

Trócaire East Africa Hunger Crisis

“The field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the Kingdom” (Mt 13:38)



About this Appeal:

A terrible hunger crisis is raging across East Africa, driven by escalating climate change, conflict, swarms of desert locusts, and Covid. Over 30 million children, women, and men are being pushed into starvation. People and their livestock are dying. Without emergency food and aid, many more won't survive. Lives depend on our ability to reach them.

South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, and the state of South Kordofan in Sudan especially are being brought to their knees by sparse and delayed average rainfalls which are the result of climate change. A grim third wave of Covid and regional conflict are making matters worse.

The very young, very old, and nursing mothers are so vulnerable. Babies. Children. Women. Men. And tiny infants whose mothers were killed in outbreaks of appalling violence. Yet with your help it is not too late to reduce tragic loss of life and ease suffering.

The need now, and how we're responding:

Ethiopia

To save lives and livestock, farmers in Ethiopia need access to food aid and cash transfers.

Somalia

In Somalia, Trócaire health centres need supplements to treat malnourished children.

South Sudan

Famine has been declared in South Sudan. Here, help with monthly food rations means life.

South Kordofan

Shelves and wells are empty in Sudan's South Kordofan: urgent food and water are needed.

Trócaire staff and partners are on the ground in the worst-hit regions: the countries of South Sudan, Somalia, and Ethiopia, and the state of South Kordofan in Sudan. We are rushing emergency food and aid into devastated communities to keep people alive, and working with tireless local church groups to do all we can. We must respond and every cent makes a massive difference. But the human suffering is enormous.

The support you show will be there beside Trócaire in the weeks and months to come by helping deliver emergency food baskets to desperate families, provide schools and communities with safe water, fund drought-tolerant seeds plus hay and medicine so farmers can save their livestock and have hope of a harvest, and equip stretched health centres to treat tragic levels of malnutrition.

How your Parish can help:

The Irish Bishops Conference has agreed for an **Emergency Collection, 6th and 7th November**, to take place in all Parishes including yours. Your Parish's Emergency Collection will support Trócaire's work in the countries of East Africa and in nearby countries similarly affected, and **rush urgent food, water, and lifesaving aid to people who desperately need your love now. Please help if you can.**

Intercessions

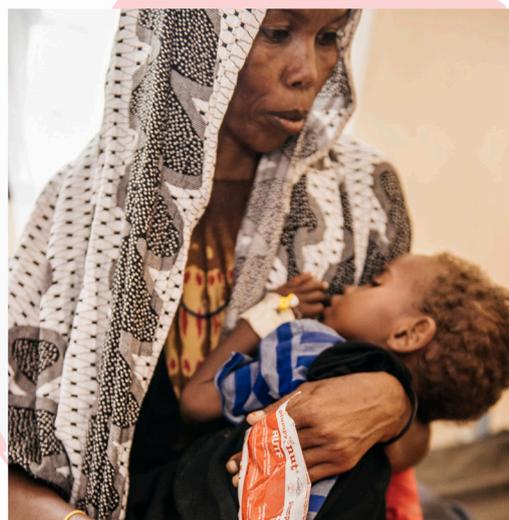
The following Intercessions are written in light of Trócaire's Emergency East Africa Appeal:

- 1. We pray for a remedy to Climate Change.** That collaboratively we can become a part of the solution that seeks to heal and protect the earth. **Lord in your Mercy**
- 2. We pray for an end to war** and all forms of conflict that affect families and communities. May we, as soldiers of Christ promote and pursue peace and justice, so that all of humanity may prosper. **Lord in your Mercy**
- 3. We pray for all who journey this day,** particularly those whose journey is forced upon them fleeing from oppressive regimes, terrorism or corrupt governments. **Lord in your Mercy**
- 4. We pray for all leaders of Church and state.** That they will make fully informed decisions that benefit those whom they represent. May they be blessed with a spirit of fairness and the ability to recognise the dignity in every human being under their care and protection. **Lord in your Mercy**
- 5. Lord, give us the gift of courage.** That we may use this gift to speak out against the many injustices in our world. We pray especially for all who are affected by the current drought in East Africa and the climate change that caused it. May their hunger be relieved, their burdens be lightened and their hopes be buoyed up by our response to their suffering. **Lord in your Mercy**
- 6. We pray for our deceased relatives and friends and for those who are suffering** as a result of their departure from this world. We remember especially families across East Africa who have lost their children, mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters as a result of having no food. In a world of plenty, we pray for all who have died in this way. **Lord in your Mercy**

Post-Communion Reflection:

(The following prayer is often attributed to St Teresa of Calcutta. It was more likely to have originated within the Order of the Missionaries of Charity which she founded)

Lord, when I am hungry,
give me someone in need of food;
when I am thirsty,
send me someone needing a drink;
when I am cold,
send me someone to warm;
when I am grieved,
offer me someone to console;
when my cross grows heavy,
let me share another's cross;
when I think only of myself,
draw my thoughts to another



Raato Abdi feeds her son a supplementary food called 'plumpy nut' to help him quickly gain the vital nutrients he needs at the Luuq Stabilization Centre, Somalia. Photo: Amunga Eshuchi.

For more information:

For more information on Trócaire's work in response to the East Africa hunger crisis and around the world, or for additional resources for your Parish, please go to www.trocaire.org or call (0)1 629 33 33 to Trócaire in Maynooth, or +44 (0)28 90 808030 to Trócaire in Belfast. Thank you for being a light in this world.

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