

## SOMALIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE - INTERIM REPORT

FUNDED BY  
THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP  
IMPLEMENTED BY  
AFRICA HUMANITARIAN ACTION  
IN COLLABORATION WITH  
HIJRA SOMALIA

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COVER PHOTO  
WATER TANKER WITH 20,000 LITERS CAPACITY  
ERECTED IN TRABUNKA IDP SETTLEMENT

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## BRIEF PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project aimed to contribute to the ongoing efforts by the international community to reduce high rates of morbidity and mortality caused by poor nutrition, lack of clean and safe water, and poor sanitation in Mogadishu and the surrounding areas. The assistance covered three components, namely: (i) health/nutrition; (ii) water, sanitation and hygiene; and (iii) community mobilization.

### Scope of activities

Provision of vaccines (5,000 infants); Vitamin A and iron supplements (3,000 infants); selective feeding inputs (3,000 infants) and food supplements (2,500 mothers) in Mogadishu and surrounding areas;

Procurement and provision of chlorine for water purification for 2,000 households;

Procurement and provision of sanitation tools and supplies for 2,500 households;

Improvement of water systems for Banadir Hospital and 12 communities;

Improvement of community water systems for 6 localities;

Improvement of 20 waste pits for communities;

Improvement to 50 latrines for communities;

Improvement to 10 community hand wash facilities.

### Partnership

The project team periodically consulted with the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and the African Development Bank-Addis Ababa Office regarding planned projects. The team also continuously coordinated its activities with other WASH, health and nutrition clusters in Somalia and took part in monthly interagency field coordination meetings led by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.



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## GENERAL OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

### Security

Security in and around Mogadishu was volatile throughout the project implementation months. While some months were better than others, overall armed clashes on the outskirts of Mogadishu between insurgents and AMISOM troops were ongoing. Retaliatory and hit and run attacks from armed groups claimed the lives of many civilians in the months prompting more residents to flee to camps in Mogadishu and neighboring nations.

During the months, two foreign and three Somali aid workers were killed in Mogadishu and central Hiiraan region. As a result some international workers left the country. The killing and kidnapping of aid workers in Somalia and its border camps remained a concern for the majority of the project implementation period.

Periodic road blocks were noted throughout the months which posed some challenges in practical planning and execution of the project. It remained difficult to progress into the hinterland.

### Humanitarian situation

The situation of IDPs remained very critical throughout the months. Prior to the drought, Mogadishu was host to 350,000 IDPs who were receiving minimal assistance. The addition of an estimated 100,000 drought affected IDPs undermined the already exhausted humanitarian response.

IDPs continued to move between settlements in search of better assistance, which made accurate registration and needs assessment difficult. Depending on the general security in and around Mogadishu, the IDP population was on a constant increase by over 10% in some months.

Most IDPs came from Bay, Bakool and Lower Shabelle and are pastoralist or agro pastoralist who lost their animals in the drought as well as experienced crop failure. They arrived in Mogadishu in poor conditions: tired, weak and malnourished, particularly the children. IDPs were met with inadequate shelter, sanitary facilities and nutritious meals in Mogadishu.







## SERVICES PROVIDED

### 1. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGINE

#### 20 water points with 6 taps each constructed

Nearly 26,000 IDPs have access to clean water on a regular bases following the construction of water points in 12 IDP communities of the Hodan District.

*The project has met its target to improve water systems for 6 localities.*

#### Shallow well for six communities rehabilitated

A shallow well serving 4,847 households (an estimated 24,235 IDPs) was maintained and rehabilitated. The project continuously provided fuel and spare parts for the smooth running of the well.

*The project has met its target to improve water systems for 12 communities. (see below for additional six communities)*

#### Water tanks rehabilitated for six communities

A water tanker with a daily capacity of 20,000 liters was rehabilitated and erected for IDPs in Trabunka.

*The project has met its target to improve water systems for 12 communities.*

#### Aquatabs distributed to 7,147 households

Distribution of water purifiers to vulnerable households across 9 communities was ongoing throughout the project period. Training/sensitization sessions on the benefits of water purifiers and how to use them were held with all beneficiaries.

*The project exceeded its target to procure and provide chlorine for water purification for 2,000 households by an additional 5,147 households. This was made possible because AHA secured a donation of water purifiers that were channeled to complement this project.*



## SERVICES PROVIDED (continued)

### Water chlorinated in 32 IDP camps

Drinking water sources with daily capacity of 72,000 liters were chlorinated regularly for 4,847 households in 32 IDP camps.

*The project exceeded its target to procure and provide chlorine for water purification for 2,000 households by chlorinating water sources in addition to distributing water purifiers. This was made possible because AHA secured a donation of water purifiers that were channeled to complement this project.*

### 147 latrine blocks constructed with four stance each

14,541 households of displaced persons and two schools with a population of 1,125 in Mogadishu now have access to communal latrines.

*The project exceeded its target to improve 50 latrines for communities by constructing 97 additional latrine blocks.*

### Hand wash facilities for 10 communities constructed

Hand wash facilities for 10 communities and a primary and a secondary school in the Hodan district were constructed.

*The project exceeded its target to improve 10 community hand wash facilities by adding two schools to the list of beneficiaries.*

### 20 waste pit constructed

To eliminate vector-borne diseases in the highly congested camps, 20 waste pits that are 1.5 meters wide, 1.5 meters long and two meters deep were built across IDP camps in the Hodan district.

*The project has met its target to improve 20 waste pits for communities.*





**SERVICES PROVIDED** (continued)**Sanitation tools distributed**

Residents in 37 IDP camps received wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes and hoes to maintain a safe living environment. The tools were delivered to community based water, environmental hygiene and sanitation committees of whom 70% are women.

*The project exceeded its target to procure and provide sanitation tools and supplies for 2,500 households by reaching 5,117 households across 37 camps.*

**Rehabilitation of Banadir Hospital**

At the commencement of the project it was evident that the Banadir hospital which was operational in Mogadishu needed much more assistance than the planned improvements to its water systems in order to continue its lifesaving programs. Thus, this project took several measures to facilitate the smooth running of the hospital and to meet some of its shortcomings. Below are services rendered to Banadir Hospital throughout the months:

- Hand wash facilities rehabilitated : To improve the overall hygiene and sanitary status of the hospital, 35 hand wash facilities were constructed and rehabilitated,
- Laundry facility rehabilitated: Daily laundry services for the surgical theatre and wards with full capacity were improved,
- Incinerator rehabilitated: At the lack of a proper garbage disposal system, including human organs and contaminated instruments, an incinerator was rehabilitated to minimize health and hygiene risks at the hospital,
- Borehole rehabilitated: A borehole was revitalized and linked to rehabilitated concrete water tanks, and a generator installed,
- Waste collection bins distributed: The laboratory, consultation rooms and maternity ward received medical waste collection bins,
- Medical waste burning: Paraffin for medical waste burning was procured and provided. The project supported the hospital improve its sanitation with proper disposal of medical waste.





## SERVICES PROVIDED (continued)

### 2. HEALTH AND NUTRITION

4,809 infants were vaccinated for Polio, and Measles + Polio

*The project has provided 5,000 vaccines with which 4,809 infants have been vaccinated.*

Vitamin A provided to 3,000 infants

*The project has met its target to procure and provide vitamin A supplements to 3,000 infants.*

Food supplements for mothers

*The project provided iron supplements to 800 lactating mothers, 140 pregnant women, and 800 anemic patients. In addition, mothers received 880 bags of dry corn soya blend. Arrangements for distribution of beans and rice is currently underway.*

Selective feeding

*Through a daily feeding program, the project has met its target to feed 3,000 vulnerable children. The feeding center serviced 900 to 1050 orphans, patients, pregnant and lactating women per day.*







## **SERVICES PROVIDED** (continued)

### **3. COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION**

#### **Community consultations**

Representatives of beneficiary communities as well as the IDP community at large were constantly consulted on projects, initiatives and implementation. To this end, community expectations were recorded and complaints registered to work towards addressing raised issues. Based on these consultations, some projects were altered to meet demand. AHA made extra effort to include as many women as possible in all dialogues.

#### **Sanitation campaign**

IDP communities were sensitized on regular basis to clean their communities. Equipped with the proper tools, most communities have adopted the practice of regular cleaning.

#### **Training of WES members**

Water, Environment, and Sanitation committee members from 37 IDP camps were trained on preserving camp sanitation and good hygiene practices.

#### **Training of water point attendants**

Eighteen Water-point Attendants from 37 camps were trained on servicing water outlets and on maintaining a clean environment.

#### **Mother-to-Mother health training**

In preparation for the Health and Nutrition phase of the project, mothers to lead and participate in the “Mother-to-Mother Support Groups” were identified and trained.



## CHALLENGES DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- The rapid increase of IDPs in the camps led to extensive demand for water and sanitation services in proportions beyond initial project plans. Availability of water to IDPs was specially a major challenge. IDPs received only 2 liters of water per day as opposed to the UN recommended minimum daily water requirement of 20 liters per day per person,
- Access to some camps was at times difficult due to road blocks. On many occasions, project staff had to delay work until road blocks reopened which consummated valuable project time,
- General insecurity and fear of stray bullets were a continued worry among on the ground project staff during project implementation,
- The harsh environmental conditions posed major challenges for IDPs who required adequate shelter materials on ongoing basis.
- Procurement procedures were rather cumbersome.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Participatory project implementation methodologies can be very effective in the Somalia context,
- Community mobilization can play a major role in positively influencing community perceptions toward planned projects,
- Community leaders are key players in dismissing misconceptions on uncustomary practices,
- The community at large appreciated their intensive involvements in the projects,
- Female beneficiaries were relatively more cooperative compared to men,
- Consultation with stakeholders assists in avoiding overlapping of project and effective targeting,
- It is critical that emergency humanitarian responses have a leeway to redirect/reprioritize projects as situations on the ground change.



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