Latest News: Integral Launches New DR Alert for the Greater Horn of Africa Food Crisis



19th October 2022

Integral has launched a Disaster Response for the worsening food crisis in the greater Horn of Africa. Currently 12 Integral Members are responding to this severe food and malnutrition crisis^[1] to cover work in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda.

The March-May 2022 rainy season was the driest on record in the last 70 years, meaning that this drought has now surpassed the horrific droughts in 2010-2011 and 2016-2017 in both duration and severity. It is estimated that across the Horn of Africa, at least 36.1m people will be affected by severe drought in October 2022, including 24.1m in Ethiopia, 7.8m in Somalia and 4.2m in Kenya. High levels of food insecurity continue across East Africa, and famine is projected in parts of Somalia in the coming weeks [Source here].

Anna Coffin, Medair's Head of Country Programmes for Afghanistan & Somalia, says, "The situation in the Horn of Africa is incredibly serious, with deaths from malnutrition a growing reality. Far from the public's television news screens, we are entering an unprecedented fifth consecutive season of failed rains. Medair has been responding in Somalia through a massive scale-up of mobile health and nutrition services and trucking water to communities who have none available. Since the drought is not constrained by international borders, we have also started a response in Northern Kenya. Urgent help is needed for many families who are struggling to survive in the face of this crisis."

Integral Members have been sharing information on the worsening crisis and their response plans for several months. Many are working in more than one of the countries covered by this response, with some also working in neighbouring states to address growing food and nutrition needs there. By coming together as Integral, Members hope to increase coordination and secure more much-needed support for this crisis.

Jan Eyre, Integral's Head of Disaster Management and Programmes says, "This is not a new crisis, and our Members have been responding to the needs for some time. Much collaboration is already happening between Members and with our network of Partners. This crisis is being exacerbated by rising food, fuel and fertiliser prices globally driven by the conflict in Ukraine and it remains critically underfunded. By launching this new alert, our hope is that together Members will be able to mobilise more support for the most vulnerable communities."

In the initial stages of an Integral response, calls are held as frequently as necessary, so that Members can share information in the critical phase when needs are acute. The Integral online platform enables Members to share photos and stories, response plans and funding needs.

^[1] Food for the Hungry (USA & Canada), International Health Partners (UK), Integra (Slovakia), Medair (Switzerland), Medical Teams Int (USA), Tearfund Australia, Tearfund (Belgium), Tearfund Netherlands, Tearfund (UK), World Concern (USA), World Relief (USA), ZOA (Netherlands)

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Extra information:

Integral's Vision

Christian agencies uniting globally, alleviating suffering and restoring hope, in disasters and beyond.

Integral's Mission

Integral exists to see God's Kingdom demonstrated by uniting our Members. We champion, encourage and facilitate collaborative working across the Alliance, particularly in disasters.

On Integral Collaboration:

Integral's goal is for all its Members to become more effective and efficient in their work and to see greater impact and reach as a result of working collaboratively.

Integral Members have a collaborative strategy for responding to disasters, with the Integral Disaster Response Process coordinating the emergency activities of its Members. The aim of the Integral DR process is to combine resources to ensure that as many people as possible are reached with the assistance they need. The Integral Secretariat plays a coordinating role to facilitate better communication between all Members in disaster situations with the aim of increasing support and avoiding duplication.

Integral has 21 Members with headquarters in 13 countries. Integral Members work over 85 countries, across 34 sectors, and have a network of over 580 local partners. To watch a short film introducing Integral click <u>here.</u>

See <u>here</u> for more information about Integral's commitment to Quality Standards Integral Members are:

CEDAR Fund - Hong Kong

Food for the Hungry - USA & Canada

Integra - Slovakia

<u>International Health Partners</u> – **UK**

Medical Teams International - USA

Medair - **Switzerland**

Mission East - Denmark

SEL France - France

Tearfund Australia - Australia

Tearfund - Netherlands

<u>Tearfund</u> – **Belgium**

Tearfund - Canada

Tearfund - Ireland

Tearfund - New Zealand

Tear Fund - Switzerland

Tearfund - UK

Transform Aid International - Australia

World Concern - USA

World Relief - USA

World Renew - Canada & USA

ZOA - **Netherlands**