



THE FREEMASONS'
GRAND CHARITY

CASE STUDY

East Africa Famine

£20,000 granted to the British Red Cross following famine in East Africa

Very poor rainfall in the Horn of Africa (which includes Somalia, Kenya, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Uganda) has led to the driest period in 60 years for some areas, causing severe drought which is threatening the lives of over **11 million people** according to the United Nations humanitarian agency (OCHA).

Drought conditions have led to food insecurity and water scarcity, in turn exacerbating high malnutrition rates. With no rains in sight there are strong fears that the situation will rapidly unfold. According to OCHA, an estimated 250,000 children under five are suffering from moderate acute malnutrition and 40,000 are suffering from severe acute malnutrition within the region - high impact nutrition interventions are a priority.

The daily decline in health and sanitation, combined with the separation of families due to migration, is increasing the impact of food insecurity, malnutrition and risk of mortality.

In response to this situation the President of the Grand Charity approved an emergency grant of £20,000 to the British Red Cross in August 2011, to provide emergency relief across the region.

The British Red Cross are providing around 8,000 families with food aid (cereals, pulses and vegetable oil) through the work of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Somali Red Crescent.

Famine is declared when acute malnutrition rates among children exceed 30%; more than 2 people per 10,000 die daily; and at least 20% have very limited access food. Drought is exacerbating school drop out rates, disease prevalence in both humans and livestock, and tension and conflict due to competition over scarce resources.



All photos © International Red Cross

If you would like to find out more about the Red Cross please visit:

www.redcross.org.uk



THE FREEMASONS'
GRAND CHARITY

The Freemasons' Grand Charity, 60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ
T: 020 7395 9261 F: 020 7395 9295 Registered Charity No. 281942
E: info@the-grand-charity.org www.grandcharity.org