



ACTED

Somalia



Newsletter

ACTED Somalia 1st Quarter 2017

DROUGHTWATCH: EMERGENCIES AT A GLANCE

To avert a famine, humanitarian actors require \$825 million to reach 6.2million people in need

Out of the estimated 12.3 million Somalis, over 6.2 million are now in need of humanitarian assistance, up from five million in September 2016. Of these, nearly 3 million need urgent life-saving assistance.

In view of the serious humanitarian situation, and the risk of a famine unfolding in Somalia, humanitarian partners are providing immediate assistance and protection, following guidance of the [Somalia Operational Plan for Famine Prevention](#) and scaling up current interventions in order to save lives and prevent further depletion of livelihoods. The plan reflects a significant shift from the drought response, which has been ongoing since late 2015, to scale-up famine prevention.

Humanitarians in Somalia are now seeking **\$825 million** to reach the most vulnerable with life-saving assistance until June 2017, as drought conditions continue to worsen. Malnutrition, drought-related disease outbreaks and distress migration are already on the rise. 5.5 million people will be targeted with lifesaving food security assistance and livelihoods to avert a famine in 2017.



Temporary shelters for new arrivals at the Baidoa town IDP camps

Humanitarian Access in Somalia

Humanitarian actors continue to face access challenges in many parts of the country, particularly in Southern and Central areas. Facilitating humanitarian access remains critical to enable aid agencies to reach the country's most vulnerable populations in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

ACTED Emergency response

Somali livelihoods have been severely affected by the drought with high levels of food insecurity, malnutrition and lack of water requiring immediate interventions.

ACTED is massively scaling-up its humanitarian interventions to address the large-scale humanitarian needs in Lower Juba, Bay and Gedo Regions of South Central Somalia as well as Sanaag in the North. At the same time, ACTED is emphasizing the need for recovery-oriented planning to avoid a vacuum following the implementation of the ongoing short-term support to affected populations.

Basic needs: ACTED is providing lifesaving activities through conditional and unconditional cash transfers to 120,000 vulnerable people in the worst-affected areas. This will help communities access basic food and non-food needs. The injection of cash will also support market functionality to prevent market collapse due to price hikes and reduced purchasing power of affected populations.

Access to water: ACTED is currently providing immediate access to safe water through emergency water-trucking interventions in the worst-affected areas of Sanaag and Gedo regions. Rehabilitation and construction of strategic water infrastructure (such as boreholes, shallow wells and water catchments) is ongoing.



Community members in Gedo region accessing cleanwater after a water trucking intervention by ACTED

Hygiene needs: Access to safe water is complemented by the distribution of hygiene kits and chlorination tabs to help prevent the outbreak of waterborne diseases.

ACTED is focusing these interventions on rural populations at risk of loss of livelihoods, destitution and displacement due to the drought as well as those newly displaced by the drought.

ACTED prioritizes populations in IPC Phases 3 & 4 with particular attention to special need groups who may be more vulnerable such as child or female-headed households with no income, people living with disabilities, older people, pregnant and lactating women and households with children under 5.

ACTED's added value

ACTED remains committed to responsible implementation in line with the 'do no harm' approach. To achieve this,

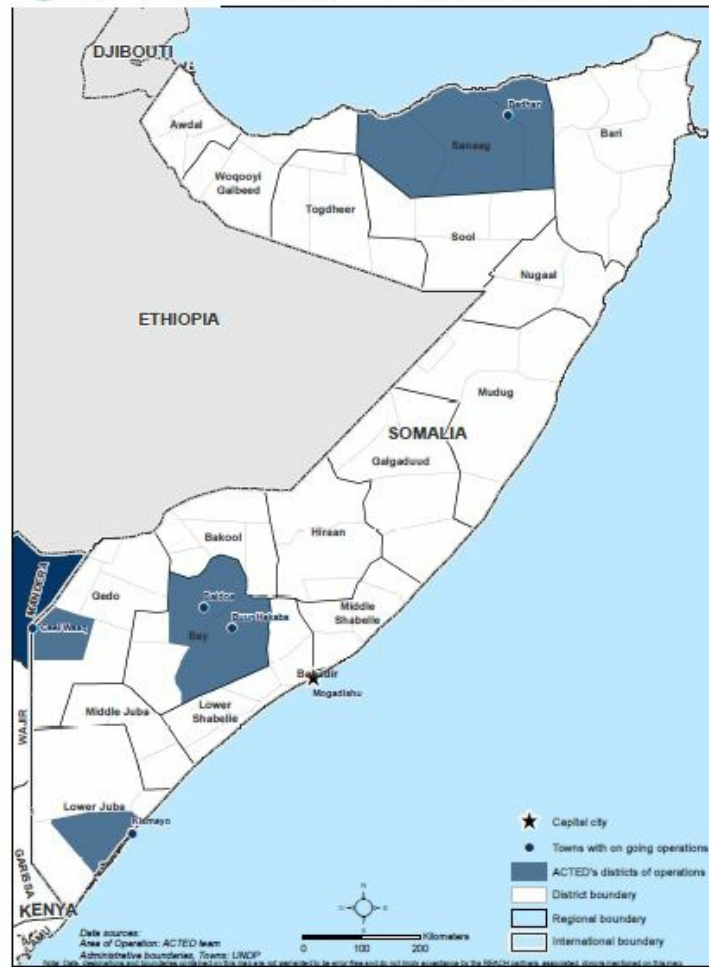


ACTED maintains strict security and financial risk management procedures and prioritizes community engagement to ensure accountability to beneficiaries.

ACTED is at the forefront of humanitarian access with deep reach into under served rural areas and siege-affected towns where the presence of other actors is extremely limited. Prior and during project implementation, ACTED works closely with communities, elders and local authorities to

ensure acceptance and buy-in by all stakeholders and further facilitating the delivery of assistance to the rural areas.

ACTED Areas of Operations in Somalia



In the North, ACTED is providing emergency support in the hardest hit areas of **Sanaag** with potential to scale up interventions in underserved areas of **Bari, Bosasso, North & South Galkayo**. In the Northern region, more than 80 per cent of land is used by pastoralists and total loss of livestock, destitution and displacement has been reported in some parts of the zone. The livelihood has been classified in 'emergency' (IPC Phase 3). Water shortage and depletion of pasture partly due to over grazing has resulted in the emaciation of livestock and voluntary migration to rain-fed areas.

In South-Central, ACTED has a firmly established presence and significant reach in hard to access rural areas. **In Bay Region**, there is a high percentage of the population in IPC Phases 3 & 4 including **Baidoa (urban and rural) and Buurhakaba**. There is a need to prioritize immediate access to water as well as recovery-oriented activities from June to promote asset and livelihood restoration.

In Gedo Region, the situation remains dire although access has improved through assessments allowing for a reclassification vis-à-vis other areas. Livelihoods have also been severely affected by the drought with high levels of food insecurity, malnutrition and lack of water. Immediate interventions are needed, particularly in hard to reach and underserved districts such as **Ceel Waq and Baardheere**.

In Kismayo in Lower Juba Region, immediate life-saving interventions to support water are still required although coverage by cash actors is high in urban areas. As of February 2017 and based on FSNAU latest report, 210,000 people in total (42% of the total population) were food insecure in Lower Juba, including 87,000 people in IPC 3 and 4.



Support to Internally Displaced Persons

Urban centers such as Kismayo, Baidoa and Mogadishu are seeing a significant influx of newly displaced people from rural parts of Middle and Lower Juba, Bakool, Bay and Lower Shabelle Regions. High levels of food insecurity and acute malnutrition are noted in IDP settlements across the country.

ACTED is providing cash to IDP households living in difficult conditions in Baidoa and Kismayo towns. The conditional cash programming provides short term employment that serves as a

temporary source of income for immediate needs, rehabilitation of community key infrastructure assets such as feeder roads and constructing and rehabilitating latrines and community shallow wells. The most vulnerable receive unconditional cash transfers allowing them to meet basic needs.

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