**RAPID RESPONSE - INTERVENTION application form**

**Applying organisation**: Taakulo Somali Community (TASCO)

**Title of the intervention**: **Food security (livelihood) and WASH** - **Integrated support to drought affected IDP households in Baidoa through unconditional cash support and water trucking**.

## 1. The humanitarian intervention (describe within max. 4 pages)

**1.1 The context:** The overall humanitarian situation in Somalia is dire. For the last 2 years, livestock and agricultural productivities have been below-average in many parts of the regions due to poor rangeland conditions and below-average rainfall, leading to low income from livestock sales and limited household availability of livestock products and local cereal stocks. Most rangeland areas have received below-average rainfall amounts during the last Deyr season. The current dry conditions are expected to further aggravate the already poor malnutrition status within these regions. There is persistent food insecurity among IDPs and vulnerable host communities in Diinsoor and Baidoa districts. Most of the IDPs are pastoralist that fled from the outskirts of the Baidoa town and many of them lost all their assets (livestock) due to the drought and heavy tax imposed by Al-Shabab to their agricultural products and recruitment of child by Al-Shabab.

Drought conditions have worsened significantly across Somalia following three consecutive failed rainy seasons and a poor performance of the 2021 Deyr (October to December) rainy season[[1]](#footnote-2). The current season has been erratic, and the situation is likely to become extreme due to projections of below-average rainfall for the remainder of 2021. As of 23rd November, local authorities and humanitarian actors throughout the country have reported severe water shortages and loss of livelihood affecting more than 2.6 million people in 66 out of 74 districts of the country.The economic impacts of COVID-19, the lack of the Gu rainfall season (March-June rain), prolonged drought, and the desert locust upsurge have resulted in a food insecurity and water shortage to the population in southwest regions according to an assessment reports conducted by OCHA and partners. During the dry season, up to 2.5 million people are anticipated to be unable to meet their minimum food needs and have no or limited access to water, and are, hence, in need of urgent humanitarian food/cash assistance and water.

The targeted town Baidoa is an essential part of sorghum belt, often referred to us Somalia’s ‘breadbasket’ Situated in Bay’s Agro-pastoral High Potential Livelihood zones. The main economic activities in Baidoa include business (small, medium and large scale), casual labour, self-employment, trading, livestock and agricultural trade. The combined effects of locust invasion as well as conflict and recurrent drought has affected the livelihoods of the communities of Bay region particularly Baidoa district and its neighbourhoods which have had a drastic effect on the economic security, leading to chronic humanitarian situation and major displacements of the population. The town hosts many IDPs mostly from different regions including Bakool, Bay and Lower Shebelle regions. The frequent failure of rainy seasons including the last Gu season and the frequent conflict and exchange of firearms in the nearby villages by Al-Shabab (AS) and SNA (Somali national army) forces backed by AMISOM has played a significant role for the displacement of the IDPs into Baidoa.

* 1. **Content of the intervention:**

a) The intervention will focus on unconditional cash transfers and water tracking to 250HH in Baidoa IDP camps. The interventions will increase affected communities’ purchasing abilities to meet their basic needs and access to clean water. The intervention contributes directly to SDG 2 and 6, and supports SDG 3, 10, and 17.

b) The unconditional cash transfer (UCT) assistance will support the community on sources of livelihood restoring, they will use the cash to buy food, water, and ensure that children are able to continue their education as parents have the means to priorities school fees. The water trucking will help beneficiaries to meet their basic and immediate needs and help them to improve access to safe water.

c) To measure the achievement of the results and outcomes TASCO will conduct the following:-

1. Base line survey
2. Verifications after the BNFs registrations
3. On site monitoring, two Post distribution Monitoring (PDM) for the 2 cycles of Cash distribution and PDM after the completion of the water trucking
4. Endline Evaluations

d) The mixed mode approach of providing both water and cash assistance is anticipated to improve the conditions, resilience and safety for the targeted community significantly. The cash intervention will reduce beneficiary risk since the money will be transferred through mobile number, which can only be accessed by the beneficiary hence improve accountability for beneficiaries and stakeholders in the area. The shortage of water means that purchasing water is difficult and very expensive in the area, which the IDPs cannot afford. Water trucking will ease people traveling long distances to fetch water which may cause protection-related incidents, especially for girls and women.

e) This intervention is considered as urgent and need for priority responses on the humanitarian appeals from the government, local administration and humanitarian partners in the region and as per the call for DERF. The planned activities within the first 7 days of receiving the first transfer of funds from the DERF includes:

1. TASCO will coordinate with partners and clusters in the region in order to avoid overlaps of resources.
2. TASCO will engage all relevant stakeholders to avoid collision of activities with other partners in the areas.
3. Training on project modalities and selection criteria will be provided to the stakeholders and TASCO staff and volunteers.
4. TASCO will form project committees selected by the community and who will be closely working with program team during beneficiary registrations and mobilization and as well as participating in the implementation of the project.
5. Immediately after TASCO receives the instalments TASCO will start engaging the community and local authority. TASCO will initiate identification and registration of beneficiaries to meet the deadline.
6. Sim cards procurement will be initiated as the registration is ongoing and will be immediately provided to beneficiaries and followed by 1st round of cash distribution on the 7th day. The intervention will follow the plan outlined in annex 1.

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| 1. **PROJECT PLANNING** | | | | | |
| **Goal/ Outcome/ Output** | **Description** | **Activities** | **Indicators & Targets** | **Means of Verifications/ Tools** | **Assumptions** |
| Project Goal | To Provide Immediate Integrated lifesaving support to the Vulnerable Communities in Baidoa IDP camps | | | | |
| Outcome 1 | Provide lifesaving Support to vulnerable Communities in Baidoa IDPs camps | | #of Vulnerable HHs benefited the Integrated support | #baseline/PDM/Endline Conducted | All target BNFs to be reached at the end of the Project with an integrated lifesaving support |
| Output 1.1 | 250 Vulnerable HHs are able to purchase goods that covers their basic needs | 2 Cycle Cash transfer for 250 Vulnerable HHs in Baidoa IDP camps | # people reached with food assistance in targeted settlements and communities  Target: 100%  # people satisfied with the assistance  Target: 80 % | Conduct baseline, onsite monitoring and post distribution monitoring | Communities and local authorities accept the Food Security interventions - Participation of communities and local authorities in the project - Access to proposed areas remains possible.   * All Bnfs receive their Cash Entitlement |
| Output 1.2 | 250 HHs have access to safe and clean drinking water | Water trucking for 250 Vulnerable HHs in 30 Days | # of people received Water trucking in the target IDP sites  Target: 100%  # people satisfied with the assistance  Target: 80 % | Conduct baseline, onsite monitoring and post distribution monitoring | Communities and local authorities accept the Food Security interventions - Participation of communities and local authorities in the project - Access to proposed areas remains possible.  All Bnfs receive water trucking at the end of the project |

**1.3 The target group:** The intervention will directly target IDPs who lost their livelihood income sources, marginalized groups, people living with disabilities, and vulnerable host community living in the district. These beneficiaries were selected based on the need assessment conducted by TASO in Baidoa. TASCO also consulted the partners and clusters working in the area and local administration recommendations especially the IDP commission for the Southwest, Ministry of planning, Ministry of humanitarian and disaster managements and local district commissioners in the respective target locations. These target beneficiaries were selected based on the selection criteria set in consultation with the Communities, CCM Cluster, and Food Security Cluster[[2]](#footnote-3)

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| **PLANNED TARGET POPULATION (INDIVIDUALS)** | | | |
| **Age Group** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** |
| Number of persons | Number of persons | Number of persons |
| < 5 | 62 | 80 | 142 |
| 6-14 | 24 | 60 | 84 |
| 15-24 | 156 | 270 | 426 |
| 25-49 | 200 | 340 | 540 |
| 50-64 | 80 | 90 | 150 |
| > 65 | 78 | 60 | 138 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | 600 | 900 | **1500** |

The total of people in need of humanitarian assistance caused by the drought crisis in Southwest State is estimated to 650,000 people according to the UNOCHA report produced on 23rd November 2021. TASCO identified 250 household (equivalent to 1,500 persons) as most vulnerable people in the two targeted district for the rapid response intervention. The identification of beneficiaries was conducted with participation and support from the relevant stakeholders (Ministry of humanitarian, IDP commission, camp leaders, elders and cluster partners) and community. The intervention will minimize protection-related issues for women and girls fetching water from a far distance with water through water trucking. The cash intervention will be done through mobile money transfer in order to reduce the protection risk of the beneficiary. At the beginning of the Project one kick of meeting with Local authorities and community engagements will be conducted, as well as a baseline assessment/vulnerability assessment to further understand the gaps within the target communities which will help effective response and successful delivery of programming at field level. This assessment will also be referred to during the Endline evaluation report that can be compared the result or impact of the project with the baseline conducted before the intervention.

## The implementing partner (describe within max. 1,5 pages)

**2.1 Capacity, experience and expertise:** TASCO has been present in Somalia/Somaliland since 2007 delivering life-saving assistance coupled with recovery efforts and resilience programming. TASCO implemented unconditional cash transfers and Water trucking support in the respective target location and have been implementing in several sectors including food security and livelihoods, WASH and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM). The proposed intervention aligns with TASCO objectives of 2020 Somalia’s Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) on Lifesaving, Protection and WASH intervention. To ensure consistency of the humanitarian services delivered, avoid resources duplication/overlap and enhance gap filling, TASCO works very closely with several stakeholders – government offices and both local and international NGOs. The different regional State local authorities, most specifically the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED), Ministry of Interior, Ministry of water and mines, Ministry of resettlement and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) are the key actors to whom TASCO refers for guidance in community targeting and proper placement of resources where it is valued the most. Secondly, national and regional cluster bodies; WASH, FSL, CCCM, Protection/GBV, and the Cash Working Group; are the main avenues of coordination for purposes. TASCO has been financially assessed or audited by international and UN Organizations which certified that TASCO has the capacity and systems to implement Humanitarian emergency, and Development programs. In addition to that, TASCO has been audited by the most credible audit farms i.e. Price Waterhouse and Coopers (PwC), Deloitte and Touché, Baker Tilly Merali’s (BTM). The proposed intervention is in line with the current drought crisis

TASCO has a clear understanding of the target districts having established operations for several years. TASCO has been implementing activities in the area and well familiar with local authority and community in the respective target locations. With close consultation of the community and local administration TASCO will ensure to reach the most vulnerable people identified for this response and in case of difficult or unexpected issues arise TASCO will immediately engage its donor and consult for proper actions.

**2.2 The partnership:**

DM-Aid has established a strategic partnership with TASO for more than six years and has signed partnership contract with the organization, which is updated every two years. The partnership agreement stipulates criteria, rules and regulations for the receipt and use of funding, implementation, M&E as well as adhering to the principle of anti-corruption and anti-fraud and under which DM-Aid programs, they can apply for funding for. TASCO has shown good performance in implementing various development and humanitarian interventions in particular difficult contexts and circumstances. The organization has also good experience in implementing several emergency response projects funded by DM-Aid and has successfully carried out several DERF project in the past (such as the 19-455-M1 Drought Emergency response- Sanaag Region). Finally, the organization has implemented a large number of water and sanitation projects over the years benefiting thousands of families in Somalia.  DM-Aid and TASCO has a strong relation and TASCO implementations of projects is supported with regular guidance and monitoring of DMAID.

**Danish Muslim Aid** (DM-Aid) will run the overall project management unit (PMU) providing technical assistance/advice, provisioning of funds, M&E oversight, enactment of new complaint handling system/documentation tools and other operational support.

**TASCO local teams** will be responsible

* for local project planning, monitoring and evaluation reporting to line departments, donors and main office in Baidoa. The organization ensure COVID-19 and other safety measure in implementation of the project.
* coordination with local authorities and getting necessary approvals and development complaint handling and feedback mechanism for the project.
* to ensure local participation by through proper coordination with communities and authorities.
* to ensure M&E activities are planned, shared and executed in a coordinated manner and inclusion of relevant stakeholders.
* ensure to share update on the progress in implementation of the project on regular basis.
* the project management team prepares an activity implementation plan to be followed by project/site team and volunteers, who have good local knowledge, with ties to the community structure and access to the affected areas.
* That staff and volunteers team ensures awareness of the relevant stakeholders about the funding organizations and their support that have been providing to Somalia since long.
* to submitted required completion reports do donors and line departments.

## Local strengthening (describe within max. 1 page)

**3.1** During identifications and registration of beneficiaries, TASCO will ensure to use the do not harm approaches. Village relief committees will be formed with support of the community and this committee will be provided training based on the project modalities, accountability to beneficiaries and donors and TASCO will sign code of conduct and MOUs from the VRCs outlining their roles and responsibilities and these committees will take part in project implementation period and solve in case of any community conflicts during the project implementation. TASCO will also respect norms and cultural of the community in the context and ensure active participation, as well as information to all involved stakeholders about all available complain mechanisms. Resources will be shared equally to all vulnerable people to avoid clan conflicts over resources These committees will advise TASCO where need for support and they should be able to solve problems with the support of TASCO program team. In the case of fraud , corruption or any abuse against the organization code of conduct TASCO management will intervene and depending on the level of the case, the necessary action will be taken by TASCO management team management. DM-aid will be informed about any dispute or suspicion of dispute.

* 1. TASCO will do community and stakeholder meeting before the start of the project activities.

Field kick project meetings will be done at field level before the actual intervention to ensure involvement and acceptance by the communities. Project committees from the community will be formed and community will be involved throughout the project implementation in order to improve community project participation and ownership. TASCO will coordinate with partners and inform about the projects activities and ask advice and guidance for the cluster and other partners to avoid overlaps. We will mostly coordinate with WASH cluster for the water trucking and FSL cluster on the livelihood project and relevant line ministries and local authority will always be involved. TASCO will ensure alignment with current cluster recommendations for the planned interventions (WASH, CCM, FSL).

**3.3 Environment marker (only for monitoring purposes)**

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| MARK |  | DESCRIPTION |  | EXPLANATION |
|  | → | **The intervention includes environmentally harmful components without incorporating mitigation measures to reduce anticipated impact** | → | The intervention duly identifies and considers the environmental impact of its collective activities as harmful without being able to apply substantiated remedial action (e.g. sourcing, procurement, supply chains, logistics, transport, waste and service delivery). |
|  | → | **The intervention includes environmentally harmful components and incorporates some mitigation measures to reduce anticipated impact** | → | The intervention duly identifies and considers the environmental impact of its collective activities as harmful and applies some substantiated remedial action (e.g. sourcing, procurement, supply chains, logistics, transport, waste and service delivery). |
|  | → | **The intervention includes environmentally harmful components and incorporates significant mitigation and environmental enhancement measures to reduce anticipated impact** | → | The intervention duly identifies and considers the environmental impact of its collective activities as harmful and includes significant substantiated remedial action as well as environmental enhancement components (e.g. sourcing, procurement, supply chains, logistics, transport, waste and service delivery). |

TASCO will do pre-assessment to identify environmental effects that they affect intervention and address with community to avoid the negative impact of it. TASCO will not engage the community on activity that will affect the environment.

## 4. Risk Management & MEAL (describe within max. 1 page)

**4.1 Risk management:**

**Diversion of project objectives by the local authority**: TASCO will try its best to explain deeply the project objectives to the local administration and inform them that the project activities will remain in line with the proposal and in case of any valid reasons for adjustment will be requested in accordance with the guidelines.

**Acceptance and Conflict over resources:** TASCO is already mitigating this risk by implementing programmes in the target area and by having a good relationship with local authorities and communities. TASCO also employs extensive community consultation and feedback mechanisms to mitigate this risk. TASCO will aim to mediate any such dispute through Village Relief Committees and with local authorities at field level. TASCO will ensure inclusion of all vulnerable community in the project.

**Fraud and diversion of resources:** To mitigate against fraud and diversion of resources, TASCO creates sufficient awareness with all stakeholders and local authorities that resources and humanitarian assistance cannot be subjected to any taxation or used for personal or family interest. In case of any fraud reported. Immediate actions and communications will always be shared with DM-Aid and DERF for transparency and accountability to our beneficiaries.

**Gender based risks:** Women excluded from undertaking activities due to cultural or other reasons. TASCO sets targets for female inclusion in all activities.

**Emergencies**: The areas can be prone to floods, AWD epidemic, influx of IDPs or forced IDP evictions, or other disaster. In case any emerging issues TASCO will be working closely with partners for coordinated and multi-sector responses to developing emergencies through the Cluster system at national and sub-national levels.

**4.2** TASCO has a complain response mechanism in place and operates a hotline, which all beneficiaries can reach. The number to the hotline will be provided to all involved parties. This enables the community to address complaints where the management TASCO immediately will intervene with an appropriate response. Community complaints will be responded to immediately. Community mobilization on TASCOs accountability procedures and case management will be explained to the community and project stakeholders.

**4.3** The lessons learned during implementations of project will be applied in future intervention. All challenges and lesson learned from the project intervention will be documented and used for improving other future humanitarian intervention in the area. Community and stakeholders’ recommendations in this project will be used as lessons learned and will be applied in future project interventions. Cash through mobile system will be used for the safety of the beneficiaries and this was part of lessons learnt from previous project and hence used as improvement of cash management system.

## 5. Coordination (describe within max. 0,5 page)

**5.1** TASCO will build on its presence and ensure close coordination with other actors present in the target districts to ensure complementarity in order to avoid overlaps. The clusters and other actors working in the area will be coordinated to avoid overlaps of activities in the target areas. The CCCM, WASH and FSL clusters are normally informed partners activities for guidance and proper implementations and coordination purposes. The planned activities improve the local market access to the vulnerable target people.

**5.2** The intervention is carried out in close coordination with the relevant authorities and organization. Meetings are held with local authorities and local CSOs managing body, NGOs department, and humanitarian organization in humanitarian cluster in the targeted areas to ensure the aid is provided to those who have not received assistance from other organization and prevent the overlap of activities. To ensure consistency of the humanitarian services delivered, avoid resources duplication/overlap and enhance gap filling, TASCO works very closely with several stakeholders – government offices and both local and international NGOs. The different regional State local authorities, most specifically the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED), Ministry of Interior, Ministry of water and mines, Ministry of resettlement and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) are the key actors to whom TASCO refers for guidance in community targeting and proper placement of resources where it is valued the most. TASCO actively coordinates with national and regional FSL and WASH cluster as the main avenue of partner’s coordination and information sharing of which TASCO is an active member.

1. according to FAO’s Somalia Water and Land Information Management (FAO SWALIM) November 2021 update. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Households with a poor, borderline or acceptable FCS score; Households who have already lost or face loss of livelihood as a result of the crisis; Households who have limited or no source of regular income i.e. no jobs or business income; Households who are community-acknowledged poor; Internally Displaced Families who have no livelihoods or income sources; Households that are not currently supported by an ongoing humanitarian program; People with no access to water; People who are not close to water sources in their area and fetch water from far distances [↑](#footnote-ref-3)