

# OXFAM HORN OF AFRICA

2017 DROUGHT  
RESPONSE



OXFAM

# CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. THE CLIMATE CHANGE CONNECTION	4
3. TARGETS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	5
4. INTERVENTIONS IN ETHIOPIA	6
5. INTERVENTIONS IN KENYA	7
6. INTERVENTIONS IN SOMALIA	8
7. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)	9
8. EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY AND VULNERABLE LIVELIHOODS (EFSVL)	12
9. PROTECTION	16
10. GENDER	18
11. CAMPAIGNS, ADVOCACY, INFLUENCING THROUGH MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS	19
12. USE OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS TO ENABLE BETTER HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE SYSTEMS	21
13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	22

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The Horn and East Africa region has been affected by yet another drought with hardly any reprieve from the 2016 El Nino induced crisis. By end of March 2017 the UN estimated that 22.9 million people in the greater Horn were food insecure, a figure expected to rise as the crisis worsens. The number of people affected in the three countries is 8.5 million people in Ethiopia, 3.2 million in Somalia and 3.4 million in Kenya.

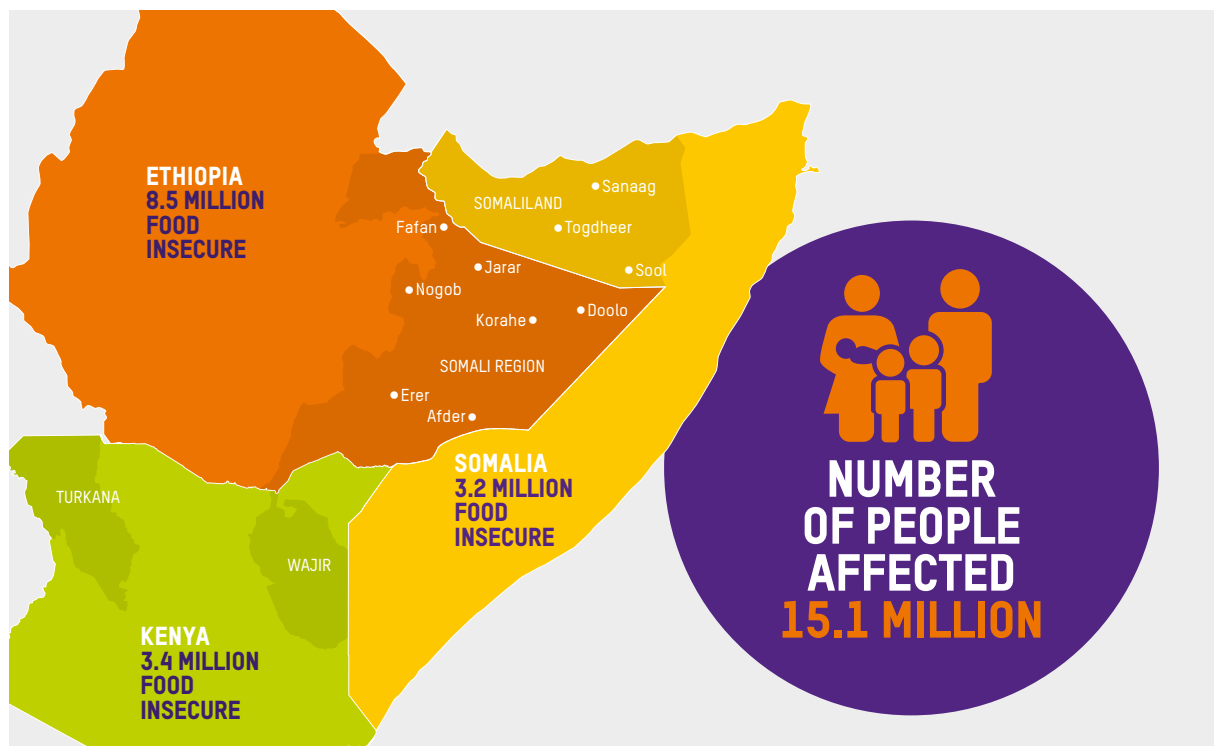
Oxfam declared the Horn of Africa Drought as a major crisis in January 2017. Based on the prioritisation, the response actions commenced and scale up of the intervention started. Oxfam is responding in all three countries - Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, targeting people in need. The target is to provide WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) and EFSVL (Emergency Food Security and Vulnerable Livelihood) assistance to over 1.5 million people across the region. Oxfam is responding in line with its distinct global competencies of WASH and EFSVL as well with protection interventions alongside safe programming and gender mainstreaming within the technical programmes. The overall funding target for the Horn of Africa response programme is USD 53.1 million.

In March 2017, with the drought situation further deteriorating and the crisis reaching a critical stage, Oxfam declared the Horn of Africa Response as a top humanitarian priority that needed its global attention and capacity to support. While all three countries have initiated a response programme in key locations, the

speed, scale of the programme and operational modalities of the three programmes vary significantly. Ethiopia had an initial target of 700,000 beneficiaries, but revised its Response Strategy in May 2017 in reaction to the escalating needs on the ground. The revised target population has increased from 700,000 to one million people. Somalia has a beneficiary target of 200,000, with a revised strategy looking at scaling up in Puntland and including resilience and transitional programming in Somaliland and Puntland; Kenya has a target beneficiary population of 600,000. Budgets for the programme also vary with Ethiopia's initial budget at 17.5 million USD, recently increased to \$37 million USD; Kenya's at 5.1 million USD and Somalia with 10 million USD. In addition, the regional response structure plays the role of providing support to the countries in terms of strategic management, systems compliance and technical assistance.

This document provides an overview of the Oxfam Drought response work in Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia. It provides the strategic fitness of Oxfam Humanitarian programming in an increasing complex regional and country context as well as achievements and lessons learnt.

Undoubtedly, Oxfam's work is a combined effort with diverse local and international partners and actors but most importantly the communities which continue to emerge stronger than before from vulnerability.



## 2. THE CLIMATE CHANGE CONNECTION\*

### The climate change connection

Climate change is real and happening now. The past three years have been the hottest ever recorded. Average global temperatures are now one degree Celsius higher than pre-industrial levels, due largely to human activities. Experts have long predicted that the frequency and intensity of droughts would increase as a result of climate change, especially in semi-arid areas. Does the crisis in East Africa fit this trend? There are two main factors to look at.

### Rising temperatures

There is mounting evidence that climate change is likely to be contributing to higher temperatures in the region, and that increased temperatures are exacerbating the impacts of drought. Temperatures have been consistently higher in East Africa in recent years, part of a trend seen in Africa and around the world. Higher temperatures result in greater evaporation, meaning soil moisture is reduced, reinforcing drier conditions and intensifying the impacts of failed rains. Crops and pasture have less water, and the chance of failed harvests or lack of feed for livestock increases. In pastoral regions like northern Somalia, higher temperatures over the past six months have turned very low rainfall last year into a terrible loss of soil moisture – helping to desiccate all the available fodder for many of Somalia’s pastoralists.

### Scare and Unpredictable rains

Scientific analysis of climate change’s role in reducing rainfall during this and other droughts in the region is less

definitive than the link to higher temperatures. But what is clear is that the decline in the long rains over the last three decades is ‘unprecedented in its persistence and intensity from at least 1874’. And it is easy to see in the data that during the March–June rainy seasons, droughts are becoming much more frequent.

It seems likely climate change is playing a role, and there are an increasing number of studies of the physical processes that might be at play. But attribution studies on recent droughts have tended not to indicate a strong influence of climate change on rainfall intensity. Given East Africa is already prone to droughts and has high year-to-year variability in its climate, there is disagreement over what is natural variability and what might be caused by climate change.

Linking rainfall trends to climate change is a harder task than linking temperature, especially in Africa where historic data is limited.

It should also be noted that most published research has focused on climate change’s impact on the total amount of rain over a season, rather than changes in within-season rainfall patterns. This is an important gap. Because the amount of total rainfall matters, but when looking at a region dominated by rain-fed agriculture, increasingly erratic rains are also a major problem. Shifts in the beginning and end of the rainy seasons, or dry spells during crucial periods during the growing season can all have serious consequences for crop and livestock production.

\* Author: Tracy Carty



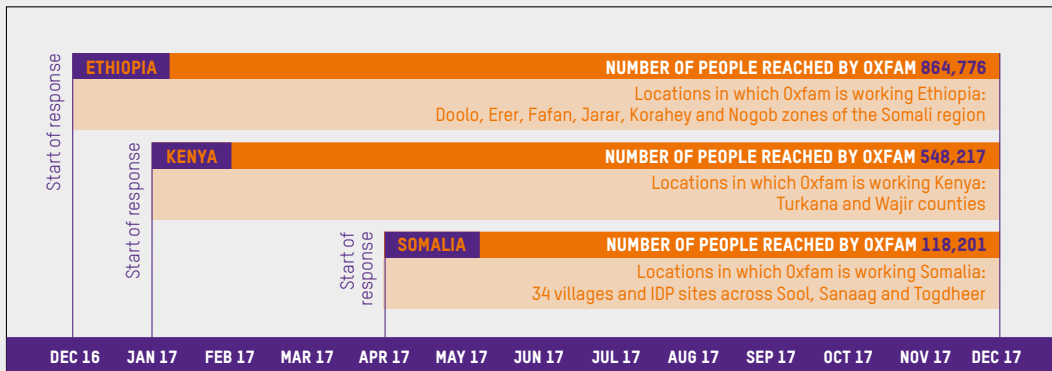
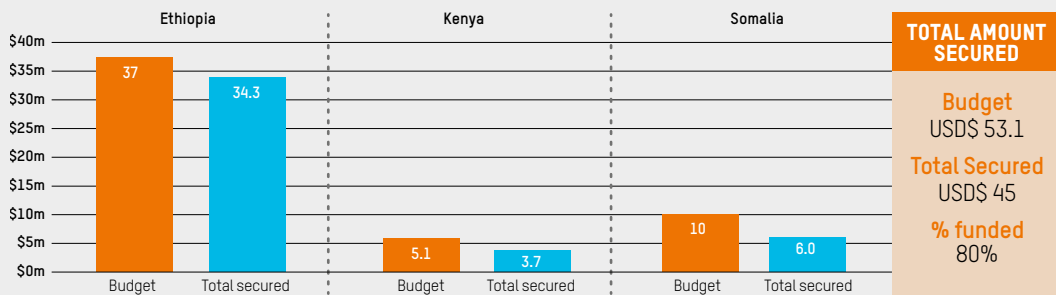
Farhia Mohamad Geedi, a pastoralist living in northern Somalia, hopes for rain.

Photo: Petterik Wiggers/Oxfam

# 3. TARGETS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



FUNDING: TOTAL SECURED AGAINST BUDGET



## 4. INTERVENTIONS IN ETHIOPIA

### WATER

- **Water was trucked to more than 150 distribution sites** including Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camps and institutions in 21 districts of the six zones of the Somali region: Jarar, Korahey, Doolo, Afder, Nogob and Erer. Water trucking was terminated in mid-August in Erer, mid-September in Nogob and in November in Afder zones. Water trucking is currently on going in Korahey and Doolo zones (through local partner OWDA).
- **Over 240 Water storage tanks** have been installed in key locations (IDP camps, medical and school institutions).
- **Out of 33 borehole rehabilitations, 18 are complete and 15 are currently ongoing.** Three new boreholes are completed and eight are currently being drilled; four shadow wells are being drilled and the rehabilitation of one dam is currently ongoing .

### FOOD SECURITY

- **34,954 households** (209,724 people) are supported through conditional and unconditional cash transfers.

### HYGIENE AND SANITATION

- **Over 123,672 people** have been reached though hygiene promotion and community mobilization sessions and campaigns.
- **Distribution of Hygiene kits** (2,100 jerry cans, approximately 215,878 water treatment chemicals, 5,300 bars of soap) and 3,450 Acute Water Diarrhoea (AWD) kits.
- Out of the planned **1,628 latrines** to be constructed, over **1,000 latrines** have been completed

### LIVESTOCK

- **2,523,764 heads of animals** received animal health support: 1,870,496 received vaccines and 653,268 treatments against drought related diseases.



**WATER WAS TRUCKED TO MORE THAN 150 DISTRIBUTION SITES**



**33 BOREHOLE REHABILITATIONS ARE CURRENTLY ONGOING AND 11 NEW ONES ARE BEING DRILLED**



**CONSTRUCTION OF OVER 1,000 LATRINES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN ALL ZONES**



**OVER 240 WATER STORAGE TANKS HAVE BEEN REHABILITATED OR INSTALLED IN KEY LOCATIONS**



**OVER 123,672 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN REACHED THROUGH HYGIENE PROMOTION**



**34,954 HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED THROUGH CONDITIONAL AND UNCONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFERS**



**OVER 272,433m<sup>3</sup> OF WATER WAS SUPPLIED TO HALF A MILLION PEOPLE**



**WIDESPREAD AND EXTENSIVE DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENE KITS**



**2,523,764 HEADS OF ANIMALS RECEIVED ANIMAL HEALTH SUPPORT**

## 5. INTERVENTIONS IN KENYA

### WATER

- **389,513 people** reached in Turkana and Wajir counties
- Repair and maintenance of **72 water sources and boreholes** have been completed.
- **Upgrade of 6 boreholes** with the installation of solar panels
- Provision of conditional cash for water for **32,628 people** in 16 villages in Wajir for one month.

### FOOD SECURITY

- **36,006 people** received unconditional cash grant.

### GENDER AND PROTECTION

- **Training of 92 people** (Oxfam and partners' staff, local authorities, NGOs staff) on gender and protection programming.

### HYGIENE AND SANITATION

- Distribution of **hygiene kits to 55,688 people**

### CHOLERA RESPONSE:

- **122,638 people** in Nairobi reached with door to door communication on cholera prevention.
- **500 people** participated in three community dialogues on cholera risk prevention,
- **10 schools** participated in plays and activities designed to highlight cholera prevention.
- Community radio also broadcasted messages during Global Hand Washing day and World Toilet week.
- **168 Community Health Extension Workers/Public Health Officers** were trained on Health Promotion and Sanitation.



**389,513 PEOPLE REACHED  
WITH CLEAN WATER**



**36,006 PEOPLE RECEIVED  
UNCONDITIONAL CASH GRANT.**



**DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENE KITS  
TO 55,688 PEOPLE**



**32,628 PEOPLE  
REACHED WITH  
CASH FOR WATER**



**122,638 PEOPLE REACHED WITH  
DOOR TO DOOR PREVENTION  
MESSAGES ON CHOLERA**



**TRAINING OF 92 PEOPLE IN  
GENDER AND PROTECTION  
PROGRAMMING**

## 6. INTERVENTIONS IN SOMALIA

### WATER

- **56,704 people** (9,626 households) reached with clean water.

#### Breakdown of the water interventions:

- **27,040 people** (4,507 households) reached with clean water through water trucking.
- **3,200 people** (534 households) benefited from the rehabilitation of 9 birkads; **13,734 people** (2,289 households) benefited from the installation of 6 water kiosks and 2 months water subsidy; **12,360 people** (2,060 HHs) benefited from the rehabilitation of 5 shallow wells and **15,000 people** (2,500HH) were provided with **181,000 tablets of aquatabs** for household water treatment.

### HYGIENE AND SANITATION

- **8,654 people** (1,503 households) were provided access to safe excreta disposal and handwashing facilities through construction of **153 latrines**, equipped with handwashing stations.
- **19,370 households** (116,220 people) were reached with hygiene promotion (60 group sessions, 43 dramas, 11,870 household visits, jerrycan cleaning campaigns).

- **25 kits of environmental cleaning tools** were distributed for mass cleaning campaigns, **60 latrine cleaning kits** were distributed and **9,450** of Communication material on key hygiene messages distributed, reaching **35,240 beneficiaries**.
- **3,330 pieces of IEC materials** on Malaria and diarrhoea transmission routes were distributed to 20,060 people.
- **41 environmental cleaning campaigns** have been conducted and reached a total of **2,443 households**.

### FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

#### Cash Transfer

- **14,082 people** (2,348 households) have received unconditional cash transfers (UCT)
- **33,000 people** (5,500 households) have benefited from cash for work (CFW) activities since November 2017.

#### Livestock vaccination and treatment

- **390,000 heads of livestock** benefited from vaccination and treatment.

#### Agriculture Support

- **328 households** (1,968 people) benefited from the provision of agricultural tools and seeds.



**56,704 PEOPLE REACHED WITH CLEAN WATER**



**8,654 PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM THE CONSTRUCTION OF 153 LATRINES**



**25 KITS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING TOOLS DISTRIBUTED FOR MASS CLEANING**



**27,040 PEOPLE REACHED WITH CLEAN WATER THROUGH WATER TRUCKING**



**13,606 HYGIENE KITS WERE DISTRIBUTED, REACHING 60,591 PEOPLE**



**14,082 PEOPLE (2,348 HOUSEHOLDS) REACHED THROUGH CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMME**



**3,200 PEOPLE HAVE INCREASED ACCESS TO WATER THROUGH REHABILITATION OF 9 BIRKADS**



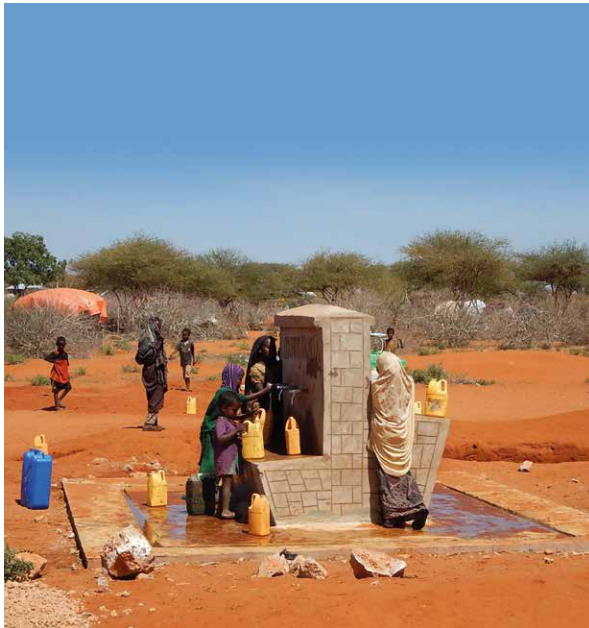
**19,370 HOUSEHOLDS (116,220 PEOPLE) REACHED WITH HYGIENE PROMOTION**



**13,000 HOUSEHOLDS (78,000 PEOPLE) BENEFITED FROM LIVESTOCK VACCINATION**



## 7. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)



A newly built water point provides fresh water to IDPs in Gafow camp in Dollo, Ethiopia

Photo: Oxfam



Water trucking in the Fadhi Gaab IDP camp, Somaliland

Photo: Allan Gichigi/Oxfam

### Horn of Africa 2016-17 Drought Response WASH interventions

**Oxfam has always been a dynamic and effective responder to various emergencies globally and especially with its WASH sector interventions. Oxfam has been working in the Horn of Africa region for decades and as such has skilled and experienced staff that are able to be called upon to facilitate a scale up of interventions to respond to the drought.**

Oxfam International has been working with various partners in Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia which have been most affected by the drought which has impacted over 22.9 million people across the region. In locations, whose communities are mostly nomadic, many of them, after futile searches for water, ended up settling in IDP camps where various agencies have been involved in giving them support in terms of food, water, shelter and sanitation. Oxfam's efforts have been concentrated on ensuring that these communities have access to safe water supply and sanitation facilities.

Oxfam, in considering these factors, has been promoting WASH interventions that not only facilitate meeting of the communities' immediate water, sanitation and hygiene needs but also take into consideration the sustainability of the interventions and explore innovative ways in which this can be undertaken. As such each of the interventions, have incorporated unique elements to address the sustainability of not just the infrastructure but also the systems that are meant to ensure their continued operation.

**1) Water supply** The following activities were implemented to facilitate access to safe water for drought affected communities; water trucking, rehabilitation of wells and boreholes, rehabilitation of rainwater harvesting systems and water pans (hafir dams), scaling up of solar-powered systems through motorizing manual pumps and converting diesel driven pumps into hybrid pumping systems, training of water technicians and water user associations, provision of spare parts for repair, rehabilitation and maintenance of boreholes.

**2) Hygiene promotion** Linked to the drought response is the decreased access to safe water which has contributed to an Acute Watery Diarrhoea outbreak in all the three countries. This is partly attributable to lack of prioritisation of good hygiene practice as households suffer inadequate access to water. As such, in addition to increasing access to safe water supply to affected communities, Oxfam has been conducting health awareness campaigns in the villages and IDP camps. This has included production of IEC (Information Education and Communication) material and distribution of hygiene kits including soap, water storage containers and household water treatment chemicals.

**3) Sanitation** The sanitation related work was focussed on the IDP camps where communities forced to move by the drought resettled. The activities included construction of latrine blocks, provision of latrine cleaning kits and training of latrine attendants.

## KENYA

- **Water supply** 389,513 people reached in Turkana and Wajir Counties with improved water access, infrastructure repairs and hygiene promotion.
- **Capacity building** Technical support to water service providers WAJWASCO, LOWASCO and KAWASEPRO on integrity management, operational efficiency and billing for revenue efficiency of water ATMs.

## ETHIOPIA

Oxfam's intervention has reached 864,776 people in the Southern Somali region covering 87 institutions more specifically in Koraha, Jarar, Fafan, Nogob and, Erer zones, as well as in Doolo and in Afder zones.

- **Water supply** Oxfam has reached more than 864,776 people through water trucking, including 15 institutions (7 health posts, 6 schools and 2 cholera treatment centres). Repair of 33 boreholes is on-going.
- **Hygiene promotion and sanitation** Oxfam's PHP programme has reached 123,672 people in Somali region of Ethiopia.

- **Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) response** Over 31,871 people reached using hygiene promotion outreach to mitigate transmission and prevention of AWD.
- **Improved sanitation** Out of the planned 1,628 latrines to be constructed over 1,000 latrines have been completed. 81,400 people will benefit from the latrines.

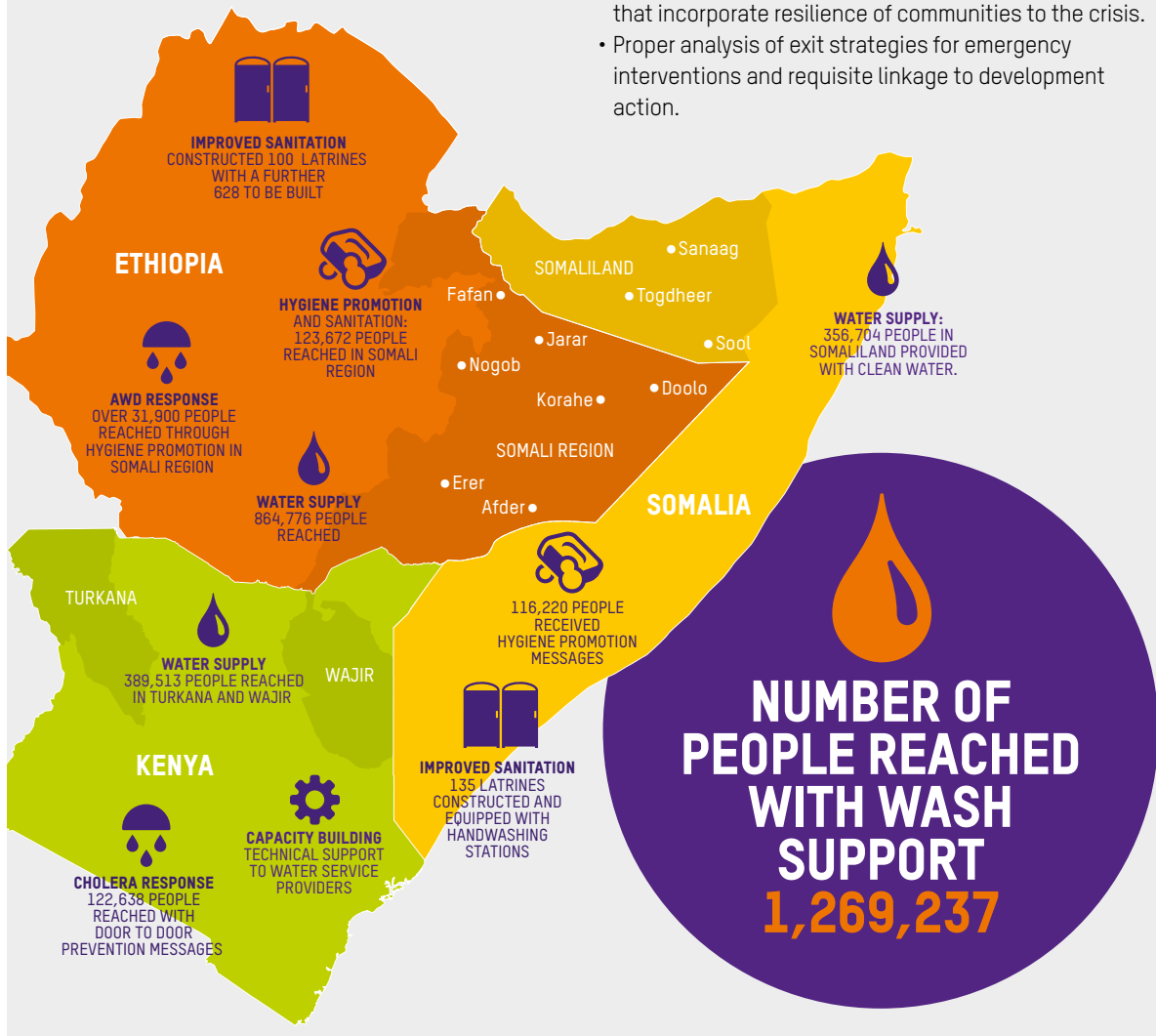
## SOMALIA

Oxfam's intervention in Sool, Sanaag and Togdheer has reached 118,201 people.

- **Water supply** Oxfam reached 56,704 people providing them with clean water through water trucking, the set up of six water kiosks, the rehabilitation of 9 Birkads and the rehabilitation of 5 shallow wells

## EMERGING LESSONS

- Manage the pressure from local governments and partners to implement traditional responses which are cost intensive.
- Need to ensure that the relevant systems for monitoring are put in place before the implementation of interventions.
- Need to further explore drought response interventions that incorporate resilience of communities to the crisis.
- Proper analysis of exit strategies for emergency interventions and requisite linkage to development action.



## THE STORY OF AMINA

By Tigist Gebru

Amina Ibrahim is 50 years old. She is the mother of 12 children, nine sons and three daughters. Thirty years ago she lived in the Jarar zone in the Somali region of Ethiopia but now lives in Gunegado. She gives me a worried look and nostalgically tells me that 30 years ago, life was much better. *“When I got married at the age of 16, everyone in the village danced with me on my special day at a rural wedding filled with feast, joy, and dance. Food back then was nothing but camel meat. Milk and butter was from nothing else but the cows”*. With a concerned look she uttered *“But as years have gone by, things began to change and since then life started to take a different course. It now feels like we are living in a completely different world. Sometimes I fail to believe that I had lived that kind life that we now*

*dream of these days. Usually it feels like a fairy tale for the younger children when we tell them how life was at that time. This water is the only thing that gives me joy, that keeps me going, that is holding my life that saved me from the brink of a death and believe me this is the only reason I am alive today. It’s strange how the abundance can change everything and the lack of it can cause so much pain that it feels like a punishment for some sort of mistakes we have done. I hope no one dies of a thirst of water like all the animals I had. Today there is nothing to return to. This is the one and only place we are all surviving. If we leave here, we would be on our own and we must first decide to die before we take a single leap. We have no choice but to stay here where there is at least some help.*



Amina Ibrahim, a beneficiary of Oxfam water trucking in Gunegado.

Photo: Tigist Gebru/Oxfam

## 8. EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY AND VULNERABLE LIVELIHOODS

### Supporting food security and livelihoods for vulnerable communities

The number of people in crisis and in IPC 3 (Integrated Phase Classification) in the Horn of Africa region during this period continued to grow, reaching an estimated 21.4 million people at the end of the year.

This represents a **30% increase** compared to **16.4 million people affected** in January 2016. The needs are driven by successive episodes of drought, consecutive failed harvests, combined with conflict, insecurity, and economic shocks affecting the most vulnerable.

The impact of the drought was largely comparable to the El Nino-induced East African drought of October-November 2010, which caused a regional food security and nutrition crisis in 2011. The coping mechanisms of the most vulnerable households were already stretched after the second year in a row of poor livestock and crop productivity. Government response capacity is much greater compared to 2010/11. Whilst, governments have allocated funds to meet the growing humanitarian needs (Ethiopia US\$780 million in 2016 and Kenya US\$99 million in 2017), the scale of the current crisis continued to outpace the existing capacity.

Through its EFSVL work, in an emergency Oxfam aims to meet people's immediate food and survival needs, contribute to the longer-term economic recovery of affected people and increase their resilience to reduce vulnerability to future shocks.

#### MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY AND VULNERABLE LIVELIHOODS

- EFSVL preparedness measures in place in-country
- EFSVL component in the Oxfam Country Strategy
- Country capacity through Oxfam and partners in Logistics, Finance and Human Resources
- Capacity assessments conducted regularly to assess and monitor key EFSVL partners' capacity
- Minimum Indicators for EFSVL program quality met
- Disaster Risk Reduction, gender, advocacy, Linking Relief Rehabilitation and Development; and MEAL (Monitoring Evaluation Accountability and Learning) approach integrated into EFSVL programming
- Support to country provided by Oxfam HQ/regional specialists

Oxfam considers food insecurity to be an underlying cause of malnutrition as well as a threat to livelihoods, and takes a livelihood approach in all its food security programming. In emergency assessments, taking a livelihoods approach requires assessing both the short-term and long-term risks to lives and livelihoods. Incorporating gender (women rights) and protection analyses to mitigate risk and to ensure programme quality.



Livestock vaccination in Jarar Zone, Ethiopia

Photos: Oxfam



Cash transfer of Eth 1200 to beneficiaries in Koraha zone, Ethiopia



Cash beneficiaries from Gashamo IDP camp in Jarar, Ethiopia

Late rainfall in May in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia was insufficient to compensate for the delayed start of the rainy season, resulting in reductions in planting and wilting of crops that led to irreversible damage on crop yields. This was followed with poor pasture regenerations and water shortage that led to extensive livestock deaths. UNHCR April field reports from Somalia indicated that, due to distress selling and livestock deaths, households in northern and central areas had lost 40 to 60% of their livestock.

Cereal prices continued to increase at a fast pace over the first half of 2017 reaching record or near-record highs in most countries due to overall tight supplies and the uncertain prospects for the upcoming 2017 main harvests. High prices of cereals and low livestock prices deteriorated the terms of trade for pastoralists, severely constraining their access to food, exacerbating food insecurity and malnutrition across the region.

## Overview of interventions

### Ethiopia

**The cash transfer programming:** Targeting internally displaced people due to drought and host communities through conditional and unconditional cash transfer modalities to meet basic food needs and non-food needs.

The cash transfers are being implemented through two modalities; 25% cash for work (CFW) and 75% unconditional cash transfer targeting different groups of people with different capacities that are affected by the drought with the main objective of improving their purchasing power.

Oxfam first round of cash transfers was in June and July 2017 to 13,024 Households (HH) in four zones of Somali region; Jarar reaching 2,629 HH, Fafan reaching 3,675 HH, Afder reaching 1,590 HH and Doolo, 5,130 HH. As of December 2017, Oxfam had provided cash assistance to a total of 34,954 HHs (209,724 people) across the Somali region. Cash amount to each beneficiary household was 900 Ethiopian Birr (ETB) per round in line with government PSNP (Productive Safety Net Programme).

### Livestock protection activities

- Animal health interventions (vaccination and treatment of clinical cases); through CAHWs and using voucher base approaches
- Livestock emergency feeding for the core breeding livestock.
- Promoting and supporting fodder production at local level by mobilizing beneficiaries in cooperatives.
- Rangeland rehabilitation activities will be targeted through cash for work.
- **2,523,764 heads of animals** received animal health support across the Somali region..

### Somalia

**Cash Transfer Programming:** Targeting vulnerable drought affected households to meet their food needs and non-food needs. As of December 2017, a total of 14,082 people (2,348 households) had received unconditional cash transfers, and 33,000 people (5,500 households) from cash for work.

**Livestock Protection (treatment and vaccinations):** 390,000 livestock vaccinated or treated.

### Kenya

According to HSNP (Hunger Safety Net Programme) categorization, group I beneficiaries are covered under HSNP normal programme and they receive regular cash transfers of 2,700 Ksh (Kenyan Shilling) while the second category are only reached through scaling up if the situation worsens because of a disaster, which in this case is the drought. Oxfam is using the HSPN database and systems to target and delivery cash to beneficiaries. The database and system was established between December 2012 and June 2013 where a total of 375,000 households were registered in four counties of Kenya (Wajir, Turkana, Mandera and Marsabit). Cash delivery to beneficiaries is through the equity bank.

Oxfam in Kenya is directly supporting 6,001 households (Turkana 3,000HHs and Wajir 3,001 HHs) through unconditional cash transfer of Ksh. 2,700 monthly. The cash transfer is targeting group II beneficiaries under the HSNP categorization. In Turkana, Oxfam is implementing directly while in Wajir it is established local partner Arid Lands Development Focus (ALDEF).

### Outcomes

The use of cash has enabled target households access other household basic needs such as education, clothing, hygiene, medication and most importantly paying their debts.

The cash transfer activities are enabling the target community, most of whom are very vulnerable to drought effects, to access their daily food needs. The project was further noted not to have contributed to any negative effects with majority of the respondents indicating that the cash transfers did not result to household conflict. Most respondents are satisfied with the cash transfer project and even the process with majority indicating a positive overall satisfaction.

## ETHIOPIA

- **Food security** 34,954 households supported through conditional and unconditional cash transfers
- **Livestock** 2,523,764 heads of animals received animal health support: 1,870,496 received vaccines and 653,268 treatments against drought related diseases.

## KENYA

- **Food security** 36,006 individuals received unconditional cash grant

## SOMALIA

- **Food security and livelihood support** Cash Transfer: 14,082 people (2,348 households) supported through Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) and 33,000 people (5,500 households) Cash for Work (CFW)
- **Livestock vaccination and treatment** 13,000 households (78,000 people) benefited from livestock vaccination and treatment, targeting 390,000 heads of livestock
- **Agriculture Support** 328 households (1,968 people) benefited from the provision of agricultural tools and seeds



## Emerging Lessons

In Ethiopia, Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admission rates have been highest in June 2017 with an 11% increase from the beginning of the year. Similarly, nutrition support need increased by 44% in the Somali region. Somali region's SAM admissions account for 25 per cent of the national SAM caseload in country. In Kenya, according to the Kenya Food Security Steering Group 2017 long rains assessment in July 2017, nutrition surveys showed that the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) outcomes for children under five years of age is 'extremely critical' in Turkana (Turkana South,

Turkana North, and Turkana Central). This assessment determined that the main drivers of acute malnutrition are low household purchasing power, reduced milk production, low household food stocks, and high staple food prices. Other contributing factors include common illnesses, disease outbreaks, and poor hygiene and childcare practices.

Food security situation remains poor and beneficiaries are still reliant on cash transfers from humanitarian agencies. Furthermore, funding shortfalls in Somaliland will impact the ability of agencies to continue critical assistance beyond October 2017.

### BENEFICIARY CASE STUDY: SOMALILAND

Chinow has six children and is widowed. She lives in Fahdi Gaab IDP camp. Chinow has benefited from a mobile cash transfer from Oxfam. Chinow moved to the camp two months ago after her herd of 50 animals all died due to the drought. When Chinow received her cash transfer she went to the town of Fahdi Gaab which is around an hours walk from the camp. She bought enough food to last her family a few months.

"The aid agencies gave us clean water and they gave us soap. They gave us water trucks to fetch water, thank God. We started to look like normal people, we did not look like that before. We are grateful for this and we thank everyone who contributed to this. I came here as we lost all our livestock, this camp was also established during the drought for people like us and we were moved here. We came here to get support and thank God we have been given some help and support."

"I was sitting somewhere around here, when I heard the pinging notification sound in my mobile phone ... I was not expecting any money transfer at all, and I had a look and saw the amount of 143 USD. I said thank God and start shouting. I asked other ladies if they had also received some money, which they all did. ... I am grateful for your help and it has helped us a lot. I am content with it. It has relieved our hunger."



Chinow lives in Fahdi Gaab IDP camp and has benefited from a mobile cash transfer from Oxfam.

Photo: Allan Gichigi/Oxfam

## 9. PROTECTION

The drought in the Horn of Africa and the resulting displacement have exacerbated protection issues which already affect communities in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. In July and August 2017 Oxfam carried out protection assessments in Northern Somalia (Sool, Sanaag and Togdeer) and in Turkana and Wajir Counties in Kenya, and has been working on protection in the Somali Region of Ethiopia since mid 2017.

Oxfam works to ensure that risks to women and men, girls and boys are considered in its humanitarian programmes. This ensures that the programmes don't put people at risk and are 'safe programmes'. Oxfam also endeavours to reduce risks which community members already face because of the situation they are in. For example, due to the current drought women in all three areas are having to move further to find water and firewood, which puts them at risk of sexual and gender based violence. Oxfam has carried out water trucking in Ethiopia and Somalia, and is working with water providers in Kenya to reduce the distances which people should move. This approach requires a solid analysis of risks to be carried out, and a commitment from teams to work towards reducing those risks. It also requires consistent monitoring of programmes and comprehensive feedback systems to be in place.

### Somalia

Oxfam's Protection activities target the most vulnerable in need of urgent protection assistance, including displaced people, host communities and other affected vulnerable people. Oxfam in Somalia is currently looking to implement an integrated protection activities in Somaliland and with expansion to Puntland in 2018. The team would like to integrate service mapping and referrals into EFSVL and WASH programmes, to advocate to the government around protection issues, to target unconditional cash transfers for highly vulnerable households, and to facilitate access to dignity and safety related materials (either through cash/ vouchers or direct distribution of kits). In addition, Oxfam in partnership with CRS, DRC, Plan International and Concern Worldwide is planning to conduct a protection assessment in January 2018. The assessment will look at how Drought has exacerbated protection issues amongst IDPs in Somalia. The findings from the protection assessment is intended to support advocacy and fundraising work in Somalia and be used as reference document for various protection

#### Some of the key protection concerns in Somalia are:

Risks of eviction of IDPs from informal camps; which hinders provision of timely and lifesaving assistance and a high proportion of households reported the separation of family members, because of the drought.

- **Increased risks of GBV** especially sexual violence, early marriage for boys and girls and domestic violence and the absence of protection services and preventive measures and the absence of a protective environment. Distances travelled while collecting water and firewood or travel to towns to access markets are a concern and Oxfam partners have reported incidences of assault and violence when women travel out of the IDP camps.
- **Informal compensation arrangements** are common in GBV cases, with decisions taken between elders and male family members of the survivor. Communities rarely report to formal authorities.
- **Early marriage** is a practice that is commonly followed in the drought affected areas, and there is a marked increase in early marriages due to financial pressures on households.
- **Not having access to latrines** means open defecation is the practice in the IDP camps and drought affected villages and this has led to risks. While there are no major cases being reported in the affected area, women feel insecure and there is an urgent need for the programme to broaden its activities beyond life-saving activities to address the underlying causes of vulnerability of women and adolescent girls.
- **Clan based conflicts in Sool**; with more IDPs migrating from Puntland; conflict over resources in Sool and Sanaag have increased, and recent reports (in November 2017) at least ten people were killed because of the violent clashes.
- **Children have dropped out of school** and many are now working in Burao as domestic workers, wage labour, car washing or working as waiters in restaurants and hotels. There is high incidence of domestic violence, as men have been dis-empowered by loss of livestock, as early marriages are happening and couples don't know their roles; and as a result of targeting of women with assistance by NGOs.
- **Lack of access to services** (especially health) Distances and payment for transport are a hindrance to accessing free consultations.
- **Access to education** and Lack of schools – where a school is available IDPs are able to access them.
- **People displaced from Ethiopia and Puntland** are considered to be refugees, so may not benefit from services accorded to IDPs in Somaliland.
- **Lack of information** or connection with government representatives for IDPs. Some areas municipality mayors link IDPs with ministry offices, but little information is accessed.

### Kenya

Oxfam in Kenya carried out a Protection Analysis in July-August 2017, with a view to understanding how the drought has affected the Protection situation in Kenya. Oxfam is currently working on adapting its programmes to



the protection issues which affect them, and is applying for funding with a view to starting up some support to local NGOs which are working to address specific protection risks. The organisation also plans to use the assessment to advocate for a more comprehensive response amongst government and other actors.

- **Family separation** Women, children and senior adults are often left behind in villages while men migrate long distances with their livestock in search of pasture and water sources. Children can be left with neighbours or relatives, or left in urban centres to fend for themselves.
- **Child labour** This has become a main and standard coping mechanism, with children dropping out of school to help support their families.
- **School drop outs** An estimated 180,000 children in Kenya have had to drop out of school as a direct consequence of the drought, for economic reasons as mentioned above and as a result of families migrating. Gaps in the WFP food pipeline for school feeding programmes have contributed to this, as well as families lacking the means to pay school costs such as uniforms, shoes, books and supplemental fees used to hire teachers.
- **Early marriage** In Turkana and Wajir it is common for girls to be married by age 12-13. This practice has to some extent been halted by the drought due to a lack of ability to pay dowry. In other cases, girls are married as a coping mechanism in exchange for a few head of livestock (which are often weak or sick), or for 'credit', with the promise of payment once the drought is over.
- **Sexual violence** An increase of sexual violence has been reported in both Turkana and Wajir, primarily cases of assault and rape in instances where women and girls have to walk much longer distances (at times 10-20km) in search of water or firewood. Reports have also been received of sex being demanded as a condition of access to available water sources.
- **Domestic violence** Seen as a culturally accepted practice in Turkana and Wajir, cases are normally only reported when emergency medical care is needed by the survivor. Economic stress caused by the drought has led to an increase in violent domestic disputes over control and use of resources within the household.
- **Obstacles to reporting of GBV** Most cases of rape, defilement and domestic violence are resolved through customary courts, with the perpetrator's family having to pay a fine in either livestock or cash to the survivor's family. Both family members and village leaders often actively discourage or prevent survivors from seeking legal redress and justice through official state mechanisms.
- **Small arms trade** Despite arms possession being illegal in Kenya, a reported 70-100% of pastoral men in these border areas are armed due to the prevalence of cattle rustling and resource based conflict.

- **Resource based conflict** In Turkana and Northern Wajir, pastoral families who migrate to slightly less affected regions in search of pasture and water often have violent clashes with host communities over access to and control over scarce resources.

## Ethiopia

In July 2017, Oxfam piloted the establishment of Mobile Protection Teams (MPTs) in Doolo and Jarar zones of the Somali Region, Ethiopia, an initiative endorsed by the National Protection Cluster, and funded by OCHA and OFDA. The mobile protection team is a pioneering approach to facilitate communities' participation in identifying protection issues and helping to bring these issues to government and non-government protection actors through the Protection Cluster. The MPTs carry out the following activities:

- **Protection monitoring** through gendered, participatory data gathering methods to listen to women and men's assessment of their situation and the solutions they propose.
- **Service mapping and referrals** of vulnerable women and men to service providers.
- **Safety committees** are formed and trained to provide IDPs with an avenue to assess their protection needs and be part of identifying solutions.
- **Life skills training, awareness sessions and recreational activities** through community friendly spaces.



Income generating activity as part of protection programming in Ethiopia

Photo: Oxfam

## 10. GENDER

### Women in cash interventions

As part of its emergency food security and livelihood interventions, Oxfam transfers cash to affected communities, through cash-for-work or unconditional cash transfer modalities.

More than 75% of unconditional cash transfer beneficiaries are pregnant and breast-feeding women and elders. When women are targeted by cash-for-work interventions, effort is made not to increase their workload, as they are mainly responsible for unpaid care work in the household, which takes up a lot of their time.

Women are encouraged to engage in less labour intensive public works and they work less hours than men. Women usually engage in activities such as cleaning the village, while men work on range land rehabilitation, terracing and digging wells. Women spend about two hours per day on average on public works, while men may be required to work for about five hours in a day. To ensure cash transfer is used for basic household needs and to empower women to have a greater say on how the cash support is used by the family, cash is directly given to women. The cash intervention is greatly helping to reduce the nutrition gaps women and children are facing because of the crisis.



Aisha and her family live in the Somali region of Ethiopia. She benefited from an Oxfam cash transfer.

Photo: Dan Medhurst/Oxfam

# 11. CAMPAIGNS, ADVOCACY, INFLUENCING THROUGH MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

The recurrent crisis in the Horn of Africa (HoA) has contributed to a state of chronic vulnerability that has driven many of the regions' 240 million people into extreme poverty and food insecurity over the years. Drought has always been one of these risks in the HoA where 70% of the region is made up of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), but scientific evidence is pointing to climate change aggravating this further. This has resulted into Oxfam engaging into constant influencing, robust policy advocacy and profiling of this situation through media and communications.

Oxfam has for decades invested in expertise and strategies which has placed it as one of the humanitarian agencies complementing humanitarian response and long-term policy change through influencing and campaigns. During the current drought response in the Horn of Africa, Oxfam designed an advocacy strategy which involved evidenced-based research to inform policy change and institutional strengthening both at the country levels and regional institutional bodies such as IGAD and African Union. In addition to this, Oxfam enjoys and has maintained close ties and relationships with various regional governing institutions and humanitarian networks such as IGAD, African Union and IAWG who supported its policy and campaigns work in the region.

## Advocacy and campaigns

From the beginning of the response, the Horn of Africa advocacy team worked closely with Oxfam's strategic global advocacy officers at Africa Union and Geneva to amplify the voice of the drought affected, to address some of the critical concerns on security and protection for the internally displaced persons. Oxfam organized a successful Donor round-table meeting in Geneva which was attended by over 10 donors. The meeting briefed donors on the challenge faced in the drought response and key priority areas of focus.

Oxfam continues to work closely with the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) supporting development of a policy paper on innovative approaches on resilience programming in the Horn of Africa. This is to influence investments on resilience by IGAD as a long-term solution to reducing drought related

disasters. The initiative is promoted by the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDRRSI).

Production and dissemination of periodic policy brief and policy messaging on effects of drought on pastoralists has been instrumental in profiling the dire situation of the crisis to donors, national and regional governing bodies and other humanitarian actors. These policy products have been able to highlight humanitarian concerns and where Oxfam has been able to candidly voice its stand and made concrete recommendations on possible solutions for the drought crisis.

In partnership with the Oxfam AU office in Addis-Ababa, the Drought response campaign team presented Key asks during an open session on the implication of the Horn of Africa drought on peace and security.

## Media and communications

To raise the profile of the drought as well as Oxfam's response activities to public/external audiences, Oxfam has worked closely with journalists in the region (Nairobi), globally as well as national outlets. Oxfam's work in Kenya was featured in the US tech outlet Fast Company, highlighting Oxfam's innovation in the provision of water. We have also provided commentary to a climate change report recently done by Reuters. Al Jazeera and BBC World Service have also interviewed key spokespeople in the region on key issues around the drought. Oxfam has also been interviewed on Dutch national radio on the drought situation in Somaliland as well as by Climate Home News on the Kenya situation.



## Outcomes



**OXFAM SUCCESSFULLY SUPPORTED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A POLICY PAPER HIGHLIGHTING INNOVATIVE APPROACHES ON RESILIENCE WHICH WAS PRESENTED DURING IGAD SECOND RESILIENCE FORUM IN ENTEBBE, UGANDA.**



**IN THIS SAME FORUM, OXFAM SUCCESSFULLY LOBBIED FOR A PANELLIST SPACE TO PRESENT SOME OF THE APPROACHES OXFAM INVESTS IN TO INCREASE RESILIENCE AMONGST COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY DROUGHT.**



**OXFAM ORGANISED A SUCCESSFUL DONOR ROUNDTABLE MEETING IN GENEVA WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY OVER 10 MAJOR DONORS IN THE DROUGHT RESPONSE.**



**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OXFAM AU OFFICE IN ADDIS-ABABA, THE DROUGHT RESPONSE CAMPAIGN TEAM GAVE A PRESENTATION WITH KEY ASKS DURING AN OPEN SESSION ON THE IMPLICATION OF THE HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT ON PEACE AND SECURITY.**

## Emerging Lessons

Effective policy and campaigns require local voices and empowered local partners. Campaigners and outside advocates understand the complex humanitarian context and can be effective agents for reform. And with solid research data, and powerful testimonies from country offices and local partners can influence key stakeholders. The need to mobilize the Ethiopia program team and local partners to speak out for themselves to donors in Geneva was an important lesson for the campaign.

In addition, Oxfam's campaign included regional communications team, media teams from country and

Oxfam affiliates and researchers who raised awareness, documented key stories that generated media coverage, and communicated directly with donors, UN agencies, regional governing institutions and national government institutions

The drought response campaign team produced various policy and media messages highlighting the plight of the drought crisis. However, it is critical that the advocacy and campaigns momentum is maintained, to build on the successful gains which have been achieved.

## 12. USE OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS TO ENABLE BETTER HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE SYSTEMS

With the objective of constantly enhancing the quality, efficiency and accountability of its activities, Oxfam has been harnessing the use of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) during the response.

### Last Mile Mobile Solutions

First introduced to the Ethiopia country programme in 2014, the LMMS digital beneficiary registration and distribution management tool has been widely scaled, expanding from an initial five roaming servers to 18. It is now being used across five zones (Doolo, Afder, Jarar, Fafa).

LMMS is designed to capture key household information to enable improved accountability and due diligence as well as efficient project implementation. Previously, finding individual records involved manually searching through paperwork or carrying out time-consuming data-input processes. With LMMS, once beneficiaries have been registered, it takes minimum time and effort to search data and to edit and update information. Opportunities for data manipulation are minimised, and it is straightforward to generate reports for donors.

LMMS has been primarily used to support cash transfer programmes in the Ethiopia drought response. As of August 2017, LMMS facilitated the distribution of \$1.4 million, projected to reach up to \$2 million by the end of September.

### Mobile surveys

The Mobenzi mobile data collection tool is being widely used by EFSVL, WASH and Gender teams to carry out assessments, post distribution monitoring, exit interviews water truck monitoring, voucher consolidation and AWD monitoring. This has helped increase the speed with which data is collected, allowing teams to review and make decisions much faster than in previous activities.

### GIS and map development

GIS has been deployed to produce programme maps relating to water trucking areas and WASH activity maps. These have helped teams better visualise activities and the location of water points.

### Exploring ways of monitoring water trucking

In Ethiopia, a voucher system was introduced in August 2017 to help validate trucking activities and estimate the total water delivered. These vouchers are distributed per kebele dependent on the quota allocated by the WASH cluster and water bureau. Distributed vouchers are recorded, and Mobenzi is used to record the outgoing vouchers by four water trucking monitors. While a manual process is still required to cross-check voucher validity, this is the first step towards introducing a much easier process for validation tracking and credible logistics and finance compliance. It is estimated that the use of vouchers can help reduce unaccounted for water by 20–40%. Next steps should involve exploring smart metres and other 'Internet of Things' technologies to support more accurate monitoring of exact water levels.

### Waterpoint Mapping and Real Time Monitoring

In Kenya, the team has been working on mapping waterpoint and conducting monitoring of the water systems as part of a real-time, web-based drought monitoring system for early warning. The system, which was piloted on a small scale in water scarce areas, used Nokia Data Gathering (NDG) to collect and transmit information on key drought indicators related to water stress and water usage patterns. This information is then compiled in real-time, with the results and analysis displayed in a web-based GIS mapping application.

The water-point mapping implemented can be considered as a planning tool to locate water infrastructure and use the data in long-term planning and decision making as well as use the real-time dynamic information generated to improve service delivery and governance issues. While this is an ongoing project that started in 2016, this system was installed on boreholes installed as part of the drought response intervention in 2017, to cover a total of 625 water points.

The data gathered during this project has been used to develop subsequent projects to address key issues arising such as the high rates of dysfunctioning water points. With the information that 1/3 of the mapped water points were non-functional at the time of the mapping, Oxfam together with the County Government have designed a project aimed at improving service delivery and governance of rural water points to reverse the high non-functionality rates.

## 13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Central to Oxfam's way of working on conflict response is our relationships with our key supporters. Our sincere thanks to our donors, who make our work possible.

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	 <p>Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection</p>	 <p>Global Affairs Canada</p>
		
		
		

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Inside back cover: Vulnerable families collecting their WFP monthly rations at an Oxfam distribution point, Turkana, Kenya. Photo: Andy Hall/Oxfam





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