



Building Resilience through Social Safety Nets in Lower Juba Region, Somalia (2016-2018)

STREAM CONSORTIUM

Formed in early 2013 by ACTED/SADO and Adeso, Somalia Resilience Action (STREAM) is a humanitarian Consortium working to support community resilience and access to sustainable livelihoods opportunities for those chronically affected by food insecurity and other humanitarian crises in Lower Juba.

THE SOCIAL SAFETY NETS (SSN) PROJECT



In 2016, the European Union awarded the STREAM Consortium with a three-year grant (2016-2018) with the goal of building resilience through Social Safety Nets in Southern and Central Somalia.

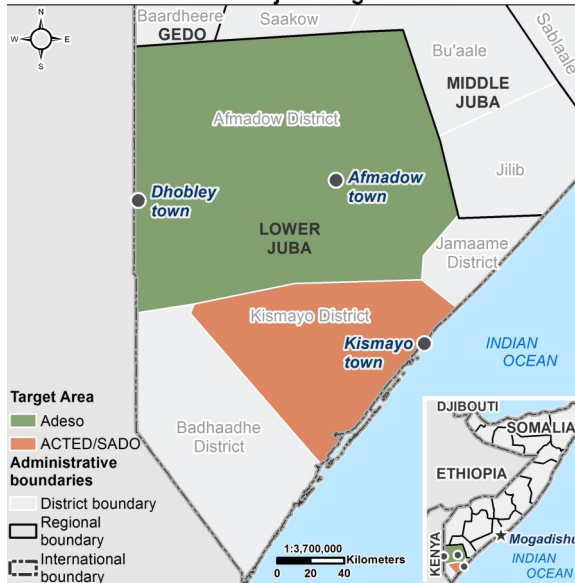
The project is targeting 5,000 vulnerable households (est. 30,000 individuals). Among them in particular are women, children, and the disabled who are affected by the long-term recurrent climatic shocks affecting Somalia. The impact of the frequent recurrent drought affecting Somalia

highlights the importance of addressing the underlying causes of the vulnerabilities of Somali society and economy. While climate variability and potential negative impacts are inevitable, its socio-economic threat and impact can be drastically reduced through strategic interventions.

The project provides beneficiaries with regular, predictable, and unconditional cash transfers (UCTs) to help them manage the daily chronic needs in out-of-emergency situations. In the event of a crisis, the project has an in-built Crisis Modifier provision to top up UCTs in order to meet the immediate crisis related needs of the beneficiaries. The project further supports initiatives to strengthen and diversify beneficiaries' livelihoods which complements the UCTs. Such initiatives includes interest-free revolving cash grants to initiate or boost their small scale businesses alongside continuous livelihoods skills training, peer support and mentoring to build their entrepreneurial capacity.

The project, through the Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) Approach, sets out to protect gains made and/or planned through facilitating development of CMDRR Plans based on integrated local and scientific Early Warning Systems (EWS).

STREAM Project Target Areas



Overall Objective

Provide sustainable opportunities for vulnerable households and to build resilience of communities in Lower Juba

Partners

ACTED/SADO and ADESO

Project duration

3 years (December 2015 to December 2018)

Locations

Lower Juba region

Kismayo (ACTED/SADO),
 Afmadow & Dhobley (Adeeso)

INTENDED PROJECT RESULTS

- ⇒ Improved access to income for households vulnerable to livelihood related shocks, through regular, predictable, and unconditional cash transfers in three districts of Lower Juba region.
- ⇒ Strengthen and diversify livelihoods of vulnerable households.
- ⇒ Improved management of cyclic shocks, through community managed disaster risk reduction and use of early warning information for timely response.
- ⇒ Research and capacity building on social protection and safety nets as a basis for resilience programming.

RESILIENCE IN SOMALIA

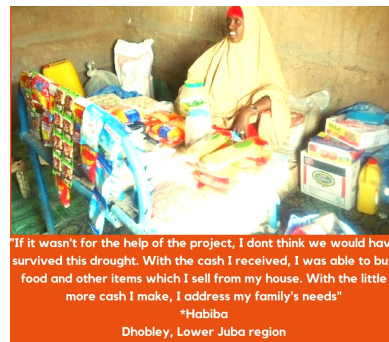
The STREAM Consortium understands resilience as the timely ability (of an individual, household, community, society, country or region) to anticipate shocks/disaster risks, absorb, recover better and transform in ways that improve human/environmental integrity and further reduces chronic vulnerability.



In Somalia, better resilience has been inhibited by a web of complex and chronic vulnerabilities. This include persistent insecurity, very frequent droughts, depleted livelihoods, diseases and lack of essential services such as healthcare and education. As a result, a segment of the population has been rendered chronically at-risk due to long term destruction of socio-economic systems. STREAM acknowledges the need to use diverse sequential and layered approaches to strengthen community resilience to shocks/disaster risks.

STREAM has proposed social safety net with the understanding that to improve resilience in the long-term, support is needed at the household, community and local authority level over a significant out-of-emergency period, in order to provide a holistic and reliable safety net for the most vulnerable. A multifaceted approach has been embraced where the project supports interventions at household, community and policy level as provided in the National Development Plan (NDP).

STREAM coordinates closely with other agencies such as the State Government of Jubaland and other consortia in building community resilience. The role of the Government and the communities remain critical in enhancing security and access to vulnerable populations. When all stakeholders play their part, Somalia can realize big wins in rebuilding communities that have for long been exposed to unending disaster.



COMMUNITY MANAGED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) brings communities together to collectively examine their community shock/disaster risk profile, and to plan, implement, and monitor/evaluate related risk reduction measures.

Through participatory methodologies, the Social Safety Nets project has undertaken 30 CMDRR engagements one in each of the 30 communities in Lower Juba (Kismayo 15, Dhobley 8, Afmadhow 7).

A thirty-member gender balanced CMDRR Committee has been established in each community to strengthen community level institutional framework for disaster risk management. The CMDRR committees were established from previously existing Village Relief Committees (VRCs) that were oriented.

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The newly established CMDRR Committees have further been trained on Early Warning Systems for utilization in developing their Contingency Plans.

The community CMDRR committees are purposely composed of both men and women to ensure inclusivity in community decision-making. Given that women are most affected during disasters, including them in decision-making ensures that the issues that affect them are not overlooked, and that women have ownership and participate in mitigating and responding to disasters in a more localized way.

The project gives small-scale grants to each community which forms a specifically established disaster mitigation fund to help finance mitigation priorities in the CMDRR plans. The CMDRR capacity building and trainings were carried out with the participation of relevant Government staff to ensure sustainability.

The communities have also established Peer Review Mechanisms (PRM) where different communities meet to update each other on progress made in the implementation of their respective CMDRR plans, learn and share experiences with each other.



"I have been receiving cash assistance for 6 months now. And my family stands a better chance at surviving the drought because of it. I can buy our basic food and water needs and I am also grateful that my grandchildren can continue to attend school and concentrate on their education"

*Hawo

Afmadow, Lower Juba region



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