted Women	4,252	Rural	70%
Assisted Girls (under 18)	4,252	Urban	30%
Assisted Men	4,425	People with disabilities (estimated)	10%
Assisted Boys (under 18)	4,426		
Total Assisted Population	17,355		
Total Targeted Population	10,000		

Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	No
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	Yes

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Increased damage and impacts of earthquakes, and seismic actions.	ERCS integrated disaster risk awareness on mitigation measures and the evacuation of people from risk areas conducted through the coordination mechanism in place.
Ongoing conflicts in Oromia region.	<p>ERCS deployed the trained staff/team working on security, updates were frequently shared on situation to allow movement to the affected areas. NS security policy and guideline were effectively adhered.</p> <p>Effective Security scanning through ERCS/IFRC /ICRC security.</p> <p>The Branches maximized their good relation and acceptance at community level, however where the situation was worse, they had to pause movements.</p>



Damaged infrastructure such as roads may be bottleneck for accessing area of intervention.	ERCS was working in collaboration with other partners to assess the damage and jointly planned to overcome challenges of damaged infrastructure.
Logistic and Procurement delays.	ERCS deployed its emergence procurement processes and used the prepositioned stock to meet needs of affected community on time.
Risk of disease outbreak due to limited health and hygiene services in the evacuation sites.	ERCS implemented preventive measures through continuous sensitization and provision of safe water, hygiene supplies and mosquito nets.
Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:	
Increased tremors and seismic activity present significant safety risks in the affected areas. Additionally, insecurity in the region, particularly in Oromia, has escalated, with recent reports of local militia groups abducting civilians and humanitarian actors.	
Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	Yes

Implementation



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 93,006
Targeted Persons: 10,000
Assisted Persons: 10,000
Targeted Male: 5,100
Targeted Female: 4,900

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households reached with shelter material	2,000	2,000
# of volunteers trained to shelter construction	40	32
# of households reached with essential Household items	2,000	2,000

Narrative description of achievements

The community has selected 28 to 35 committees' members representing each Gote, who served as selection focal point of beneficiaries for Non-food items and Cash support, and 14 to 20 complaint handling committees to handle the complaints of the communities across 3 Woredas representing different Kebeles. These committees had a total of 144 members i.e. 49 Female and 95 male members. They identified 2000 HH as beneficiaries for support in consultation with the community members, and the final selected beneficiaries list was shared and posted on the public place. the selection criteria mainly were displacement vulnerable unsupported population.

A total of 2000HHs were identified and supported with shelter full package, comprising of emergency shelter construction materials including; 2 Tarpaulins, 1 rope (5meter), 4 kg Nails and HH items comprising of 1 Kitchen sets, 2 blankets, 2 solar lamps and 2 sleeping mats. Initial package of 500 HH as drawn from ERCS prepositioned stock, which was replenished after the procurement of the planned 2000.



A total of 32 volunteers and community members (Female 11 and Male- 21) were identified, trained and assigned to support the community members on shelter installation. They managed to support a total of 1121 HH, Male 1079 led and Female 42 female headed••

Lessons Learnt

- The preposition shelter materials supported ERCS to quick respond on the humanitarian needs. Additionally, the emergency effective emergency procurement procedures also helped the NS to meet the Shelter and timely.
- Both of the regional branches provided the shelter training to volunteers and communities who were instrumental to ensure strong erected emergency shelters especially to the most vulnerable displaced families aligned to the local context.
- Engagement of community committees from each Gote (lowest community structure within the kebele) from the former living settings assisted in identifying beneficiaries and transparently management of the complaints.
- A well-coordinated response by ACHA and DRM which managed the duplication of services, ensuring the neediest affected person is reached with the service.

Challenges

- Insecurity situation that hindered the transportation and delayed the support to some areas of Oromia.
- Massive needs compared to the support available.
- Volunteers are invited to attend the training, but they have absented during the training period.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 221,136
Targeted Persons: 10,000
Assisted Persons: 11,855
Targeted Male: 6,046
Targeted Female: 5,809

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% of families stating they are happy with the MPC distribution	90	111
# of households reached with the MPC	2,000	2,371

Narrative description of achievements

A market assessment and cash feasibility study was conducted in three major towns within the targeted woredas. The findings recommended cash assistance via bank transfer, with markets located 7–25 km from the IDP sites, accessible by walking or public transportation.

A total of 20 volunteers were trained on Kobo beneficiary registration and collaborated with community committees in the selection, identification, and registration of verified beneficiaries. The identified community committees also played a key role in beneficiary selection and complaints management.

One round of multi-purpose cash assistance was provided to 2,371 displaced households (1,107 female-headed and 1,264 male-headed) across two woredas in Afar Region (900 households) and one woreda in Oromia Region (1,471 households) through bank transfers. The original plan targeted 2,000 households—900 in Afar and 1,100 in Oromia. However, due to variations in the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) for each region (ETB 13,400 in Afar and ETB 9,700 in Oromia), the Oromia branch adjusted its target based on the allocated budget, ultimately reaching 1,500 households. Of these, 29 households were unable to complete account opening and therefore did not receive the cash support.

The cash distribution process took long time, due to security reasons, exceeding the NS implementation projection, thus, the PDM could not be conducted.



Lessons Learnt

- Engagement of community leaders has supported in the provision of ID to beneficiaries for opening bank accounts,
- Flexibility of FPS (CBE bank) Bank to relocate to the community for opening Accounts helped to tackle the security challenges, where the community movement was so limited.

Challenges

- Security problem in Fentale wereda of Oromia region affected the Cash beneficiary's selection, registration, Bank Account book opening and final verification of beneficiaries, thus delayed the cash distribution process. This led to failure to conduct PDM.



Budget: CHF 47,722
Targeted Persons: 10,000
Assisted Persons: 12,113
Targeted Male: 4,240
Targeted Female: 7,872

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of staff and volunteers trained on MHPSS	20	20
# of people reached with PSS services	400	4,036
# of households reached with mosquito nets	2,000	2,000
# of First aid kits procured and distributed to community	100	100
# of people supported with Ambulance services	100	77
# of staff and volunteers trained on BFA	40	36

Narrative description of achievements

- A total of 20 volunteers (5 Female and 15 male) were trained on MHPSS and engaged to support the displaced communities for 2 months. They provided MHPSS services to 4036 persons through one-to-one counselling, group session facilitation, child friendly support and psychological education organized through community sports and dialogue session for adults. Sports equipment were purchased and distributed in 2 sites of Afar for children.
- 2 Ambulances were deployed and supported the community with referral and transportation to secondary health facilities. A total of 77 community members (36 Male and 41 Female) were served during this response period.
- 100 First AID kits were procured and distributed to volunteers who are working in community FA support and Ambulances.
- Basic first Aid training provided to 36 volunteers (Female-13 and Male- 23) for 2 days at Awash Sebat and Metehara town and assigned to ambulances and at community level in Gabi resu zone of Afar and East Shewa zone of Oromia region.
- 4000 mosquito nets were procured and distributed to 2000 selected Families included in the NFI package, and volunteers assisted families in hang up orientation.

Lessons Learnt

- The displaced community members have benefited from MHPSS service provided by trained volunteers and survivors have recovered from the psychological trauma.
- The support provided for HH in net hanging during H2H visits was useful, and helped community adhere to the usage.



Challenges

• Achievement of multiple indicators were hindered by the security situation especially Oromia region, including activities which required transport from woreda to zones like BFA training, relief materials delivery and Ambulance services. Other mechanism to ensure these people were deployed, including negotiations to access, which in turn delayed the implementation.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 38,412

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Assisted Persons: 23,471

Targeted Male: 15,108

Targeted Female: 8,360

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households received water storage equipment	2,000	2,000
# of households received water purification chemical	2,000	2,000
# of households benefited from water trucking	2,000	3,471
• # of people reached with health and hygiene key messages	10,000	23,471
• # of HH received hygiene materials	2,000	2,000
• # of volunteers trained on health and hygiene promotion	40	20
# of emergency public latrine constructed	6	2

Narrative description of achievements

- 2000 selected beneficiaries were provided with WASH items comprising of jerry can (20 liter), Bucket (10 liter), washing basin and Hygiene materials comprising of body soap, body oil, laundry soap, toothpaste and brushes.
- Water tanker base was constructed using concrete slabs in selected 4 IDP sites, ILLA and Tututi IDPs in Oromia and Daedo and Addis Raey IDP sites in Afar. 4 water tanker of 10,000 liter each, were installed to provide water services for the IDP communities.
- ERCS assigned its Water Trucks to Oromia Fentale wereda and one more hired for Awash Ariba town of Afar region. They served a total of 3471 HHS i.e. 2075 HHs resides in two IDPS camps called ILLA and Tututi IDPs in Fentale wereda of Oromia region for three months and 1396 HHs resides in two IDP camps called Daedo and Addis Raey IDP for 1 and Half months.
- 2 latrine blocks with 6 pit holes each and 2 compartments per each block that separated for male and female use, and special rooms with rack to to enable access for PWD. They were constructed in Dalaka IDP camp, Gabi Resu zone of Afar Region. The latrines benefit 1396 people living around the site.
- Afar Regional Branch team has deployed One WASH engineer at the site level and has able to construct Latrine and installation of water tanks within short period of time.
- Health and hygiene promotion: 20 Volunteers were trained on integrated Epidemic control and deployed to conduct awareness through H2H visit and mass campaigns in the IDP sites. A total of 23,471 people were reached with key messages aligning to personal hygiene, environment cleaning, safe water usage, latrine usage and cleaning, epidemic risk control, to mention few. Mass awareness events were organized through sports, community meeting, and other community gatherings.
- Water purification chemicals procured and distributed to 2000 HH for the 2 months use, each HH was oriented on the use during distribution and on the HH volunteer visit. Each HH received 10 strips of 12 tabs each, for 2 months usage.



Lessons Learnt

- The emergency procurement process support to fast-track WASH materials to meet the needs of displaced people, and deployment of the prepositioned water tank for Oromia served the immediate purpose.
- Deploying WASH engineer onsite for emergency operations fast tracked the constructions and all WASH related activities.
- By having own water trucking, ERCS managed to provide the service timely and for longer period compared to the hired truck and reaching more people.

Challenges

- Latrine construction in Oromia region could not be accomplished due to security situation.
- We have trained 20 volunteers due to high cost of volunteers training for 4 days.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 5,936

Targeted Persons: 1,000

Assisted Persons: 11,111

Targeted Male: 11

Targeted Female: 11

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of volunteers briefed on PGI	30	35
# of women and girls received menstrual hygiene kits	1,000	1,000
# of volunteers and community leaders trained on earthquake risk awareness	40	196

Narrative description of achievements

- A total of 35 volunteers were briefed in PGI and CEA (13M and 10M); to ensure they align their work to the minimum standards.
- 1000 menstrual hygiene kits are procured and provided to 1000 women (650 HHs in Oromia and 350 HHs in afar region) that are identified through selection process. The kit includes 2 Body soap 175 gm, 2 Laundry soap 250gm, 1 Toothpaste of 70ml with Brush, 10 disposable sanitary pads, 1 hand towel of 60cm*40cm, 1 toilet paper roll.
- 3 gender dialogue sessions were organized and conducted in 3 sites (2 at Oromia region and 1 in afar region) with a total participant of 269 people (188 female and 81 male participants).
- The operation aligned all its operation to the minimum PGI requirement, where the latrine construction segregated male and female latrine, and the menstrual room in the female latrine. Latrine construction also considered the disability, where one room was installed with ranks and specialized pit.
- Children were engaged in social events where sports were organized to integrate them in the new environment. Balls and other sport equipment were distributed among the teams. the events were jointly organized with other implementing partners.
- One PSS officer was deployed on site to support community-based events

Lessons Learnt

- The volunteer's engagement at community level for PGI and CEA have supported to conduct Gender dialogue.

Challenges

- Increased humanitarian needs.
- Limited partners to support sensitive gender issues.
- insecure environment in Oromia threatens safety of displaced people.





Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Budget: CHF 2,495

Targeted Persons: 5,000

Assisted Persons: 4,263

Targeted Male: 2,174

Targeted Female: 2,089

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached with risk awareness on seismic activities	5,000	4,263

Narrative description of achievements

- 3 Seismic risk awareness session conducted i.e. 2 in Oromia and 1 session in Afar region and addressed a total of 845 HHs (196 HHs in afar region and 649 HHs in Oromia region).
- 38 volunteers and community leaders are trained and engaged in community-based risk awareness session.

Lessons Learnt

- Volunteers and community members participation helped to provide seismic risk awareness information on timely manner.

Challenges

- The security situation in Oromia has affected the awareness sessions and unable to reach more people.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 9,301

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Assisted Persons: 11,111

Targeted Male: 111

Targeted Female: 111

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained and deployed for CEA and PGI	30	35
# of inception meeting conducted	2	2
# of lesson learning workshop conducted	2	1
# PDM conducted	1	1
% of people satisfied with ERCS services	80	1



% feedback collected and responded	80	1
Tools for real data collection and reporting procured	8	0

Narrative description of achievements

- 1 PDM is conducted at Awash and Fentale weredas of the Gabi resu zone of Afar region. Eight professional volunteers were oriented on the use Kobo, including their roles and responsibilities, as well as clarification on conducting household interviews and recruited to conduct the survey. The survey involved 353 beneficiaries. The result showed 99% satisfaction level of non-food items
- 2 inception meeting conducted at zonal level with a participant of 70 persons (13 female and 57 male) who are community leader's representative, government sector office leaders and specialist and Faith based leaders and partner NGO organization representatives. ERCS elaborated the planned interventions and time of implementation aligned to the other implementing target locations and interventions.
- 35 volunteers are oriented on CEA and PGI issues for half day and assigned to work on CEA and PGI integration during beneficiary's identification, complaints handling and over all support provision
- The community committees were oriented on managing community feedback and complaints, a total of 196 members including community volunteers (88F, 108M).

Lessons Learnt

- Communities are key stakeholders in any program, and they are more informed and have multiple possible solutions to their problems, engaging them provides actual and sustainable solutions to their challenges.

Challenges

- Shortage of data collection tools.
- Security situation in Oromia hindered timely implementation.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 8,923
Targeted Persons: 10,000
Assisted Persons: 10,000
Targeted Male: 5,100
Targeted Female: 4,900

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of IFRC monitoring visits conducted	2	0

Narrative description of achievements

- IFRC CCD has been actively supporting the NS in remote follow up of the project activities. No movement was allowed to the affected regions due to security situation. Monthly follow up meeting were held to share updates, and monthly ITT was shared by branches and compiled for submission to the region through the Monthly operation dashboard.
- Participation in the lesson learned identified the gaps in the implementation and recommended solution for future operations, including extension to finalize the pending activities, which was paused during the lesson learned.

Lessons Learnt

- Coordination meeting with NS and branches complemented the physical monitoring visits.
- The IFRC participation in the inception/onboarding sessions of branches is crucial to address the limited knowledge on the DREFF procedures, where the situation does not allow, the session should be planned in Addis or online.



Challenges

- Security situation limited IFRC access to the operation site.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 69,339

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Assisted Persons: 10,000

Targeted Male: 5,100

Targeted Female: 4,900

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
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Narrative description of achievements

- 4 Monitoring visits were conducted by HQ and regional team to follow, observe and document the Project activity implementation mainly during NFI and Cash beneficiary's selection and registration, NFI support provision, training support and community mobilization efforts.
- A total of 5 ERCS regional and zonal staffs were assigned to support The DREF implementation at zonal level. These are 1 regional staff and 2 zonal staffs in the case of Afar region, and 2 zonal staffs in Oromia region in order to support and implement the DREF activities timely.
- The lesson learned workshop was conducted at Addis Ababa ERC training center with 10 participants from HQ, regional and zonal level participants including IFRC -CC team members and DRM representative. The branch presented activity implementation achievements, challenges and solutions taken. Discussion on the lesson from the project was guided by Busagonofa (DRM), and finally the lessons from this operation was documented for future projects reference.

Lessons Learnt

- Timely communication of any challenge from the project is key, Branches delayed to request for time extension to accomplish the tasks
- Branches implementing the project are less aware of the DREFF procedures; Thus requested capacity building on the procedures
- Participation of community in committees from different Gote's made it easier in the beneficiary selection
- NS should have multiple FSP for cash responses to ensure timely response.
- The project was closed in the time when the project are still in urgent support., ERCS mobilized resources from other partners to scale up the water trucking and hygiene services; in future if there is a room for operation scale up, it should be communicated earlier.



Financial Report

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRET037 - Ethiopia - Earthquake

Operating Timeframe: 20 Jan 2025 to 31 May 2025

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	Operation MDRET037
Budget Timeframe	Budget APPROVED

Prepared on 31/Dec/2025

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	491,271
DREF Response Pillar	491,271
Expenditure	-482,927
Closing Balance	8,344

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items			0
PO02 - Livelihoods			0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash			0
PO04 - Health			0
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene			0
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion			0
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	483,448	481,768	1,680
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability			0
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
Planned Operations Total	483,448	481,768	1,680
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships			0
EA02 - Secretariat Services	7,823	1,160	6,663
EA03 - National Society Strengthening			0
Enabling Approaches Total	7,823	1,160	6,663
Grand Total	491,271	482,927	8,343

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

Please explain variances (if any)

The variance observed in this operation is the procurement of dignity kits, which the price was double the budgeted amount, due to inflation of imported materials, this was complemented by the cost for MHPSS events, which was covered by other IPs in the field during implementation of similar activities, and ERCS used the same platform to conduct their activities. Computer and IT equipment were not procured due to delayed procedure to meet the implementation period of this DREF operation. The volunteer insurance cost was unutilized, ERCS used its internal insurance cover policy for all deployed volunteers. Other reallocations were within the specific sectors with the variances with the price fluctuations and balances from the capacity building. The outstanding amount of CHF 8,343 will be returned to the DREF pot.



Contact Information

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[Click here for reference](#)

