



IN NUMBERS



3 000 km² surveyed for desert locust so far (as of April 2020)



1 780 km² area infested with desert locust (as of April 2020)



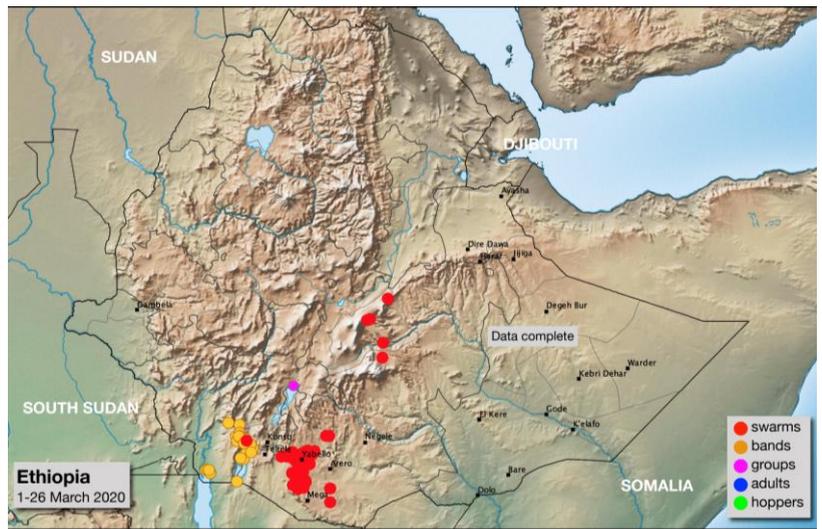
61 500 households to receive livelihood and food security assistance from FAO



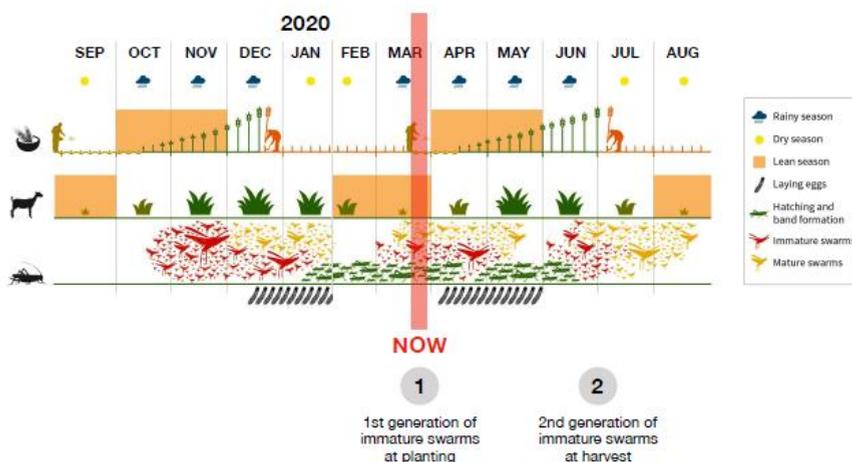
USD 50.5 million needed for Ethiopia under FAO's desert locust crisis appeal

KEY MESSAGES

- Despite control efforts, cross-border movements of immature swarms along the borders of **Kenya** and **Somalia** are ongoing. Swarms that formed in Somalia are now moving into Ethiopia through Aysha.
- Hopper bands and a new generation of immature swarms are forming in the **Oromia** and **Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' (SNNP)** regions, including the Rift Valley – the nation's breadbasket.
- Desert locusts are currently active in 161 *woredas*, down from 172 in February 2020.
- Unless properly controlled, the locust invasion will cause large-scale crop, pasture, and forest-cover loss, worsening food and feed insecurity, especially in areas emerging from recurrent El Niño -induced drought.
- Around 8.5 million people in Ethiopia are already in severe acute food insecurity and in need of humanitarian assistance (IPC, 2019). Of these, **over 6 million** live in areas currently experiencing a desert locust upsurge.
- A critical season has started for pastoralists and households relying on short rains (February–May) for crop production in the country. Hopper production poses a threat to pasture and crops planted during the *belg* season in southern Ethiopia and in the Somali region.



Agricultural calendar vs Desert Locust life cycle



CONTROL OPERATIONS

- The Government of Ethiopia has scaled up desert locust survey and control operations, especially in the **Oromia, SNNP** and **Somali** regions – the current hotspots of the invasion.
- A ground team of 136 experts and over 1 630 community scouts is supporting operations.

FAO'S ROLE

- FAO is providing an assortment of spraying, protective and surveillance equipment (see table) to scale up control operations
- The Organization is implementing a livelihoods recovery programme targeting over 60 000 farming and pastoralist households, who will be provided with livestock feed, agricultural inputs and cash transfers, with the aim of limiting the risk of vulnerable communities resorting to negative coping strategies.
- FAO has surged experts to Ethiopia and is supporting the training of scouts to conduct surveillance and ground control operations.
- FAO is closely monitoring the desert locust situation and providing forecasts, early warning, regular updates and alerts through its global [Desert Locust Information Service \(DLIS\)](#).

Vehicles and trucks	41
Motorbikes	110
Vehicle-mounted sprayers	44
Handheld and knapsack sprayers	4 500
Pesticide (litres)	320 000
Personal protective equipment kits	2 000
GPS	250
Pesticide pumps (various)	18
Emergency shower, eye-wash	28
Acetylcholinesterase assay kits	25
Rental planes for spraying	2

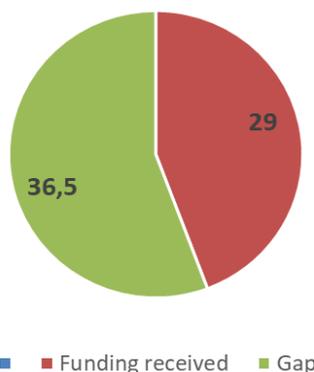


FUNDING

FAO revised its desert locust crisis appeal to USD 153 million for 10 countries (**Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen**), of which USD 65.5 million is for **Ethiopia**. So far, FAO in Ethiopia has received USD 29 million, of which USD 18 million is for control operations and USD 11 million for safeguarding livelihoods. Negotiations are ongoing for a further USD 6 million, of which USD 4.3 million for control operations and USD 1.7 million for safeguarding livelihoods.

The timing of funding is critical for both pillars of the appeal (control and livelihoods). Any delay in scaling up field operations will likely lead to a further expansion of desert locust and a marked deterioration of food security.

Funding status for Ethiopia (\$ million)



PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Curb the spread of desert locust: assessments, early warning and forecasting, locust control operations (aerial and spraying), ground surveillance and impact assessments

Safeguard and support early livelihoods recovery: comprehensive livelihood recovery package and cash transfers and cash+, supplementary livestock feed and farming input packages

Coordination: deploy rapid surge support, coordinate cross-border response and improve national capacities

Operations made possible thanks to the following donors



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