

**SOMALIA**

Nairobi, 25 January 2019

SITUATION

The humanitarian situation in Somalia continues to be unpredictable and volatile and is among the most complex and long-standing protracted crisis in the world. It is predicted that at least a third (4.2million) of Somalia's (12.3million) people will require humanitarian and protection services in 2019. This is according to UNOCHA's 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan which also states that out of 4.2 million persons in need, at least 2.6 million are internally displaced persons living in camps across the country with children accounting for at least 60 % of IDPs country wide many who face specific protection risks such as family separation, forced child labour, sexual exploitation and abuse.

IDPs make up the most vulnerable population in Somalia as many abandoned or lost their productive assets when fleeing conflict. The displaced and hosting community members face specific threats to their wellbeing and survival and require protection. IDP camps in Somalia are overcrowded and spread throughout the country with children reported to be survivors of grave violation committed by parties of armed group and requiring protection. Insecurity is the main cause behind internal displacement, and this insecurity stems from armed conflict between militia groups and government/AMISOM forces. Perennial droughts and climatic shocks also significantly contribute to internally displacement, displacement made more challenging by complex governance challenges all contributing to a volatile humanitarian context in Somalia.

Climate change shocks (like drought and floods) have resulted in the destruction of valuable assets for farmers and pastoralists who need self-reliance initiatives such rehabilitation of farm land, support for farm inputs, training of best agronomical practices among others to improve their coping mechanism and survivals. Apart from insecurity, poor rainfall Deyr rains (Oct-Dec 2018) that was reported as below average has robbed the gains of above average Gu rains (April-June 2018). The recent below-average rains are predicted to have a direct impact on the food security/livelihoods of Somalia population as the upcoming Jilaal dry season (Jan to March 2019) with indications that it possibly will be particularly harsh. So far, due to climatic shocks, the displaced and affected population have been reported to engage in negative coping mechanisms which is further exacerbating protection and environmental risks. For example, affected population are engaging their children in hazardous child labour activities, early/forced marriages for young girls, and women risking trekking over long stretches in search of water and to burn charcoal as a livelihood.

Early and timely humanitarian assistance is highly needed to build and strengthened the resilience of the affected population.

NEEDS

Current and most pressing humanitarian needs of displaced and affected population remain high. Early and timely intervention is urgently required. Displaced persons living in overcrowded camps need water and sanitation facilities, education and protection services, particularly addressing the needs of women and children. The dire situation is further compounded for internally displaced persons more specifically for people of ethnic minority because they are the most vulnerable. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

In terms of access to water, almost all water points have dried up due to below average and access to water for affected people and their livestock has been identified as priority. Rehabilitation of water points is also highly needed to improve community resilience to future shocks. Women and children face specific protection risks as they are primarily engaged in the search of water. In addition, initiatives to build livelihood resilience and foster self-reliance are needed.

There is need to support Education in Emergency initiatives which will protect and promote children to access education. Access to education continues to be hampered by the prevailing humanitarian

situation in Somalia. Thousands of school age children therefore miss opportunities to access education and potentially may be recruited by armed groups. Several schools have been abandoned and the government is too weak to manage and successfully run education affairs in the country. The quality of education is very low and therefore significantly contribute to lack of interest in education by parents. Parents themselves are illiterate and do not understand the importance of education. The few children currently enrolled in schools are taught by volunteer teachers. Thus, there is high need to rehabilitate and construct classrooms, provide hot meals for hungry learners, support teacher incentives and support an emergency teacher training program. WASH in schools, support to school committees and Somalia Ministry of Education to coordinate education matters are needed.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and responding to the crisis:

<input type="checkbox"/>	National government	The National government's capacity to respond to the looming humanitarian crisis remains limited to due capacity and resource related issues
<input type="checkbox"/>	UN Agencies	UNOCHA, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM
<input type="checkbox"/>	INGOs	ACT Somalia Forum members: Lutheran World Federation, Norwegian Church Aid, Diakonia, DKH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	ICRC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Military presence	Presences of joint forces from AMISOM and government soldiers are working in round the clock to ensure the security of Somalia to improve.
<input type="checkbox"/>	National NGOs	Somali youth Peace and Development, Kaalo Aid and Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	Supporting an enormous IDP population
<input type="checkbox"/>	Affected communities	IDP, Host communities and Returnees

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by UNOCHA. To ensure the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, ACT Somalia Forum will take part in meetings with relevant sector stakeholders (Education, WASH and Livelihood) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure the response is based on participation and feedback.

ACT Alliance

X	ACT Somalia Forum has been working in Somalia since 1990, now helping/planning to help people affected by the drought, conflict and displacement
X	ACT Somalia Forum works in areas affected by the drought conflict , and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities
X	ACT Somalia Forum is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.
X	ACT Somalia Forum is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.
X	In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT forum has identified a gap in Education WASH, Livelihood and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.
X	ACT Somalia forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal to provide dignified humanitarian assistance to ensure that the drought affected persons' basic needs are met with regards to the affected persons .
X	ACT Somalia Forum is ready to respond, providing Learning materials, water vouchers and NFI kits to the affected person affected households in the coming months.
X	Furthermore, ACT Somalia Forum will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the drought are amplified.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org)

For further information, please contact:

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