



YOUR ACTION FOR UKRAINE

Australia's role in supporting the people of Ukraine has focused on our nation's military aid.

As Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy asks the world to continue military support, I want to assure you that **[your life-protecting care to families fleeing the conflict also continues.](#)**

You support Lutheran churches in Poland, Hungary and Romania, to provide food, shelter and ongoing support to people forced to leave everything behind.

ALWS launched your action for Ukraine three days after the first Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine.

On your behalf, in faith, we pledged \$50,000...but the generosity of people like you, and a grant through the Emergency Action Alliance, means your ALWS support increased to more than \$200,000.

Now, given the call for more support from Australia, ALWS has added a further \$100,000 to your commitment – **SIX TIMES where we started!**

This is a tribute to people like you, continuing to be generous in wanting to help others – thank you!

FAMINE IN HORN OF AFRICA

Over the last 9 months, famine has loomed in the Horn of Africa.

People in Ethiopia and Somalia face deadly danger. Wheat is a staple food here, but 40% - 90% of supply comes from Ukraine and Russia. Blockades earlier this year cut shipments and pushed up prices.

This couldn't have come at a worse time.

As Ethiopia and Somalia have struggled with their own regional conflicts, they have been hit with the FOURTH consecutive year of devastating drought.

Food crops and livestock have been wiped out, as you can see below:



In the Horn of Africa, milk from livestock is a vital source of nutrition for children. Livestock are a family's wealth and savings too. So, what you see in the photo is a double disaster.

The Lutheran-supported team who deliver your ALWS aid in Ethiopia, wrote to us last week:

"Many water points have dried up or diminished in quantity and quality.

Families are forced to ration water use and prioritise drinking and cooking over hygiene.

This increases the risk of water-borne diseases, and the risk of skin and eye infections."

Friend, I have come face to face with famine in countries like Ethiopia, Mozambique and Niger.

It is not something you ever forget.

What I really struggled with was seeing mums so malnourished, they could not produce breast milk for their babies.

And those starving babies too weak even to cry.

I remember a four year old boy blinded because he couldn't lift his arm to chase flies from his eyes.

An elderly lady who died clutching a photo of my family in her hand – her only possession, and the only 'family' she had left in the world.

Tragically, this looming famine in the Horn of Africa has been overlooked by the world.

So, ALWS is again stepping out in faith, and committing an extra:

- \$150,000 aid for Ethiopia
- \$150,000 aid for Somalia

[Your extra ALWS aid](#) will go straight to work where you are needed most, to help those in danger of being forgotten – children, the elderly, people with disability, girls, pregnant or lactating mums.

In Ethiopia, you support:

- Water-trucking for 75 days to support 6,000 people
- Cash grants to 750 people for 3 months
- Food per family per month:
 - 54kg cereal
 - 10.8kg pulses
 - 3.5kg vegetable oil

In Somalia, you support:

- Commodity Food Vouchers of \$105 (AUD) per month for 6 months to 300 families:
 - 25kg rice, wheat flour and sugar
 - 6 litres vegetable oil
 - Dates
 - Powdered milk



YOUR ALWS ACTION ARRIVES IN SOMALIA TO FIGHT FAMINE

Abdullahi Hassan Ahmed is a farmer in Somalia. When drought killed 60 of his family's cows and two donkeys, Mr Abdullahi despaired how he would feed his children.

"Priority at the moment is to find food to eat. In the process, we often find ourselves facing other risks - such as having to leave behind the weak amongst our families, including persons living with disability, children and women.

"It's so heartbreaking for us to be separated from our loved ones."

In the photo above, you see Mr Abdullahi receiving his family's Cash Food Voucher for September, from the LWF team you support through ALWS. The \$105 Voucher can buy:

- 25kg rice, wheat flour and sugar
- 6 litres vegetable oil
- Dates
- Powdered milk

Our aim is to support 300 worst-hit families for 6 months. For now, Mr Abdullahi says he is praying that the skies open up for rain, and passes on his thanks to you:

"Sincere thanks to LWF and donors for their timely food assistance. I equally appeal to be supported to once again own livestock, as that is our only means of livelihoods."

FAMINE FACTS: ETHIOPIA

- 9.8 million people severely food insecure
- 3.5 million livestock already lost
- 2.2 million children under 5 acutely malnourished
- 685,000 pregnant and lactating women acutely malnourished
- 704,500 people severely malnourished
- LWF has worked in Ethiopia for 50 years

FAMINE FACTS: SOMALIA

- 6.1 million people affected by drought
- Food security bordering on 'catastrophic'
- 760,000 people displaced and in urgent need of food, water and access to health services
- 'Half a million Somali children face hunger in world's worst famine this century' Reuters
- LWF has worked in Somalia since 2017

YOUR ALWS PARTNERSHIPS

To make your help as efficient and effective as possible, ALWS works in strategic partnerships:

- **EAA: Emergency Action Alliance** – 15 Australian aid agencies
- **AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT:** providing \$5 million grant through EAA
- **MICAH:** Christian aid agencies working together to advocate for the poor
- **HELP FIGHT FAMINE:** joint Christian aid response through Micah
- **ACT: Action by Churches Together** – churches of many denominations from around the world respond to crises
- **LWF: Lutheran World Federation** – the team you support on front line, delivering your ALWS aid



ALWayS for those forgotten

