

SOUTHERN AFRICA RAPID RESPONSE

LOCUST RESPONSE 2020

20-RR-SOA-45759

Patrice Talla

FAO Subregional Coordinator for Southern Africa

Reporting Process and Consultation Summary:

Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

June 02,2021

Following completion of the project, on June 02, 2021, FAO facilitated a regional virtual end of project meeting with key partners involved in the emergency Locust response. These were Ministries of Agriculture of Locust affected countries (Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe) as well as the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The National Locust Response focal points and their alternates attended the review. In some countries like Zambia and Zimbabwe, decision makers at the level of Director of the relevant Locust response Units also participated in the meeting. Through the virtual meeting, key achievements of the project were discussed. The discussion further highlighted both the challenges and opportunities encountered during project implementation.

Please confirm that the report on the use of CERF funds was discussed with the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team (HCT/UNCT).

Yes No

Please confirm that the final version of this report was shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

Yes No

PART I – ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION

Statement by the FAO Subregional Coordinator:

CERF funding was pivotal in raising regional awareness on the African Migratory Locust (AML) and Red Locust (RL) emergency that affected Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It also provided critical time bound requisites for the emergency surveillance and control of the Locusts. This prevented damage to crops and grazing for an estimated 2.3 million people in Integrated Food Security Phased Classification (IPC) phase 3 and above in Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The crops and grazing of a further 562,000 people in IPC phase 3 and above from Southern Angola were protected from the Locust menace (bringing the total number of beneficiaries of the intervention to 2,874,700 from the initial). With this, a major food and nutrition security humanitarian crisis was averted. An estimated of 520,000 ha of land was surveyed for the Locusts of which 403,000 ha was found to be infested and 178 762 ha was controlled. The intervention played a critical role in advocating for a collective and coordinated response to the Locust emergency. It galvanized support among regional humanitarian actors for collective action for the desired outcome- controlling the AML to save people's lives, food and nutrition security and livelihoods. It mobilized the collective capacities of the FAO and other key regional stakeholders; United Nations Country Teams (UNCT), Organization for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Southern African Development Community (SADC), regional humanitarian and food security platforms

including the Regional Interagency Standing Committee (RIASCO) and the Food and Nutrition Security Working Group (FNSWG) and Ministries of Agriculture of affected countries.

CERF's Added Value:

The CERF AML intervention contributed to the meeting some of the most urgent humanitarian needs of vulnerable people in Southern Africa. The AML was declared as an emergency threat to food and nutrition security by the Southern African Development Community and a US\$ 21 million appeal was launched for emergency assistance to support the affected countries. Additionally, the CERF emergency AML control intervention complimented the already identified need for assistance for an estimated 2.3 vulnerable people in Integrated Food Security Phased Classification (IPC) phase 3 and above in Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe as well as the 562,000 people in Angola. Most of these 2,862,000 vulnerable people who were affected by the Locust are primarily smallholder farmers whose food and nutrition security and livelihoods depends on rain fed production of crops and rearing of livestock. The AML outbreaks threatened to add another layer of humanitarian suffering to an already precarious situation for these communities. Through the CERF, protection of their crops and grazing land from the ravaging AML contributed to the greater regional efforts to save lives and livelihoods in the affected countries.

Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

Yes

Partially

No

The CERF intervention enabled the timely procurement and distribution by FAO of vital requisites for Locust surveillance and control, including specialized surveillance and spray equipment (373 pieces and backup spares) which could not easily be procured locally. It also procured bio-pesticide Metarhizium (210 kg), fuels for field operations, 2566 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPEs), 68 pieces of communication equipment elocust3m smartphones, laptops, tablets and routers/modems

Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

Yes

Partially

No

Through the CERF FAO procured emergency Locust aerial and ground surveillance and control equipment including sprayers, GPS, bio-pesticides Metarhizium, Personal Protective Equipment, (PPEs), fuels and lubricants, reporting laptops, elocust3m GIS remote monitoring smart phones. The intervention also provided support for aerial surveillance and control contracts with service providers.

Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

Yes

Partially

No

The project contributed to the strengthening of institutional and technical capacity, coordination and a partnership for joint action on the Locust outbreaks in the region and the affected countries. FAO worked closely with SADC, OCHA, affected countries and other humanitarian actors such as the Food and Nutrition Security Working Group (FNSWG) for joint messaging, advocacy and the sharing of information on the Locust threat. FAO facilitated a total of 22 fortnightly and ad hoc Locust update meetings with affected countries and SADC to enable sharing of information on Locust surveillance and control operations and other related matters.

Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

Yes

Partially

No

The CERF catalysed extra resources amounting to US\$ 2.7 million for the Locust emergency; USAID US\$ 1.5 million, SFERA US\$ 0.5 million, Emergency TCPs US\$ 0.7 million

Considerations of the ERC's Underfunded Priority Areas¹:

Food security and agriculture play a critical role in peoples' lives, livelihood and food and nutrition security. Most of the people in the affected areas derive their sustenance from smallholder agriculture. Threats to agriculture and smallholder farming as occurred in the case of the transboundary Locust outbreaks in the five countries (Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and the risk they posed to affected communities was however not fully understood by the key humanitarian actors in the region. The Southern African Development Community (SADC), the FAO, the International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCOCSA) and Locust affected countries and other regional humanitarian actors developed a Regional Locust Response Action Plan (US\$ 3,877,000) to guide responses to the Locust menace in the region. SADC also launched a regional Locust Response Appeal amounting to US\$ 21 million to assist the Locust affected countries. Even with this, the emergency did not receive adequate funding to mount a robust and effective control of the Locusts. This left the Locust emergency in the five affected countries underfunded. Through advocacy for greater coordination, collective mobilization of resources among key humanitarian actors in the region, the CERF funding came in as a strategic intervention that championed the need for joint action on the emergency. Critical agencies such as the Organization for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the USAID, World Food Programme, World Bank and others were made aware of the Locust emergency in Southern Africa as an underfunded humanitarian crisis. This helped to mobilize the required resources that supported the Locust control efforts and prevented the pest from causing a humanitarian catastrophe.

One of the key challenges that contributed to the initial under funding of the response to the Locust emergency was the weak coordination and information sharing among the key humanitarian actors in the region. The CERF funding came in to address this and augmented the voice of collective action among the humanitarian actors in the region. Due to the infrequent occurrence of Locust outbreak, there was also limited understanding of the danger this transboundary emergencies posed on people's lives and livelihoods. The gravity of the COVID 19 pandemic and the attention it required also played a part in diminishing the prominence of the Locust emergency in the five affected countries. The usual means of communication and engagement at both country and regional level got disrupted by the impositions of COVID 19 safety regulations.

Table 1: Allocation Overview (US\$)

¹ In January 2019, the Emergency Relief Coordinator identified four priority areas as often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration and visibility when funding is allocated to humanitarian action. The ERC therefore recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and HCTs/UNCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. These areas are: (1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment; (2) programmes targeting disabled people; (3) education in protracted crises; and (4) other aspects of protection. While CERF remains needs based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the questions and answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

Total amount required for the humanitarian response	3,877,000
CERF	2,000,000
Country-Based Pooled Fund (if applicable)	
Other (bilateral/multilateral)	2,700,000
Total funding received for the humanitarian response (by source above)	4,700,000

Table 2: CERF Emergency Funding by Project and Sector/Cluster (US\$)

Agency	Project Code	Sector/Cluster	Amount
FAO	20-RR-FAO-033	Food Security - Agriculture	2,000,000
Total			2,000,000

Table 3: Breakdown of CERF Funds by Type of Implementation Modality (US\$)

Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	2,000,000
Funds sub-granted to government partners*	97895
Funds sub-granted to international NGO partners*	0
Funds sub-granted to national NGO partners*	17673.03
Funds sub-granted to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	0
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	115568.03
Total	2,000,000

* Figures reported in table 3 are based on the project reports (part II, sections 1) and should be consistent with the sub-grants overview in the annex.

2. OPERATIONAL PRIORITIZATION:

Overview of the Humanitarian Situation:

The African Migratory Locust (AML) outbreaks started in February 2020 and now affect huge areas of Botswana (97,598 hectares (ha) affected and 4,201 ha controlled), Namibia (500,000 ha affected and 120,000 ha controlled), Zambia (472,540 ha affected and 100,900 ha controlled) and Zimbabwe (39,712 ha affected and 76 ha controlled). Swarms also appeared in Angola. Despite sustained control campaigns by the five concerned countries, the AML outbreak continues to spread from initial areas, representing now a critical threat to the food and nutrition security and livelihoods of vulnerable communities and households. In the four last months, Red Locust infestations have also appeared putting an additional risk of crop and grazing failure in the region. Irrigated crops and grazing have been devastated in some areas and locusts are posing a grave threat to the main planting season that was to commence in November 2020. In September 2020, a \$18.9 million Regional Locust Response Plan (RLRP) was developed by FAO, SADC, IRLSCOCSA and other key stakeholders, and launched by SADC. It includes a \$3.9 million emergency locust control component and a \$15 million component for food security and the restoration of livelihoods. This Regional Response Plan is in turn anchored into respective National Locust Response Plans (NLRPs) that have been developed by the respective humanitarian community (UNCT/RCO, NGOs and the government response team). Currently, only 13% of the emergency funding requirements of \$3.9 million have been funded through FAO's emergency internal resources (\$500,000).

Operational Use of the CERF Allocation and Results:

In response to the African Migratory and Red Locust outbreaks, CERF allocated \$2 million from its Rapid Response window. This CERF funding enabled FAO and its partners to support the emergency Locust response of the Governments of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe in providing immediate operations support to control the spread of locusts and mitigate its impact on an estimated 2.3 million farmers and pastoralists (including an estimated 186,853 people with disabilities).

The CERF emergency intervention came at a critical time when Locust affected countries and vulnerable communities were desperate for assistance to control the Locusts pests and prevent devastation of their crops. The timely emergency intervention by CERF enabled the urgent procurement by FAO of vital surveillance and Locust control requisites; specialized spray equipment (233 different types of sprayers; bio-pesticide *Metarhizium*; other pesticides; fuels for field operations; personal protective equipment (PPEs), communication equipment (elocust3m smartphones, laptops, digital cameras, GPS, tablets and routers/modems). The intervention contributed to the control of the Locusts, preventing it from causing widespread damage to crops and grazing and averting a potential humanitarian crisis.

project contributed to the strengthening of coordination, institutional and technical capacity and a partnership for joint action on the Locust outbreaks in the affected countries. FAO worked closely with SADC, OCHA, affected countries and humanitarian platforms such as the Food and Nutrition Security Working Group (FNSWG) and the Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RIASCO) for advocacy, and joint messaging on the Locust emergency. Bi-weekly update meetings were held with regional stakeholders. The intervention facilitated surveying of 520,000 ha for Locust infestation, of which 403,000 ha was infested and 178 762 ha was controlled. FAO produced 22 update reports on the pest trends in the affected countries. At least 2261 staff from the Ministries of agriculture and Locust response teams were sensitized on Locust surveillance and control. Another, 300-elocust3m users, were sensitized on how to use the elocust3m Locust early warning anticipatory system. The system enables Locust monitoring, operational planning and control of the pest. A number of awareness creation activities were carried out were conducted at national provincial and community levels in all the affected countries reaching out to an estimated 6,366,136 people of all ages and gender across the affected countries.

People Directly Reached:

The CERF intervention reached out to an estimated 2,874,700 million people who were at risk from the Locust emergency. These projects were based on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projections for the vulnerable populations in the affected areas. The projections focused on people who in IPC phase 3 and above. Most of the people in the Locust affected areas are involved in crop production and livestock production. The pest affected crops and livestock grazing upon which the affected people lives, food and nutrition security and livelihoods depend on. The protection of the crops and livestock grazing lands from the Locust outbreaks benefited all the people equally in the Locust affected areas; men, women, girls and boys. The project ensured that a gender perspective was applied in the implementation of activities, through deliberate allowing both women and men to get involved in decision making on the Locust surveillance, control and information dissemination campaigns at community level. It also availed equal opportunities for men and women to participate in the project activities.

People Indirectly Reached:

Beyond the direct beneficiaries of the project, the CERF project undertook a massive awareness campaign to inform key stakeholders and the public about the Locust emergency and its humanitarian implications on affected people. The messages had a special focus on areas that were proximal to the Locust outbreak areas and were likely to be affected by the pest, given its ability to fly long distances across, regional, international and national geographical boundaries. The targeted indirect beneficiaries of the CERF intervention were government officials and decision makers, traditional and community leaders, farmers, and the media. The Locust messaging and advocacy focused on the Locust threat, response measures and citizen participation in reporting and control as well as the sharing of pesticide risk reduction information. The media was a critical tool in reaching out to the various Locust outbreak interest groups and stakeholders. The project used locally appropriate traditional communication methods, pamphlets, brochures, and the electronic and print media including Radio, community radio stations, television, bulk SMS and social media. Through various communication channels, an estimated 6 366 136 people across the affected countries were sensitized and made aware about the Locust outbreaks and the danger they posed to communities and society.

Table 4: Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Sector/Cluster*

Sector/Cluster	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Food Security - Agriculture	578,175	578,175	578,175	578,175	2,312,700	718,675	718,675	718,675	718,675	2,874,700

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Table 5: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Category*

Category	Planned	Reached
Refugees	0	N/A
Returnees	0	NA
Internally displaced people	0	N/A
Host communities	0	N/A
Other affected people	2,312,700	2,874,700
Total	2,312,700	2,874,700

Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sex & Age	Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*		Number of people with disabilities (PwD) out of the total	
	Planned	Reached	Planned	Reached
Women	578,175	718,675	37,581	46,713
Men	578,175	718,675	37,581	46,713
Girls	578,175	718,675	37,581	46,713
Boys	578,175	718,675	37,581	46,714
Total	2,312,700	2,874,700	150,324	186,853

PART II – PROJECT OVERVIEW

3. PROJECT REPORTS

3.1 Project Report 20-RR-FAO-033

1. Project Information			
Agency:	FAO	Country:	Southern Africa
Sector/cluster:	Food Security - Agriculture	CERF project code:	20-RR-FAO-033
Project title:	Emergency Response to African Migratory Locust and Red Locust outbreaks in Southern Africa		
Start date:	10/11/2020	End date:	09/05/2021
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 3,877,000
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 4,700,000
	Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 2,000,000
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:		US\$ 115,568.03
	Government Partners		US\$ 97895
	International NGOs		US\$ [Fill in]
National NGOs		US\$ 17673.03	
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ [Fill in]	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

The 6 months CERF project contributed to the control of the AML and RL accompanied with Pesticide Risk Reduction for the communities and response teams in the five affected countries. Through the intervention 520,000 ha of land was monitored and surveyed out of which 178 762 ha was controlled through ground and aerial application of pesticides. Through various communication channels that included brochures, posters, pamphlets, radio, television, bulk SMS, print media and social media, the CERF intervention developed and disseminated Locust awareness and pesticide risk reduction information targeting 2,874,700 farmers, pastoralists and related casual workers who were identified to be the highest risk from the Locust outbreaks. Though initially 2,312,700 were foreseen to benefit from the intervention, this number was increased to 2,874,700 following the additions of IPC phase 3 and above beneficiaries Southern Angolan. The project indirectly reached out to another estimated 6,366,136 members of the public in proximal areas. These include ordinary people, farmers, communities, traditional leaders and government officials in areas that were considered high risk due to their geo-proximity to the Locust outbreak areas.

The project procured 254 specialized locust sprayers and back up parts (battery powered chemical sprayers Micronex ULV Sprayers, Motorized Chemical Sprayers, Solo Mist blower and Vehicle mounted sprayers). It procured 454 kg of bio pesticide Metarhizium and other pesticides (7684 L), personal protective equipment (PPEs) amounting to 5248 pieces comprising Reflective vests, Gum Boots,

Safety Goggles, Industrial Aprons, Chemical Resistant Gloves, Respirators/ Gas Masks, Work Suits, Binoculars, Camping Mattresses, Rain Coats, Helmets, Camping Tents, Torches and Accessories and Headlamps. The project procured fuels for Locust control response teams as well as providing them with Daily Subsistence Allowance to enable them undertake surveillance and control operations.

The CERF equipped National Locust Control Units with communication capability for Locust remote monitoring through use of the elocust3m application (125 pieces of Laptops, elocust3m smartphones, tablets, GPS and routers/modems). It facilitated bi-weekly coordination meetings and information sharing between affected countries, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and other partners. The project trained up to 300 government extension staff in the use of the elocust3m app.

The CERF intervention contributed to the control of the Locust, preventing the pest damage on crops and livestock grazing. It protected the food and nutrition security and livelihoods of people at risk. With this, a major food and nutrition security humanitarian crisis was averted.

3. Changes and Amendments

Though the project achieved the expected outcome, its implementation it faced a number of major challenges. This included the disruption of the COVID 19 pandemic lockdowns, movement restrictions international freight disruptions. However, though it was initially planned to boost Locust aerial surveillance and control operations to ensure efficiency and timeliness in control, there were no Locust aerial contracting services in some of the countries. The La Nina associated flooding and heavy rains in the Locust hotspot areas constrained access to the affected areas for surveillance and control operations. With this, a request for budget revision was requested and approved by the CERF secretariat. The budget revision aimed at moving resources towards from areas where expenditure was challenged by COVID disruptions to the procurement of equipment for community centred remote Locust monitoring through the elocust3m application.

Due to the COVID 19 disruptions on operations and delivery, the project expects to refund the CERF US\$ 77 446 unspent balance.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	[Fill in]				
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	[Fill in]				
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	[Fill in]				
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	[Fill in]				
Other affected people	578,175	578,175	578,175	578,175	2,312,700	718,675	718,675	718,675	718,675	2,874,700
Total	578,175	578,175	578,175	578,175	2,312,700	718,675	718,675	718,675	718,675	2,874,700
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	37,581	37,581	37,581	37,581	150,324	46,713	46,713	46,713	46,713	186,853

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

The project indirectly reached out to another estimated 6,366,136 members of the public in proximal areas. These include ordinary people, farmers, communities, traditional leaders and government officials in areas that were considered high risk due to their proximity to the Locust outbreak areas.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Safeguard the food and nutrition security and livelihoods of vulnerable people in the five AML and RL affected countries				
Output 1	AML and RL are Controlled accompanied with Pesticide Risk Reduction				
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?				Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture				
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification	
Indicator 1.1	Area monitored/surveyed in the five targeted countries	500,000 ha	520,000 ha	Government reports	
Indicator 1.2	Area infested by AML and RL treated with pesticide (aerial and ground);	150,000 ha	178762 ha	Government reports	
Indicator 1.3	Number of people in affected communities that receive locust awareness messages through radio, print media, social media etc.	2,312,700 farmers, pastoralists and related casual workers	2,312,700 people	Government reports	
Indicator 1.4	Number of emergency locust response staff and community locust surveillance and control monitors supported with response requisites	720 (500 locust staff and 220 community locust monitors)	2237 emergency locust response staff and community locust surveillance and control monitors supported with response requisites. This is above the initial targets because COVID 19 movement restrictions necessitated the need to increase the number of people from local structures who were to be involved in the pest surveillance and monitoring operations.	Government reports	
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The budget revision changed some indicators			
Activities	Description	Implemented by			
Activity 1.1	Procure specialized locust spray equipment	251 specialized equipment procured by the FAO			

Activity 1.2	Procure bio pesticide Metarhizium, other pesticides and personal protective equipment	454 Kg procured by the FAO
Activity 1.3	Procure requisites for locust field surveillance and control by response teams (fuel, lubricants, transport services)	2,0052 Litres of fuel was procured by the FAO
Activity 1.4	Provide technical (emergency locust operational and control protocol, joint planning meetings and information exchange) and financial support (Daily Subsistence Allowance for response staff undertaking field operations) for locust control ground operations	Bi-weekly coordination and planning meetings were facilitated by the FAO. FAO provided Daily Subsistence Allowance for response staff undertaking field operations for locust control ground operations
Activity 1.5	Contract relevant service providers to assist countries undertake requisite aerial, and ground surveillance and control operations	[FAO contracted relevant aerial Locust control service providers in Angola and Botswana.
Activity 1.6	Develop and disseminate AML and RL awareness materials in local languages for affected communities (print, radio, television)	Government response teams supported by the FAO disseminated AML and RL awareness materials in local languages to affected communities through print, radio, television, bulk SMS, social media, brochures and posters.
Activity 1.7	Undertake community locust monitoring (surveillance, mapping and reporting) to guide control operations	Ministry of Agriculture Locust response teams and community agents carried out locust monitoring (surveillance, mapping and reporting) to guide control operations
Activity 1.8	Procure surveillance and mapping equipment for countries including mobile phone for community locust monitors	125 elocust3m smartphones and related electronic equipment was procured by the FAO for Locust surveillance
Activity 1.9	Procurement of mobile phones for community-based locust monitors who will report locust incidences to specialists (specially equipped locust response teams)	FAO initiated the procurement of elocust3m smartphones for use by community agents for monitoring and reporting on Locusts.
Activity 1.10	Provide one day locust control, pesticide risk reduction sensitization awareness session for government locust response staff and community locust monitors. Given the on-going COVID-19 situation, the awareness sessions may be physical or virtual depending on the obtaining on the situation at the time.	FAO provided one day regional virtual locust control, pesticide risk reduction sensitization awareness session to 23 government locust response staff. The sensitized staff went on to sensitize community locust monitors.

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas² often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

² These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP) ³:

The principle of Accountability to Affected Populations was mainstreamed throughout the project cycle - from design to community sensitization and use of feedback mechanisms to address problems/complaints as they arise. Grievance mechanisms were communicated by implementing partners to elders and the community, as well as through face-to-face sessions with beneficiaries. In various contexts, FAO also uses radio campaigns, communication through field monitors and third-party monitors, and its hotline number. These feedback loops inform programming to ensure that assistance and services both reach and properly engage vulnerable populations. All FAO and partner staff were trained in AAP and receive guidance to ensure compliance on AAP commitments. Fill in]

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

FAO ensured that project design considers past feedback from communities that benefitted from similar projects, collected through awareness raising, M&E and a Grievance Redress and feedback mechanism (GRMs). Anyone from the affected communities or anyone believing they are affected by the Project would submit a confidential grievance through; telephone/mobile hotline; electronic grievance form or grievance registration form as preferred. FAO will record the case with: Complaint Reference Number; date of receipt of complaint; name of complainant; confirmation that a complaint is acknowledged; description of Complaint; details of internal and external communication; investigation, determination and action taken: date of finalization; feedback to the complainant and the appeal avenues available if not satisfied.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

FAO ensured that implementing partnership agreements included clauses on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), beneficiary selection (including participation of female-headed households) and monitoring and verification guidelines. PSEA will define timelines for acknowledgment, update and feedback to the complainant. The timelines were disseminated to the project stakeholders. The timeframe for complaint resolution will not exceed 30 days from the day of receipt. If an issue is still unresolved within 30 days, the complainant were updated regarding the status of the grievance and the estimated time for resolution (not to go beyond 45 days). If the complaint is unsatisfied with outcome of the complaint, then she/he can submit his/her complaint to the appropriate legal procedures in in the relevant country

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

During the implementation and throughout the structures of implementation at national and at community level there was always a balance of men, women and girls, ensuring involvement in decision-making and participation in activities accordingly. At times at smallholder level, women are more forthcoming to join project activities than men. In cases where that is not the case, FAO will provide mechanisms to ensure there is a balance between the number of men and that of women and girls participating in the project activities or accessing the benefits of the project. In the awareness creation and communication with the community, issues of gender –based violence will be discussed ill in]

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

The project focused on the monitoring and control of AML and RL as pests ravaging crops and pasture, and thus causing losses in both crops and livestock. Controlling the pest means more crop and animal production and therefore more food for everyone, including people

³ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

leaving with disabilities. The benefits from the project were therefore universal and non - discriminatory since the effect of the project activities will benefited everyone.

f. Protection:

In light of the non-discriminatory focus of the project, protection of all affected persons, including those at-risk, was considered. Awareness creation and communication is targeted at everyone in the community. Pesticide risk reduction sensitization information and the messaging around the dangers of consuming treated locusts was targeted at everyone, thereby protecting all including those at-risk (pesticide risk reduction Activity 1.10).

g. Education:

GUIDANCE (delete when completed): If relevant for this project, please explain in **max. 150 words** how aspects of education have been considered in the project design?

[Fill in]

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

GUIDANCE (delete when completed): Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) refers to all programs where cash or vouchers for goods or services are directly provided to affected people. In the context of humanitarian assistance, the term is used to refer to the provision of cash or vouchers given to individuals, household or community recipients; not to governments or other state actors. CVA covers all modalities of cash-based assistance, including vouchers.

If more than one modality was used in the project, please complete separate rows for each activity. Please indicate the estimated **value of cash** that was transferred to people assisted through each modality (best estimate of the value of cash and/or vouchers, not including associated delivery costs).

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	Choose an item.	[Fill in]

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

[Fill in]

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
[Fill in]	[Fill in]	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
[Fill in]	[Fill in]	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
[Fill in]	[Fill in]	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
BATTLING NAMIBIA'S WORST LOCUST CRISIS Posted by News Service May 27, 2021 Agriculture	https://economist.com/na/61642/agriculture/battling-namibias-worst-locust-crisis/ser
2021 ANGOLA LOCUST OUTBREAK	https://angola.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/2021%20Angola%20Locust%20Outbreak%20v4%20%281%29.pdf
On the frontlines: Battling Namibia's worst locust crisis	fao.org/africa/news/detail-news/en/c/1402098/
[Emergency Response to African Migratory Locust and Red Locust outbreaks in Southern Africa (20-RR-FAO-033)]insert]	[https://cerf.un.org/what-we-do/allocation/2021/summary/20-RR-SOA-45759/20-RR-FAO-033insert]
Zimbabwe Locust Update Report	https://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/18_march_2021_zimbabwe_locust_presentation.pdf

ANNEX 1: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

CERF Project Code	CERF Sector	Agency	Implementing Partner Type	Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner in USD
20-RR-FAO-033	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$97,895
20-RR-FAO-033	Agriculture	FAO	NNGO	\$17,673