



Somalia Desert Locust Invasion in 2019 - source of the photo FAO report

sEAP No: sEAP2026SO03	Total Budget CHF 218,971	Readiness: CHF 52,369	Prepositioning: CHF 10,074	Early Action: CHF 156,528
People to be assisted: 34,800 People	sEAP approved: 27/07/2026	sEAP timeframe: 2 Years	sEAP lead time: 6 weeks	Operational timeframe: 3 months
<i>Prioritized geographical areas: The coastal regions of Awdal, Sahil, Nugal, and Mudug</i>				

RISK ANALYSIS AND EARLY ACTION SELECTION

Prioritized hazard and its historical impact.

The desert locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*) is considered the world's most destructive migratory pest. A single swarm can contain billions of individuals, travel vast distances, and consume an amount of food equivalent to tens of thousands of people daily. Somalia, along with other East African nations, has experienced severe locust upsurges, with the 2019 outbreak being one of the worst in decades. In 2019-2020, Somalia faced one of the worst desert locust infestations in decades, triggered by heavy rains linked to the Indian Ocean Dipole. The locusts spread rapidly across the Horn of Africa, severely impacting Somalia's fragile food security by destroying farmland, pastures, and rangelands. The government declared a national emergency as locusts threatened the livelihoods of millions dependent on agriculture and livestock. Despite efforts from the FAO and international partners, response efforts were hampered by security issues, rapid locust reproduction, and limited resources. The peak of the upsurge occurred at the end of 2020 and the beginning of 2021, when large swarms gathered in significant numbers. Around 7,500 locust activities were recorded, with an average swarm radius of 0.5 km, and these activities mainly emerged in the north districts ([EU Delegation, Somalia 2021](#)). The most affected areas, particularly in the northeast and northwest regions—such as Bossaso, Burco, and Hargeisa—suffered substantial damage with nearly 13.4 thousand hectares of shrubland damaged in Burco.

Desert locust invasions pose a significant and recurring threat to Somalia's agricultural sector and food security, with impacts ranging from crop destruction to the destabilization of livelihoods and regional economies. The swarms, considered the world's most destructive migratory pest, devastate agricultural production and pastoral lands, threatening food security and compounding pre-existing vulnerabilities caused by recurrent droughts and floods. The country's geographical location and climatic conditions make it particularly vulnerable to these outbreaks. The primary impact of desert locust invasions in Somalia is the devastation of crops and rangelands ([ICPAC IGAD, 2021](#)). Swarms consume vast quantities of vegetation, including staple crops like maize and sorghum, as well as [as pastureland essential for livestock](#). This destruction directly threatens the livelihoods of farming and pastoral communities, many of whom rely solely on agriculture for their income and sustenance. For instance, in the coastal regions, planting of main season (Deyr) maize and sorghum crops faces a high risk of impact and thus is particularly vulnerable. The loss of crops exacerbates existing food insecurity, especially in regions already prone to humanitarian crises and conflict.

Beyond immediate food shortages, locust invasions have profound economic and social consequences. Agriculture forms the backbone of Somalia's economy, and widespread crop destruction can destabilize the national economy. Farmers who lose their entire harvest face significant financial losses, leading to increased debt and reduced purchasing power. This can force families to neglect basic needs such as nutrition, healthcare, and education, particularly affecting children ([World Bank Group, 2021](#)). Past locust plagues have shown a notable decrease in school enrolment and evidence of stunting in infants and children in affected areas ([Somalia Safety Net for Locust Response Project, 2021](#)). The combination of locust outbreaks with other challenges, such as conflict, drought, floods and disease outbreaks, further undermines the resilience of vulnerable populations.

Several factors contribute to the severity and recurrence of desert locust invasions in Somalia, namely:

- **Favorable Climatic Conditions:** Desert locusts thrive in wet weather, which allows for rapid maturation and breeding in the coastal areas of Somaliland and Puntland (Northern Somalia). Unusually heavy rainfall creates ideal breeding grounds and abundant vegetation for locust populations to explode ([Salih, A.A.M. et al, 2020](#)). The stage for the recent plague was set in 2018 with two tropical cyclones over the Arabian Peninsula in May and October 2018, supporting initial development of populations, which the heavy seasonal rainfall associated with the extreme positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event of late 2019 acted to amplify. Whilst desert locust outbreaks are part of the long-term historical ecology of the region, climate change increases the frequency of outbreaks through increasing the frequency of extreme positive IOD events and associated rainfall (Cai et al, 2014; MacLeod et al, 2023).

Table 1: Link between locusts outbreaks, seasons and climatic factors in Somalia

Season	Months	Climatic Conditions	Vegetation Environment /	Locust Activity Risk
Jilaal (Dry Season)	Dec – Mar	Very hot and dry, little rainfall	Dry soil, sparse vegetation	Low – breeding difficult
Gu (Main Rainy Season)	Mar-May	Heavy rainfall, moderate temperatures	Rapid vegetation growth and moist soil	High – ideal for egg laying and breeding
Xagaa / Hagaa (Dry-Windy Season)	Jul – Sep	Dry conditions with strong winds	Vegetation begins drying	Medium – swarms migrate with winds
Deyr (Short Rainy Season)	Oct – Nov	Moderate rainfall	New vegetation emerges	High – second breeding cycle

- **Geographical Location:** Somalia's position in the Horn of Africa makes it [a key breeding ground and transit point for locust swarms](#).
- **Fragility, Conflict, and Violence (FCV):** Ongoing conflict and instability in parts of Somalia can hinder effective monitoring and control operations, making it difficult for the Ministry of Agriculture's (MoA) Desert Locust Centre and SRCS to access affected areas and implement timely interventions such as EWI dissemination, advisory services/awareness-raising on how to take protective measures, such as harvesting crops early, pre-positioning fodder, preparing for potential biological spraying operations, digging trenches around fields to trap the flightless "hoppers", as well as moving livestock to safer areas.
- **Limited Resources:** Localized, preventative locust response efforts led by the MoA Desert Locust Centre are often possible; however, some regions may lack the necessary equipment, pesticides, or trained personnel to effectively manage large-scale invasions due to financial resource constraints. Once an outbreak has occurred, traditional methods, such as making noise or throwing stones, are often insufficient against massive swarms.

Table 2. historical locust outbreak in Somalia

Year / Period	Areas Affected in Somalia	Main Causes	Key Impacts
1940–1947	Large parts of northern and central Somalia	Unusually heavy rains in the Horn of Africa created ideal breeding conditions	Massive crop destruction, pasture loss, food shortages, livestock stress
1986–1989	Northwest and central Somalia	Regional desert locust plague across Africa and the Middle East	Severe damage to sorghum and maize crops, reduced pastoral grazing land
2003–2005	Northern Somalia (Somaliland and Puntland)	Good rains after drought triggered breeding	Crop loss, increased food insecurity, higher dependence on food aid
2013	Northwest Somalia	Cyclones in the Arabian Peninsula increased breeding in nearby regions	Localized damage to crops and rangeland
2019–2021	Most regions including Somaliland, Puntland, and southern Somalia	Heavy rains linked to positive Indian Ocean Dipole and cyclones in the Arabian Peninsula	Worst outbreak in 25 years, destruction of crops and pasture, threat to livelihoods of millions, emergency control operations

Explain which risks have been selected for this protocol and why

Whilst desert locusts cause a range of impacts, the National Society has prioritized **food insecurity and loss of livelihoods** as the two main desert locust risks to be addressed with anticipatory actions.

Decimated crops and pasture mean that food security and livelihoods for millions of people especially in Somalia, a country marked by fragility, conflict, and violence are at stake. Thus, the Impact of the desert locust invasions in Somalia are primarily severe food insecurity and extensive loss of livelihoods. Historically, locust swarms have destroyed vast areas of crops and pastureland, which are critical for the agricultural and pastoral communities that form the backbone of the country's economy. This destruction directly led to a significant reduction in food availability and income for millions of people, pushing already vulnerable populations deeper into hunger and poverty. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) estimated that the upsurge threatened the food security of **41.5 million people affected** across the greater horn of Africa regions.

Describe the selected early actions and explain how they will address the risks and lead to the intended outcome

The anticipatory actions were prioritized using a participatory approach, where at-risk communities were consulted through a Desert Locust Scoping conducted by the SRCS.

The anticipatory actions prioritized represent a critical and evolving strategy to mitigate the devastating impacts of these pests on food security and livelihoods. This approach will leverage financial aid to vulnerable populations alongside timely information to enable proactive actions to mitigate and potentially prevent desert locust impacts, namely: **Trigger 1 - Readiness activation and the early actions** *(please note, trigger 1 will be activated by information from the FAO Locusts monthly bulletins, Readiness action will be activated when the bulletin reaches alert level 3/orange)*

1. **Surveillance** Early detection via regular surveillance during the hazard seasons is critical to potentially prevent or limit the outbreak of locusts. Surveillance will be conducted by SRCS volunteers and by the Desert Locusts Centre (on a monthly basis). Mobile phones with the eLocusts app will be distributed to trained volunteers, and volunteer training on the eLocusts app will be done as a **readiness activity** with the support from the Desert Locusts Centre. The eLocust app is a mobile application developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization to collect standardized field data on desert locusts. The following information will be collected: locusts presence, ecology, soil conditions, climatic conditions, locusts type, locusts characteristics (if the locusts are encountered) etc.
2. The SRCS EOC will serve as the focal Centre for contact with the government-led Desert Locusts Centre in case they observe early development of locusts from surveillance data. This observational data from the field will feed into a national dataset, thus improving the spatial and temporal accuracy of the evolving forecasts. Depending on the conditions forecasted (rainfall, vegetation, cyclone, wind speed/direction, etc.), some outbreaks could be largely contained using methods such as large-scale spraying by the government (Department of Crop Protection).

Trigger 2 – Activation early actions

3. **Multi-purpose cash distribution** A one-off multi-purpose cash transfer (MPC) will offer flexibility to recipients, allowing them to address their most pressing needs in the face of a looming crisis. In the context of desert locusts, this could, for instance, purchase pesticides for localized pest control, equipment for digging trenches, pre-positioning fodder for livestock or food for their households, or investing in temporary shelters if migration to better pastures becomes necessary.
- **Transfer value (TV):** will be USD 130 per household of 6 person's average. The TV is based on the national Cash Working Group (CWG) minimum expenditure basket (MEB) calculation plus extra for fodder or tools to dig trenches, etc.). Note that USD 130 is an average and differs per region due to the different market costs per region i.e. in the at-risk regions.
 - the MEB ranges between USD 110-160.
- **Duration:** The MPC is intended to cover one month.
- **Markets:** Local markets can provide households with the necessary items and are accessible to the population (this will be checked seasonally).

Delivery mechanism: Digital cash transfers via financial service provider (FSP) Telesom. This FSP has coverage in all the at-risk areas, and the population is familiar with digital cash transfers, and encashment is easy via local agents. The target groups listed below prefer digital cash transfers because of the familiarity and trust, accessibility and coverage, cost effectiveness, convenience and speed, security and safety, dignity and autonomy, and inclusivity. Elderly people, people with disabilities, and children-headed households who may have difficulty handling mobile money will have access through their family members. Evaluations from past experiences in these areas with cash transfers indicate appreciation for this delivery mechanism and for CVA in general.

Early warning dissemination *and* advisory services

Impact-based forecasts and advice developed with input from the Desert Locust Centre, MoA, on potential desert locust impacts will be disseminated by the SRCS concurrently with the MPC distribution through Volunteers as well as mass media platforms such as radio and television. The EW messages will contain advisory information on how best to monitor, report on, and measures to contain the pest, as well as strategies to mitigate forecasted impacts, should a large-scale outbreak be unavoidable. Early warning information and advisory services will enable farmers and communities to take protective measures, such as harvesting crops early, pre-positioning fodder, preparing for potential biological spraying operations, digging trenches around fields to trap the flightless “hoppers”, as well as moving livestock to safer areas.

Table 3. Seasonal calendar and timing of actions.

Season	Months	Climatic Conditions	Vegetation / Environment	Locust Activity / Risk	Actions
Jilaal (Dry Season)	Dec – Mar	Very hot and dry, little rainfall	Dry soil, sparse vegetation	Low – breeding difficult	Monitoring, surveillance and activation of EAs (Jan – Feb)
Gu (Main Rainy Season)	Mar-May	Heavy rainfall, moderate temperatures	Rapid vegetation growth and moist soil	High – ideal for egg laying and breeding	Early response activities after the early actions have been delivered between Jan - Feb.
Xagaa / Hagaa (Dry-Windy Season)	Jul – Sep	Dry conditions with strong winds	Vegetation begins drying	Medium – swarms migrate with winds	Monitoring, surveillance and activation of EAs (August – Sep)
Deyr (Short Rainy Season)	Oct – Nov	Moderate rainfall	New vegetation emerges	High – second breeding cycle	Early response activities after the anticipatory actions have been delivered between August – Sep.

Theory of change for the proposed actions:

Theory of Change (ToC)	Early Warning Dissemination & Advisory Services	Multipurpose Cash Distribution (MPC)
Inputs	• Locust surveillance data. • Forecasting models & information systems. • Communication channels (SMS, radio, extension, WhatsApp). • Technical and extension personnel.	• Funding for household-level cash transfers. • Targeting systems & vulnerability criteria. • Cash delivery systems (mobile money, bank transfers). • Community outreach mechanisms.
Activities	• Analyze locust movement and infestation risks. • Produce clear, actionable advisories. • Disseminate early warnings via multiple channels. • Engage local institutions and extension agents	• Identify and enroll vulnerable households. • Disburse unconditional MPC before or at the onset of the threat. • Provide simple guidance on the flexible use of cash.
Available capacities to implement this action	• A wide volunteer network at the community level to disseminate the early warning and advisory messages. • Strong existing working relationship with the Ministry of Agriculture, Weather Forecasting department, to prepare Early Warning and advisory services packages.	• SRCS cash is ready with pre-existing service agreements with Financial Service Providers already in place • A wide volunteer network is already trained on cash. • SRCS is part of the Somalia Cash WG.
Outputs	• Communities receive timely early warnings. • Farmers/pastoralists understand recommended actions. • Local institutions coordinated for anticipatory action.	• At-risk households receive timely cash. • Households have liquidity to act early.
Immediate Outcomes	• Households take pre-emptive protective measures (early harvesting, crop protection, pasture management). • Reduced exposure of crops and livestock to locust damage	• Households can finance protective actions (e.g., hiring labor, purchasing inputs). • Food consumption stabilized. • Productive assets protected or replaced
Intermediate Outcomes	• Reduced crop and pasture losses. • More effective community-level response to locust threat.	• Reduced reliance on harmful coping strategies. • Household income and market participation stabilized

Combined Outcomes	Information + resources enable rapid action, increasing the effectiveness of anticipatory measures.	Information + resources enable rapid action, increasing the effectiveness of anticipatory measures
Long-Term Outcomes	- Faster recovery from locust shocks. - Lower humanitarian response costs. - Improved community preparedness for future shocks	- Increased household resilience and financial stability. - Improved livelihood protection.
Impact	Reduced the impact of desert locust upsurges on food security and livelihoods; strengthened long-term resilience.	Reduced the impact of desert locust upsurges on food security and livelihoods; strengthened long-term resilience.

EARLY ACTION INTERVENTION

<u>Overall objective of the intervention</u>	The early action interventions aim to potentially contain or limit the spread of the pest as well as mitigate the impacts of desert locust outbreaks that cannot be contained by providing vulnerable people with early warning information, advisory services, and multi-purpose cash in advance of a potential desert locust invasion.
<u>Potential geographical high-risk areas that the simplified EAP would target</u>	This sEAP will cover any area that the forecasts indicate a potential outbreak. The most likely at-risk areas are: Somaliland: The coastal regions of Awdal and Sahil. These geographical areas are particularly vulnerable because they receive heavy rains thus providing good breeding grounds as well as lush vegetation that supports locust development. These regions are also hugely agropastoral/cropping regions thus at risk of being invaded. Puntland: Nugal and Mudug are known breeding grounds for desert locusts. NB: south, central areas of Somalia are usually not affected by locust outbreaks.
<u>Who will be assisted through this operation and what criteria will be used for their selection?</u>	The operation will mostly target agropastoral and pastoralist communities who are more exposed to desert locusts' invasions due to their geographical location, livelihoods and other vulnerability factors. The intended beneficiaries/target groups will either be pastoralists or agro pastoralists. The SRCS selection criteria which takes into account households with individual vulnerabilities and will then be applied to this target group (i.e. pastoralists or agro pastoralists who own farming land and livestock): - Households with people with disabilities - child-headed households - female-headed households - Households with the chronically ill and the elderly For advisory services and EW dissemination, the above will also benefit, in addition to able-bodied pastoralists and farmers Please note, households will be selected jointly by SRCS and community elders, using the existing SRCS beneficiary selection criteria to ensure that the most vulnerable households are prioritized. This collaborative approach helps ensure transparency, community acceptance, and accurate identification of those most in need.

Trigger(s) statement

This sEAP implements a phased trigger approach (fig 1). A first trigger builds readiness by enhancing surveillance of locust threat and after this the second trigger activates targeted support of communities when the threat is confirmed. The triggers align with the existing national process of monitoring and forecasting desert locusts and taking preventative actions, led by the National Desert Locust Centre (DLC).

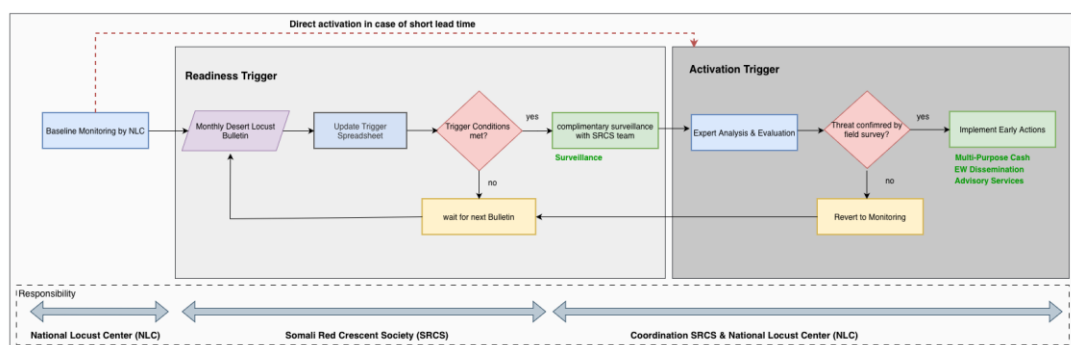


Fig 1: Two-phase desert locust trigger process.

Readiness Trigger - lead time six weeks

DLC data feeds into the monthly [FAO Desert Locust Bulletin](#),* which provides a outlook on regional and country-level locust activity for the upcoming six weeks. The bulletin will be monitored by SRCS via a structured spreadsheet that quantifies specific standardized forecast phrasings in the bulletin from the Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) into four colored alert levels (table1).

This is necessary until FAO provides the Locust Alert Dashboard on a national level, which is currently in process. This will most likely substitute the manual effort in the spreadsheet as then the situation for Somalia likely will be clearer.

Readiness action will be activated when the bulletin reaches **alert level 3/orange**. This represents locust formations present in Somalia, with likely breeding in the next six weeks, and/or a risk of a regional migration from a neighboring country.

Alert Level	Meaning	Indicative DLIS Forecast Phrasing
(1) grey	No danger, stable or minimal activity	"No significant developments are likely"
(2) yellow	Some breeding could occur	"Breeding if rain", "breeding might be possible"
(3) orange	Breeding is already occurring or is likely to happen within the next six weeks	"Groups and bands will form", "breeding"
(4) red	Situation is worsening or at risk of getting out of control	"Swarm formation likely", "risk of swarms appearing from other country"

Table. 4: Trigger Monitoring: Classification of DLIS forecasting phrasings into alert levels.

Readiness action will be complementary, upscaled, coordinated field surveillance activities by the DLC and SRCS. The DLC conducts monthly baseline survey activities and will provide geographical details necessary to scale up this localized survey effort along with initial early warning information.

Stop mechanism: If the bulletins do not reach alert level 3 and trigger field surveys, the system reverts to trigger monitoring, awaiting the next monthly FAO bulletin or update. Alternatively, if a sudden threat emerges with a short lead time (less than 30 days /less than 4 weeks), the DLC retains the authority to escalate directly to the activation trigger. This streamlined procedure uses DLC's independent monthly baseline surveys to justify action, omitting the additional, time-intensive field survey of the readiness action. A full timeline of the trigger process is illustrated in figure 2.

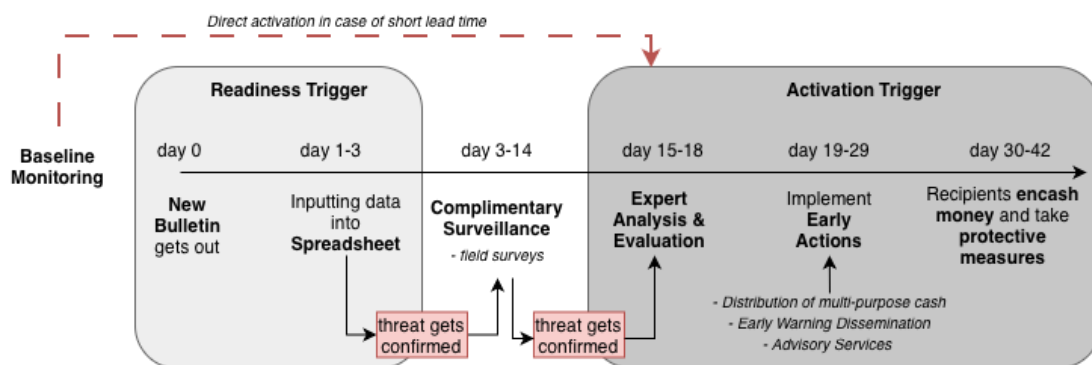


Fig 2: Illustration of the timeline of the two-phase trigger process.

Activation Trigger - lead time 3-4 weeks

Activation will be triggered if DLC's systematic expert review of both structured field survey results and complementary satellite data (primarily greenness maps) confirms that locust formations pose an imminent threat to crops and food security.

When this condition is met the following actions will be implemented:

- Early warning dissemination and advisory services
- Targeted distribution of multi-purpose cash

Table 5: SRCS CVA for Anticipatory Action

STAGE	ACTIVITIES
PRE-ACTIVATION/READINESS PHASE	- Financial Service Provider (FSP) agreements (SRCS already has existing FSP framework agreements) - Capacity building /refresher training on Multi-Purpose Cash and PDM - Prepositioning of fliers/IEC materials
Trigger confirmation and EAP activation!	
Day 1	Communication with branches and coordination staff on the activation
Day 2	Deciding on transfer value + targeting (as informed by the trigger)
Day 2-3	Community mobilization
Day 4-5	Beneficiary registration and verification
Day 6-7	Encashment through Mobile Money transfer
Day 8	Reconciliation
	Post distribution monitoring

3-4 weeks lead time is given as an estimated range because it is dependent on the scale of areas requiring field surveillance. 3-4 weeks is sufficient for both the delivery of anticipatory cash and for recipients in at-risk areas to take protective measures.

Please note, the NS will request the early action budget once the readiness trigger is reached. This allows sufficient time to initiate the necessary preparatory and operational

	steps in advance, ensuring that resources are available to implement the planned anticipatory actions promptly if the activation trigger is subsequently met. Stop mechanism: If the expert review does not confirm the threat, the system reverts immediately to monitoring status, awaiting the next monthly FAO bulletin for assessment. More information on the DLC team of experts can be found below in section “Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners, Governmental / other agencies consulted/involved on this simplified EAP”.
Trigger threshold justification	Triggers are based on direct observations and expert assessments rather than probabilistic forecasts. This means that activation is grounded in verifiable field conditions and as such, has minimal uncertainty. The rarity of large-scale upsurges limit statistical calibration, however the 2020 outbreak clearly demonstrated that these conditions - confirmed presence and expert-verified threat to crops - correspond with significant agricultural and humanitarian impacts. Justification for the triggers therefore comes from their clear linkage to observed events and the technical expertise of the National Desert Locust Centre (DLC) and FAO. The two-step trigger system requires a readiness trigger to be met before a full activation. This implies that while past readiness activations can be objectively tracked from the data, it can only be assumed when a full activation would have occurred by cross-referencing with real-world historical events. Throughout the entire observation period from 2010 to 2025, the first locust outbreak warning was issued in spring 2014, reporting about the formation of locust swarms which should have led to a readiness trigger. Although limited control operations were undertaken, hoppers formed bands and adults formed swarms that had left the coast once vegetation dried out and moved to eastern Ethiopia so that the overall situation was improving in Somalia and swarm movements across the plateau were forecasted to decline (FAO 2014). In the period of the Desert Locust upsurge between 2019 and 2021, the readiness trigger would have been first met in October 2019, with a full activation likely soon after. This theoretical activation aligns with the reality on the ground: Between June and September 2019, swarms migrated to Somalia after crossing the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, a consequence of ideal breeding conditions created by Cyclone Mekunu in May 2018. The situation was then critically amplified in October 2019 by a major rainfall event (Cyclone Pawan) which led to more vegetation growth, fueling a population explosion of locusts in Somalia and throughout the Horn of Africa. This exponential increase led to a devastating regional upsurge that peaked in late 2020 and early 2021 (FAO 2018, National Geographic 2020, Nature Climate Change 2020), so that the country had declared a national emergency as large locust swarms of unprecedented size and destructive potential posed a major threat to Somalia's fragile food security situation (UN news 2020, BBC 2020). According to FAO, locusts damaged around 70,000 hectares of land in Somalia and neighboring Ethiopia in 2019 (Reuters 2019). Following the official end of the upsurge in February 2022, the analysis suggests a subsequent readiness trigger activation would have been reached in December 2023. Sources confirm there was a significant regional outbreak during this period, with increased locust activity concentrated in the winter breeding areas of northwest Somalia. Survey and control operations were, in fact, conducted to manage this threat treating 4,189 ha using biopesticides (FAO Locust Bulletin 2023, DLCO-EA Sitrep No. 6-2023/2024). While the major event shows clear justification, there remains a degree of uncertainty as to whether a full activation would have been triggered for this more localized outbreak.

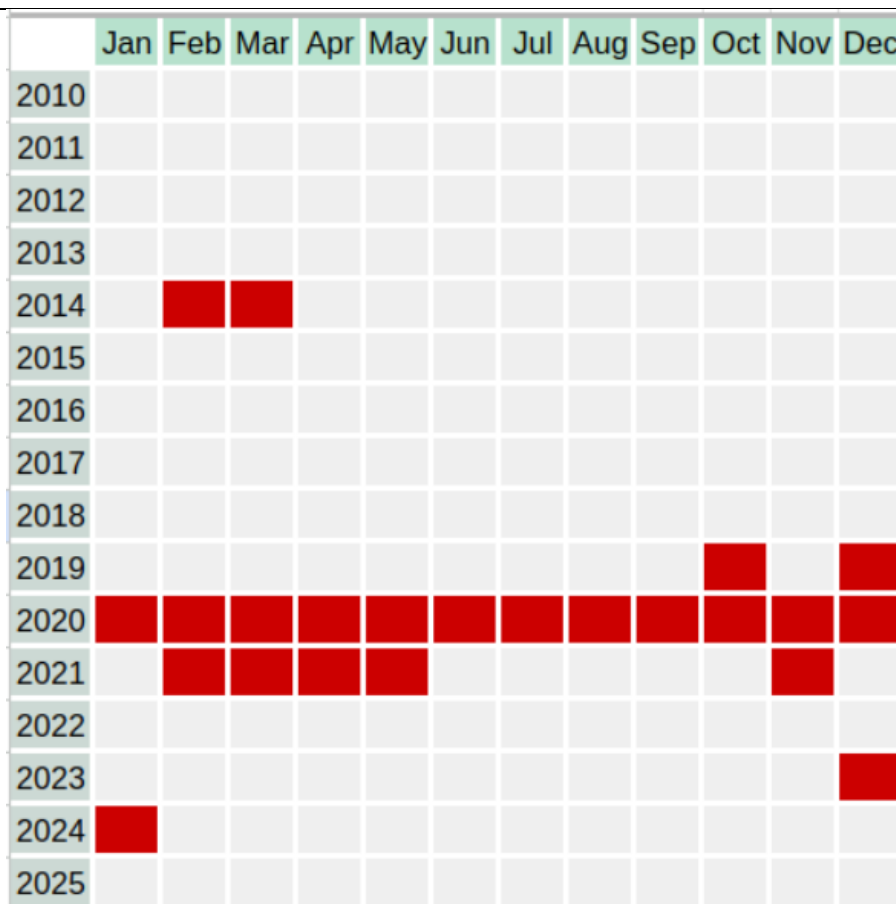


Fig 3 Readiness Trigger Activations 2010-2025

**Next steps –
For National
Societies that
intend to
develop a full
EAP (Optional)**

The SRCS, with support from the GRC and IFRC will seek to expand this sEAP to a full EAP through:

- Continued engagements with the Desert Locusts Centre and technical experts to refine the trigger model
- In-depth review of proposed Early actions in this sEAP to analyze their effectiveness and identify potential additional EAs to be incorporated into the full EAP
- Further engagements with the relevant stakeholders as well as the AA Technical WG to
- Integration and testing of the existing trigger mechanism (in this sEAP) into the SRCS EOC
- Conducting workshop with the SRCS branches to ensure ownership of the proposed EAs
- Lastly validation workshop with stakeholders and the AA TWG to endorse/validate the full EAP document.

PLANNED INTERVENTION

	Multi-purpose Cash	Budget	117,227 CHF	
		No. people targeted:	4800 (800HHs)	
Indicator:	Number of people reached with multi-purpose cash in advance of desert locusts' invasion		Target:	
Readiness activities:		1. Refresher training on CVA to the SRCS staff and Volunteers. 2. Renewal/Review of current Telesom Financial Service Provider (FSP) Agreement 3. Attending CWG cluster meetings 4. Market Assessment/ (based on secondary data from Somalia CWG) to get the latest transfer value rate (Quarterly Activity) 6. Adapt PDM experiences (from previous activation) to anticipatory cash & if necessary review or adapt CVA SOPs or plans to anticipatory cash transfers for desert locusts 7. Establishment of Hotline feedback Mechanism		
Prepositioning activities:		--		
Prioritized Early Actions:		1. Engagement meeting with government and regional authorities. 2. Community mobilization on the intended use of cash & beneficiary selection criteria. 3. Beneficiary Verification and Registration 4. Distribution of MPC to the most vulnerable. 5. Post Distribution Monitoring. 7. Lesson learnt workshop.		

	Community Engagement and Accountability	Budget:	4,260 CHF	
		No. people targeted:	80% of target population reached with materials 90% of key messages disseminated through multiple channels	
Indicator:	Number of staff and volunteers trained on CEA and PGI		Target:	

Readiness activities:	1. Refresher Training on PGI and CEA to the SRCS staff and Volunteers.
Prepositioning activities:	1. <i>Insert more lines as required</i>
Prioritized Early Actions:	1. <i>Insert more lines as required</i>

	Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery	Budget:	73,864 CHF
		No. people targeted:	30,000 people (5,000 HH)
Indicator:	Number of people reached with risk reduction and/or adaptation interventions in advance of desert locusts' invasion		
Readiness activities:	1. Meeting to sign and review EWM MoU with the relevant ministries or government departments on desert Locust surveillance and dissemination of EWM as well as development of EWM content for each trigger and scenario. 2. Engagement of the Radio/Telecommunication companies for the dissemination of the early warning information to all the target areas 3. Training Volunteers on Desert locusts' surveillance (Locust3 app) plus EWM dissemination refresher training to the SRCS staff and volunteers 4. Training farmers on early harvesting, fodder pre-stocking, digging trenches and other control measures.		
Prepositioning activities:	1. Establishment of Hotline feedback Mechanism 2. Procurement of AA visibility and IEC materials. 3. Stationery.		
Prioritized Early Actions:	1. Upscaled desert Locust Surveillance in coordination with the government (Desert Locusts Centre) 2. Dissemination of EWM and advisory services through volunteers, Radios, TV, social media platforms, and bulk messaging.		

ENABLING APPROACHES

	Secretariat services	Budget	21,490 CHF
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		No. People targeted	3	
Indicator:			Target:	
Readiness activities:	1. <i>Insert more lines as required</i>			
Prepositioning activities:	1. <i>Insert more lines as required</i>			
Prioritized Early Actions:	1. Support coordination with stakeholders and authority 2. Provision of technical support during the implementation 3. Support operation management and reporting			

	National Society Strengthening	Budget	2,130 CHF	
		People targeted		
Indicator:			Target:	
Readiness activities:	1. <i>Insert more lines as required</i>			
Prepositioning activities:	1. <i>Insert more lines as required</i>			
Prioritized Early Actions:	1. Project Visibility 2. Supporting office running cost			

CONDITIONS TO DELIVER THE EARLY ACTION

Experience and/or capacity to implement the early actions.

Assumptions or minimum conditions needed to deliver on the early actions (including issues to be resolved)

The Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) is well positioned to deliver the planned Early Actions due to its extensive experience, strong community access, and established systems.

SRCS has over a decade of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) experience (and has cash focal points in both Coordination offices), including large-scale cash distributions, water point rehabilitation, and early warning communication during the recently implemented **Drought EAP, Drought Emergency Response and ongoing Complex Emergency Appeal**. Its wide network of trained volunteers and branches across Somaliland and Puntland ensures reliable access, even in areas affected by occasional conflict.

The SRCS also has **direct experience responding to desert locust upsurges**, providing livelihood support, disaster preparedness training, and community engagement often in partnership with the German Red Cross, IFRC, and ICRC. Recent **simulation exercises with government departments** have strengthened coordination and readiness for anticipatory action.

Potential challenges such as isolated insecurity or logistical constraints are mitigated by SRCS' strong local presence, trusted relationships with communities and authorities, and established early action systems. Overall, the NS has the capacity, experience, and access needed to implement the Early Actions within the required time window.

<u>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners, Governmental / other agencies consulted/involved on this simplified EAP</u>	This Simplified Early Action Protocol (sEAP) for Desert Locust was developed through a collaborative process involving key national and humanitarian stakeholders: National Desert Locust Centre (DLC) The DLC provided technical expertise on locust surveillance, forecasting, and control measures. Their input was critical in defining early warning triggers and thresholds for anticipatory actions. Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) As the lead implementing agency, SRCS contributed operational insights on feasibility, community engagement, and integration with existing disaster response mechanisms. SRCS ensured that proposed actions aligned with its capacity and branch network. Government Departments and Local Authorities Ministries of Agriculture and Disaster Management participated in consultations to ensure alignment with national contingency plans and facilitate coordination at regional and district levels. Humanitarian Partners (German Red Cross, HEIGIT) Partners provided technical guidance on anticipatory action frameworks, supported capacity-building initiatives, and contributed to trigger development to finalize the EAP. Roles in Implementation. DLC will continue to provide surveillance data, early warnings, and technical advice during implementation, acting as a coordination point for locust control measures. SRCS will lead the execution of early actions, including cash assistance, livelihood support, and community engagement, leveraging its trained volunteer network and branch presence. Government and Partners will ensure policy support, security facilitation, and resource mobilization, while partners provide financial and technical backing for anticipatory actions.
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N.B. The SRCS acknowledges that this Simplified EAP will only be activated once. After any activation and completion of early actions, the system will return to a monitoring phase and in the event of a 2nd trigger activation, support outside of this sEAP will also be sourced to carry out Actions for example through the existing Contingency plans or Preparedness and Response plans. Most importantly, the SRCS will be working on expanding this Simplified EAP to a Full EAP to allow for multiple activations.

BUDGET

<u>Operating Budget</u>	Readiness	Pre-Pos Stock	Early Action	TOTAL
Planned Operations	38,868	9,372	147,111	195,351
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0	0	0	0
Livelihoods	0	0	0	0
Multi-purpose Cash	6,092	5,112	106,023	117,227
Health	0	0	0	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0	0	0	0
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0	0	0	0
Education	0	0	0	0
Migration	0	0	0	0
Risk Red., Climate Adapt. and Recovery	28,516	4,260	41,088	73,864
Community Engagement and Accountability	4,260	0	0	4,260
Environmental Sustainability	0	0	0	0
Enabling Approaches	13,501	702	9,417	23,620
Coordination and Partnerships	0	0	0	0
Secretariat Services	13,501	276	7,713	21,490
National Society Strengthening	0	426	1,704	2,130
TOTAL BUDGET	52,369	10,074	156,528	218,971

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this simplified EAP please contact:

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