



ETHIOPIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (ERCS)

Rapid Needs Assessment Factsheet

Arsi Zone, Oromia Region | Cholera Outbreak

13/06/2025

EM-20250426-epidemic-Oromia-zone

Emergency Level: Zonal	Emergency Category: Orange	Alert Launched: 09/06/2025	HQs Support: Yes	Government Endorsed: Yes	Response status: Pending	RNA submissions: 2
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------

Overview - A cholera outbreak was declared in Arsi Zone on 17 May 2025, affecting Merti and Jeju woredas, with unofficial cases also emerging in Boset Woreda (East Shewa Zone). As of 12 June, 137 confirmed cases have been reported, 72% of which are severe, and two deaths occurred before patients could access treatment. The outbreak is growing exponentially, doubling weekly. Response efforts are hampered by insecurity, particularly in Jeju, and the crisis is more severe than previous outbreaks due to its impact on highly vulnerable, displaced populations and limited access to treatment and awareness activities.

Affected areas

Region: Oromia

Zone: Arsi

Woreda: Merti and Jeju

Kebele: [Merti] Gologota, Molame Kersa, Gologota Rural, Weshakona, Watacha Dole, Watero Dino; [Jeju] Huruta Dore, Alaga Dore, Achamo, Soke Bokicha, Alagu Dureti

Impact on people

Population pre-crisis	People Affected	People in need
330,076	169,000	62,839
Cholera Cases	Severe cases	Dead
137	72%	2

Concerned sectors

	Sector	Severity of concern	Contributing factors
	HEALTH	Level 5 - Life Threatening Problem	Severe limitation in access, availability, quality and use
	WASH	Level 5 - Life Threatening Problem	Severe limitation in access, availability, quality and use

Affected groups

1. Injured or Sick people
2. Communities hosting displaced populations
3. Farmers, pastoralists, and fishermen

Vulnerable Groups

1. Children
2. Elderly people
3. Rural and remote populations

Response Modality

1. Health Services
2. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
3. In-Kind Assistance

Required Assistance

Concern	1 - None	2 - Minor	3 - Moderate	4 - High	5 - Critical
Sector	-	Food, Shelter/ NFI, Education	-	Protection and Livelihood	Health and WASH



ETHIOPIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (ERCS)

Rapid Needs Assessment Factsheet

Arsi Zone, Oromia Region | Cholera Outbreak

13/06/2025

EM-20250426-epidemic-Oromia-zone

ERCS Branch proposed actions

- Mass health and cholera-specific sensitisation in Merti and Jeju through activation of ERCS professional volunteers
- Water tank and WASH NFIs supplies: Support to existing Marti CTC government facilities
- Medicine supplies: Support to existing Marti CTC government facilities.

ERCS Focal points:

Dinberu Abera: Arsi Zonal DRM Focal Point dinberu.abera@redcrosseth.org

Adugan Abdissa: Oromia EOC Coordinator: adugna.abdissa@redcrosseth.org

Matebe. Eshete National EOC Coordinator matebe.eshete@redcrosseth.org