

Overview/Humanitarian Context:

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia continued unabated in 2008 with the numbers of those in need of emergency livelihood and life saving assistance rising dramatically from 1.8 million at the beginning of 2008 to 3.2 million by the end of the year. The crisis was fuelled by civilian insecurity resulting in the massive displacement of over one million people; a deteriorating food security situation occasioned by adverse weather conditions including a prolonged dry season, a significantly devalued Somali shilling and hyperinflation of food and non food items. Underlying all these was the lack of basic services. Increased incidences of targeted attacks against humanitarian workers that led to 34 deaths and the kidnapping of 26 staff, sharply reduced humanitarian space and resulted in the withdrawal of international staff from the country at varying times of the year. This consequently hampered access to humanitarian aid for an increasingly vulnerable population.

It is against this backdrop that Humanitarian Response Fund (HRF) continued to compliment efforts by the humanitarian community in addressing the crisis and in some cases provided the impetus for emergency response in 2008. This was made possible through generous contributions from its donors amounting to **US\$21,193,970.09**. This included a carry over of \$9,148,585.66 million from 2007 and new contributions amounting to **\$12,045,384.43**. Contributions were received from the governments of Britain, Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden. A total of **\$12,747,292.42** was disbursed to 46 projects with an average allocation of **\$271,219**. Five projects received exceptional allocations of almost \$500,000 due to their scale of operations and immense needs. The projects that HRF funded were as a result of priorities set and agreed upon by the humanitarian community. Some of the emergency responses that HRF was able to support are highlighted below.

Drought and Flood Response

An extremely harsh *Jilaal* (January to March) dry season and third successive drought led to severe water shortages in the central regions of Galgaduud, Mudug, Bakool, and Sool and Sanag, Puntland and Somaliland in the north. In response, the HRF funded emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions that aimed to improve water supply and reduce water prices through water trucking, and the rehabilitation of water sources including boreholes and water reservoirs. HRF's support for a VetAid WASH project that involved water trucking and the construction of a *berkad* (water reservoir) helped address the acute water shortage felt by 6,354 households in Sool Region. Similarly, HRF's support for Danish Refugee Council's WASH project enabled 75,000 people to benefit from the rehabilitation and construction of water catchments in Somaliland.

In an effort to support livelihood recovery following flooding in 2007, HRF funded the rehabilitation of canals and river embankments, and a road construction in Lower and Middle Shabelle.

Support for Agriculture and Livelihoods

The third successive rain failure and conflict led to disruptions of livelihoods necessitating urgent restorative action. HRF funded the rehabilitation of irrigation canals and water reservoirs which were conducted on cash for work basis thereby providing valuable employment to over 140,000 vulnerable households in Middle and Lower Shabelle. HRF also supported cash based responses to improve food security and restore livelihoods in Gedo, Hiran and Bakool. This included an integrated water catchment rehabilitation and seed distribution program for riverine communities and agro pastoralists in Hiran.

The below normal *Deyr* 2007/2008 rains in Somaliland led to poor livestock body conditions predisposing them to opportunistic livestock diseases. In order to stem further herd losses HRF supported VetAid's emergency livestock vaccination and treatment programme against the deadly

peste des petits ruminants (PPR) in four regions of Somaliland that benefited an estimated 284,883 sheep and goats. Given the inadequate access to veterinary services in the project areas the project was expanded to provide treatment for other livestock owned by the pastoralists, resulting in an increase in beneficiary numbers from 3000 to 5267 pastoralist households.

Food security

The rapidly rising prices of food by 200 to 400 percent for imported rice and local cereals placed these items out of reach for many poor households in Somalia with a consequent reduction in the number of meals consumed per day and in dietary diversity. HRF funded a SAACID run wet feeding project that provided 50,000 meals a day in ten centres to the urban poor in Mogadishu. The project was eventually expanded to provide 80,000 meals a day in sixteen centres due to increasing demands. In addition, HRF provided support to DIAL's supplementary feeding nutrition project for 5,100 vulnerable people in response to rising malnutrition levels in Badaadhe, Lower Juba.

Response to insecurity and displacement

Whereas the effects of the conflict were felt in the whole of Somalia, it was particularly evident along the Afgoye Corridor where an estimated 400,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were concentrated. As it had in 2007, HRF continued to compliment the massive humanitarian response that entailed interventions in nearly all sectors. HRF funded interventions in WASH and the much needed but often ignored education and sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) interventions for women and children. Through HRF funding, UNICEF was able to ensure that 123,000 displaced people had access to safe drinking water through the installation of water tanks and a piping system. In addition, HRF supported an integrated response by UN HABITAT that entailed community improvement of basic infrastructure that focused on health, livelihoods and sanitation in Mogadishu. At the beginning of the year, HRF funded projects in Somaliland and Puntland targeting people displaced by conflict in Sool and Sanaag.

In order to boost support for relief operations and security for humanitarian workers, HRF funded a WFP project on road maintenance between Baidoa and Mogadishu to facilitate transport of relief supplies, and provided crucial funding to UNHAS for air support. In addition, UNDSS received funding in support of its security training program for humanitarian workers.

In cognizance of the additional pressure exerted on host communities when they supported the displaced, and in line with its 'do no harm' approach, HRF funded projects targeted both host and IDP populations. This was evident in health interventions that sought to improve access to healthcare services and in the support of the school feeding component of an education program in Gedo Region. HRF's gap filling mandate was aptly demonstrated through its funding of an integrated health, education and WASH program in Dhusamareeb, Galgaduud which had hitherto received limited humanitarian assistance. Its funding for the previously mentioned DIAL's nutrition ensured the continuation of the provision of general rations to families in the programme.

Challenges

Insecurity rendered some areas inaccessible to much needed humanitarian aid. Due to the fluidity of the security situation, a number of projects received no cost extensions. No cost extensions were also granted due to logistical constraints experienced during project implementation. A total of 23 projects were extended, seven more than once leading to significant project delays.

In order to address access challenges, international NGOs increasingly partnered with national NGOs to implement projects. In addition, ten national NGOs received direct HRF funding for projects in 2008.

Additional challenges experienced during 2008 included inadequate staffing capacity of the HRF Secretariat, the limited ability to conduct effective monitoring and evaluation of funded projects (largely due to access constraints and staffing limitations). Additional constraints included lack of a comprehensive M& E system for HRF projects and uneven strength of clusters and their capacity to facilitate technical screening of HRF project proposals.

Achievements

Despite the challenges experienced, HRF funded projects were able to benefit an estimated 2.6 million people across Somalia. Disbursements in 2008 reflected both sectoral and geographical priorities of the Somalia IASC. WASH, Livelihoods and Health considered priority sectors due to the prevailing drought and macroeconomic crisis, received 41%, 14% and 13% of total disbursements respectively. The rest of the funding was apportioned to Education (9%), Early recovery/mitigation (6%), Logistics (8%), Food (4%), Security (2%), and 1% each to Nutrition and Shelter (See Annex for details).

In terms of regional distribution, the bulk of the funding (86%) was disbursed to projects implemented in South/Central Region. Out of 46 HRF funded projects, seven projects constituting 21% of the funding were in Lower Shabelle, followed by Puntland which received 15% with six projects. The six projects implemented in Mogadishu received 13% of the funding. Other funding disbursements included 8% each for Somaliland, Hiraaan and Galgaduud, 5% for Lower Juba, 4% each for Bay and Bakool and 3% for Gedo.

Way Forward

In August 2008, OCHA Somalia initiated a review of the fund based on the exponential growth of the fund over the two previous years and the increasing administrative demands on its secretariat brought about by the allocation procedure. The main objectives of the review were the following:

- assess the relevance of the HRF as a response mechanism to the humanitarian needs in Somalia and/or as gap filling mechanism at the disposal of the HC/humanitarian community;
- review in broad terms the experience with HRF as the only pooled funding mechanism in Somalia, incl. its anchoring in the cluster system and the humanitarian reform.
- assess in broad terms whether the interventions funded by the Fund serve the intended purpose both in terms of response to the needs of the affected populations and timeliness.

The review confirmed the dual purpose of the fund, i.e. rapid emergency response and strategic gap filling. The existing HRF guidelines and procedures were re-affirmed and the three step project review/approval process (HRF Secretariat – Board – Humanitarian Coordinator) was kept in place. The review further recommended mandatory technical screening of projects by clusters and commitment from clusters to include the HRF projects in their portfolio was requested.

Annex: Humanitarian Response Fund Projects 2008

No	Agency	Project Title	Allotted (US\$)	Sector	Region	Districts	No of Beneficiaries
1	UNICEF	Provision of Emergency Education to the Displaced Children Along the Mogadishu-Afgooye Road	497,708	Education	Lower Shabelle	Afgooye	6,000
2	ADRA	Intervention in Displaced Affected Primary Schools	248,128	Education	Hiran	Belet Weyne, and Buloburte	40,774
3	Troicare	Emergency School Feeding Programme in Gedo	240,066	Education	Bulo-Hawa, Dolow & Luuq	Gedo	4,003
4	SAACID	Emergency Wet Food Feeding Centres (Phase I) Mogadishu	250,000	Food	Mogadishu	Mogadishu	50,000.00
5	SAACID	Wet Feeding Program Centres - Mogadishu (Phase III)	250,000	Food	Mogadishu		80,000
6	UNFPA	Clinical Management & psychosocial Support to IDP Women & Young Girls Residing in South Central Somalia	237,273	Health	Mogadishu	Mogadishu	120,000
7	Merlin	Emergency Health Care Provision in Ceel Buur - Galgaduud	249,616	Health	Galgaduud	Ceel Buur	80,155
8	MDM	Improvement of access to primary Health Care for IDPs and Host Communities	226,521	Health	Lower Shabelle	Merka	145,000
9	MedAir	Integrated Health & WASH Programme Cedale	184,762	Health	Middle Shabelle	Cedale	8,000
10	IMC	Emergency Primary Health Programme for IDPs in Six Villages in Beletweyne	57,850	Health	Beletweyne	Hiran	60,334
11	Oxfam GB	Emergency Public Health Response to Assist the Conflict Affected Communities in Lower Shabelle	457,281	Health	Ceelasha	Lower Shabelle	43,110
12	Agrosphere	Integrated Cash for Work to Strengthen Food Security in Lower Shabelle	249,905	Livelihoods	Lower Shabelle	Afgooye & Awdegle districts	54,000
13	Water for Life	Integrated Cash for Work to Strengthen Food Security in Merka Lower Shabelle	249,998	Livelihoods	Lower Shabelle	Merka	55,000
14	VetAid	Emergency Livestock Vaccination & Treatment in Awdal	217,880	Livelihoods	Somaliland	Awdal	18,000
15	Horn Relief	Sool Plateau Complex Emergency Response	249,985	Livelihoods	Puntland	Sanaag	26,580

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16	SADO	Cash For Work & Livelihood Support for IDPs in Bardera District -Gedo Region through Nine Water Catchments, Rehabilitation, Sanitation & Hygiene Promotion	160,662	Livelihoods	Bardera	Gedo	14,799
17	JCC	Emergency Pastoral Response to Assist the Drought Affected Communities in Bakool	243,252	Livelihoods	Bakool	Elderde	11,400
18	HARDO	Emergency Response/Protection for Middle Shabelle Flood affected areas	235,588	Flood mitigation	Lower Shabelle	Mahaday	37,500
19	UNDP	Crisis Prevention Through Mitigation of Seasonal Emergency Flooding Along the Riverrine Areas of Shabelle River Between Dudube Areas Mahaday Up to Balad Town	499,044	Flood mitigation	Middle Shabelle	Mahadey	240,000
20	UNHAS	Humanitarian Air Service In Support of Relief operations in Somalia	500,000	Logistics	Other		600
21	World Food Program WFP	Road Maintenance on Transport Corridor (Baidoa - Mogadishu)	500,000	Logistics	Wajid-Baidoa & Mogadishu		129,800
22	UNDP/UN DSS	Safe & Secure Approaches to Field Environment in Somalia	295,310	Security	Other		280
23	DIAL	Badhaadhe Nutritional Enhancement Support For Vulnerable Population	99,793	Nutrition	Lower Juba	Badhaadhe	5,100
24	World Vision/Green Hope	Emergency Water & Sanitation Project	248,920	WASH	Bay	Bur Hakaba	103,000
25	DRC	Emergency Supply of Water Reticulation of Water system	497,536	WASH	Somaliland	Sool	16,000.00
26	NCA	Emergency Response to conflict affected persons in Sool Region	249,952	WASH	Puntland	Sool	9,834
27	SAACID	Emergency IDP Settlement Rehabilitation (Phase II) Mogadishu	250,000	WASH	Mogadishu	Mogadishu	4,680
28	AFREC	Kismayo IDPs Response Action -KIRA	249,468	WASH	Lower Juba	Kismayo	54,534
29	Oxfam Novib/CED/SAACID	Emergency WATSAN Operation for IDPs in Afgooye Road	500,000	WASH	Lower Shabelle	Afgooye	72,180.00
30	Intersos	Rehabilitation of Water Facilities in Baidoa District Bay Region	246,120	WASH	Bay	Baidoa, Bur Hakaba	36,200
31	Yme	Emergency Rehabilitation of the Ceel Guula and Gowlallo Water Delivery System Areas	223,959	WASH	Mudug	Ceel Guula, Gowlallo	21,000
32	VetAid	Emergency Water & Livelihood Support for Water Stressed Communities in Hudun & Teleh Districts of Sool Region	230,080	WASH	Puntland	Taleh, Hudun	29,880
33	Islamic Relief	Drought Compact Through Water Trucking in Eastern Sanaag & Nugal	240,247	WASH	Puntland		28,740

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34	Diakonia/Rahmo/NRO	Emergency Water Support for Drought Affected Communities in Jeriban, Harfo & Galdogob	277,710	WASH	Mudug	Jariban, Galdogob, Harfo	8,970
35	ASAL	Water Trucking for Pastoralists Communities in Eastern Sanaag & Karkaar	81,724	WASH	Puntland	Karkaar, Sanaag	14,040
36	ADRA/SCDO	Mudug Water System Rehabilitation (Hobyso & Galkayo Districts)	210,296	WASH	Mudug	Galkayo, Babyo	30,009
37	NCA	Emergency Response to Drought Affected Communities	123,372	WASH	Puntland	Nugal, Sool, Togdheer	18,000
38	Oxfam GB	Emergency Public Health Response to Assist the Conflict Affected Communities in Lower Shabelle	249,998	WASH	Lower Shabelle	Afgooye	120,000
39	DRC	Drought Relief & Preparedness in Eil - Afwein (Sanaag) & Odeweeye Region	249,134	WASH	Somaliland	Sool, Sanaag	50,040
40	SC-UK	Emergency WASH Response for IDPs from Beletwenye	249,990	WASH	Beletwenye	Hiran	27,000
41	COOPI	Emergency Intervention for Drought Affected in Ceel-Buur & Galhareeri Districts	245,700	WASH	Ceel Bur & Galhareeri	Galgadud	12,000
42	UN-HABITAT	Community Based Improvement of Basic Infrastructure Focusing on Livelihoods, Health & Sanitation in Mogadishu	233,440	Livelihoods/Shelter	Mogadishu	Mogadishu	145,000
43	CISP	Emergency Support to IDPs Hosted by the Community of Dhusamareeb and Surrounding Areas	500,000	WASH, health, education	Galgaduud	Dhusamareeb	370,000
44	DRC	Emergency Drought Response in Hiran	489,417	WASH, Livelihoods	Hiran	Belet Weyne, Buloburte, Mahas, Mataban	78,000
45	World Vision	Emergency WASH Support to Cash For Work For Vulnerable Communities in Tayeglo District	249,991	WASH, shelter	Bakool	Tayeglow	7,500
46	AFREC	Provision of Improved Protection & Health Services	249,618	Health, protection	Lower Juba	Kismayo	135,000
Total allotment to date			12,747,293	Total number of beneficiaries			2,622,042
Education							
Food							
Health							
Livelihoods		Allocation	No. of Projects	%			
Logistics		UN Agencies	2,762,774.50	7	15%		
WASH		Int'l	7,914,413.41	29	64%		
Nutrition		Local	2,070,105.01	10	21%		
Multisectoral		Total	12,747,292.92	46	100%		



SOMALIA - HRF Supported Projects by Cluster, 2008

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