**RAPID RESPONSE - INTERVENTION application form**

**Applying organisation**: **ORGANISATIONEN FOR FRED OG UDVIKLING I DET SYDELIGE SOMALIA (OFUSS)**

**Title of the intervention: RESPONSE TO DROUGHT IN BELETWEYNE, HIIRAAN REGION, SOMALIA**

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

* 1. **The context: Considering the description of the context submitted by the implementing partner (attached to this application), how have you ensured that the proposed intervention is appropriate and relevant (CHS 1) for the affected population and vulnerable groups? Describe how the proposed intervention is effective and timely (CHS 2) in relation to the described context**

Somalia is experiencing its third consecutive below-average rainfall season since late 2020[[1]](#footnote-1), which is worsening the current drought conditions, particularly in the southern, central, and northeastern parts. These areas have received little to no rainfall since June due to delayed October to December 2021 *deyr* rains, according to Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM). The widespread dry conditions have resulted in increased human suffering and livestock deaths. Food insecurity and acute humanitarian needs have been reported across all sectors, with more than 5.9 million people currently in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. Humanitarian agencies project that 7.7 million people in Somalia will need humanitarian assistance and protection in 2022 due to conflict in various parts of the country, recurrent climatic shocks particularly drought and floods, disease outbreaks including COVID-19 and increasing poverty.

Nearly seven in ten Somalis live on less than USD 1.90 per day, the sixth-highest poverty rate in sub-Saharan Africa. Poverty is both widespread and deep, particularly for households in rural areas and internally displaced person (IDP) settlements. The number of food-insecure people experiencing long-term stress is trending upwards, indicating that chronic food insecurity persists, requiring sustainable solutions. It is estimated that a total of 3.5 million out of the 15.8m people face acute food insecurity (IPC 3 and above – crisis or worse) until December 2021 while, 2.6 million people are experiencing water scarcity across the country.

There is a serious risk that the combined impact of consecutive seasons of below-average to poor rainfall can develop into a major drought by early to mid-2022. The current drought conditions are expected to deteriorate, amid a La Ni-ña phenomena expected to last until April 2022. Hiiran region is one of the regions where it is projected the rainfall will be below the normal average which will adversely affect the agro-pastoral and agricultural livelihoods.

**1.2 Content of the intervention:**

a) Describe the intervention’s activities, the results these will have and what the outcome of these will be.

OFUSS/DAN’s proposed intervention - **Response to Droughts in Hiran Region Somalia** - aims to contribute to food security by improving households’ immediate access to food through provision of unconditional cash assistance. The project will provide multipurpose unconditional cash transfers to 250[[2]](#footnote-2) crisis and displacement affected households in 6 villages located on the north west of Beletweyne district. The targeted villages are: Feer-feer, Maxamud Gacal, Jawiil, Bacaad, ilkacado and Gasle.

Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCTs) will improve beneficiaries' access to food and other basic needs including safe water, medicine/healthcare, and shelter, while also preventing households (HHs) from resorting to negative coping mechanisms, which erode resilience in the longer term. DAN will transfer cash to beneficiaries through Mobile Money Transfer Systems. Each of the beneficiary households will receive 4 months of cash transfers of USD 60 per month with targeting taking place in December 2021 or January 2022. The cash transfers will take place in January, February, March and April 2022. The transfer schedule aligns with lean seasons in Hiran Region. The proposed cash transfer of 60 dollars per household per month is less than the MEB for December. First, most humanitarian actors including WFP are distributing 60 dollars per household per month to accommodate the huge number of households in need while compared with the available funding. DAN has thus coordinated with the different actors in the cluster working in same context to ensure coordinated support. DAN also encourages the target households to continue with their normal or undertake alternative livelihood activities to meet the other 56% gap of their MEB.

**Results Framework**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Objectives | Results Chain | Indicator | Baseline | Target | Means of verification |
| Overall Objective | To save lives and improve the ability of households in Beletweyne district to meet their basic needs through multi-purpose cash assistance to crisis affected populations | Number of people in IPC 3 and above | 3.5 million | 2.5 million | Cluster reports  Humanitarian Reports |
| **Outcomes** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Outcome 1 | Crisis and displacement-affected populations have improved access to food and basic needs | -Number of people in crisis and IDPs receiving unconditional support to improve access to food  -% of HHs reporting that cash helped them meet their basic needs  - % of the target population with acceptable Food Consumption Score (FCS) | 200 | 1,500 (50% female)  95%  50% | Registration records  Monitoring reports  Cash Transfer statements from mobile cash transfer provider  Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys with representative sample  Survey with representative sample |
| **Outputs** |  |  |  |  |  |
| -250 (50% female) UCT household beneficiaries registered  -$60 distributed to 250 household beneficiaries monthly  -PDM report produced monthly |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **Means** | **Assumptions/Risks** |
| * 1. Location targeting   2. Community mobilisation and sensitisation   3. Formation of village project committee (VPC)   4. HH selection, verification, and registration   5. Baseline survey   6. Registration of beneficiaries with mobile money transfer company   7. Monthly cash transfer   8. Post distribution Monitoring   9. Reporting | Cash for sim cards  Cash transfer amount $60\*4\*250  Operational costs | -Risk of high needs vs limited resources  -Food and other basic commodities remain available in the market, with stable prices - Local markets, roads and telecommunications infrastructure remain functional - Host community continue to cohabit with IDPs in the project locations - Community leaders and local authorities support the project implementation - The targeted sites selected for implementation will remain accessible throughout the project period - Security situation remains or improves throughout the project period |

b) Describe in a few sentences the change your intervention will bring to the people affected by the crisis. What do you expect the short-term impact to be after completion of your intervention?

This project will reduce acute humanitarian needs and excess mortality of the most vulnerable by providing life-saving assistance through multipurpose unconditional cash transfers, allowing those people to access essential food and other non-food supplies. OFUSS/DAN’s targeting is based on the areas of prioritisation and further directed by the levels of need experienced in the communities. To ensure that the most vulnerable, underserved communities are prioritised, OFUSS will work with a local NGO partner, DAN, to reach beneficiaries who have been excluded from other interventions. While access issues are not projected to affect programme timelines, the security situation remains volatile and therefore an extended programme timeline is necessary to ensure all programme implementation and monitoring and evaluation activities can be carried out within the timeline proposed.

c) How will you measure the achievement of results and outcomes?

Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) is undertaken 2 weeks after every other transfer (1 and 3), while the final PDM will be conducted in May to capture the impact on people’s coping strategies and FCS after the 4th MPCA transfer was made. PDMs are conducted with a representative sample of HHs, randomly selected from beneficiary lists. The PDMs after the 1st transfer is a brief survey checking core indicators and monitoring for red flags to allow for course-correction in project implementation. The PDM after the 3rd transfer is an extensive survey that looks at cash impact, including food consumption, coping strategies and expenditure patterns. They also encompass process monitoring, including appropriateness of targeting, timeliness, travel time, diversion, cash sharing, intra-HH decision-making on cash expenditure, price stability and accountability measures. PDM surveys are conducted using mobile data collection.

d) Considering the mode(s) of assistance your intervention includes (Cash Based Assistance, Voucher Based Assistance, Goods, Services), please justify the choices made. Why are you choosing one mode instead of another, or why do you combine the modes as you do?

Through this project OFUSS/DAN will provide Unconditional Cash Transfers to 250 households (approximately 1,500 individuals) of the most vulnerable food secure households in agropastoral and urban areas in targeted villages of Beletweyne for 4 months. OFUSS/DAN are well placed to deliver Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCTs) in Beletweyne district, having provided transfers in this region in 2018 and 2019. UCTs are flexible, allowing HHs to prioritise their own needs and tailor assistance to the particular vulnerabilities they face. Response in Mobile Money cash transfers has proven to be efficient, cost-effective, transparent, and scalable to meet rapid surges in needed support. It also aligns with beneficiary preferences and is flexible to meet the unique needs of beneficiary households. Markets in Hiiran region have remained functional and there is adequate infrastructure to enable this modality to work effectively. DAN has been implementing UCTs in school feeding through partnership with WFP and through previous projects funded by DERF where results conclude that UCTs were efficient and accountable while meeting largescale needs at a cost-effective rate.

e**) How does your intervention consider the priorities mentioned in the DERF Call? How do you ensure that resources are managed and used in an effective, efficient and ethical manner (CHS 9)?**

The risk of aid diversion is heavily mitigated by the registration approach and mechanism of mobile money cash transfers. DAN will make a money transfer to a national telecommunications company each month. They provide a list of names and phone numbers of the intended beneficiaries, and the company makes the transfer of the specified amount to each account. Once cash is transferred, the beneficiary receives a code; they use this to collect the cash from official distribution points located close to their homes or maintain the money in an account on their SIM card for future purchases. There are no middlemen or gatekeepers who transport or hold cash during the process. The telecommunications company provides DAN with official documentation upon successful completion of transfers to each SIM. Internal audits by OFUSS will ensure resources area utilised as expected.

f) Briefly describe how you intend to start your activities within 7 days of receiving the first transfer of funds from the DERF

The emergency response team of DAN has already been mobilised are ready to implement the activities within 7 days. DAN has already carried out a market assessment and carried out a mapping of the villages where the activities will be implemented. Reconnaissance visits made to the villages have enabled DAN to start planning with the local leadership there. Additionally, DAN is actively participating in the coordination mechanisms as well as monitoring the humanitarian landscape in readiness to start implementation as soon as the first transfer is made.

**1.3 The target group:**

a) Describe the **direct target group** of the planned intervention, including their characteristics and needs. Justify how you have selected this particular target group among those likely to be affected by the crisis (i.e. which inclusion criteria did you use?). Specify also how many people will benefit from each of your main activities?

This project aims to provide immediate access to food for populations primarily affected by drought and loss of livelihood assets while supporting with the avoidance of negative coping strategies. There will be a particular focus on female-headed HHs and households who have already exhausted their coping strategies and for whom access to food is critical and who are experiencing increased vulnerabilities as a result of seasonality of their livelihoods – namely families with a large number of young children. In selecting beneficiary HHs, priority is given to female-headed HHs and special needs groups, e.g., HH headed by older people, HHs with members with disabilities or chronic illness, pregnant/lactating women, HH with children under 5 years - all acknowledged to be vulnerable with difficulties in accessing food and other basic needs.

1. Quantify your planned target group by gender and age group in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PLANNED TARGET POPULATION (INDIVIDUALS)** | | | |
| **Age Group** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** |
| Number of persons | Number of persons | Number of persons |
| < 5 | 102 | 102 | 204 |
| 6-14 | 96 | 96 | 192 |
| 15-24 | 90 | 90 | 180 |
| 25-49 | 180 | 180 | 360 |
| 50-64 | 144 | 144 | 288 |
| > 65 | 138 | 138 | 276 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | 750 | 750 | **1500** |

c) Describe who and how many of your direct target group are **particularly vulnerable people**. How have these vulnerable groups been identified and selected (inclusion criteria), and how does the intervention address their particular needs? Also describe how the intervention addresses protection needs of particularly vulnerable groups, as relevant.

The targeting of beneficiaries will also take into account the vulnerable people’s needs and their right for inclusion. Vulnerability criteria include a combination of: 1) characteristic of the HoH linked to ability to access food (e.g. elderly, ill, disabled) 2) poverty of HH 3) reliance on negative coping mechanisms 4) other criteria tailored to meet the context of the community. The list of beneficiary HHs is publicly announced to the community, giving them opportunity to provide feedback and recommendations on list, or lodge objections to the Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM). The list is revised where needed based on community feedback.

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

* 1. **Capacity, experience and expertise:**

a) What is the capacity, experience, and expertise of the implementing partner(s) (CHS 8)? Describe also the organisational and financial capacities.

OFUSS and DAN have in the past partnered in the implementation of food security and WASH interventions responding to emergencies in the same locations of Hiiran region in 2018 and 2019. The partners have thus gained substantial capacity in adopting or designing strategies that ensure right targeting and transparent delivery of assistance to the beneficiaries. DAN is a member of protection, Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCM), food security, education and WASH clusters and reports through cluster coordination mechanisms on its humanitarian response activities. The staff working in the two organisations are trained and have acquired requisite experience and skills in humanitarian work and knowledge of the operating environment. Financial systems are in place and the partners are subjected to annual audits and project specific audits.

b) How does the organisational set-up ensure access to the people at-risk, including particularly vulnerable people?

DAN has developed systems and gained expertise in project planning, management, monitoring and evaluation using participative methods. DAN has also developed sound financial and budgeting systems, policies and practice to avoid mismanagement and corruption. Experience working with different donors such as DFID, CIDA Canada, CFGB, Swedish Development Agency (SIDA), CARE International, the European Union and ADRA has contributed to DAN’s capacity growth. Recommendations from due diligence and systems audit process by donors have been implemented to improve management capacity of DAN, evident from the list of donors funding its work in Somalia. The Finance team are experienced in financial analysis and budgeting while systems and procedures for technical and financial follow-up of programme implementation have been developed.

DAN staff have local knowledge and access to the different villages where the project is targeting. It has good working arrangement with the Village Committees that are tasked with the responsibility of identifying beneficiaries based on the selection criteria developed, which includes all the vulnerability considerations in the selection of beneficiaries. DAN has an office in Hiiran region and has recruited staff from local community with knowledge of the area. The collaboration with the local village and district leaderships ensures a wider participation of different stakeholders in ensuring that the most vulnerable are accessed.

c) If the Danish CSO is self-implementing describe a) how you are best placed for this specific intervention in this context; b) how participation of local actors is enhanced through implementation; and c) how you have access to the target group and particular vulnerable groups?

OFUSS is implementing through a local NGO – Development Action Network (DAN).

**2.2 The partnership:**

a) Kindly explain whether you have entered into partnership agreement(s) the main features of such agreement(s) and whether the agreement(s) was developed with the local partner.

Yes, OFUSS has entered into a partnership with DAN on how to implement this project. There is also an existing partnership with DAN based on previous projects that the two organizations have implemented together.

b) Describe the contributions, roles and areas of responsibilities of all partners (including the Danish CSO) within this intervention.

Under this partnership, the roles and scope of both organizations is clearly articulated in the partnership agreement signed between the two organizations. DAN will be directly responsible for project implementation and community engagement in the project’s target regions of Somalia. On the other hand, OFUSS will be responsible for financial oversight, monitoring and evaluation and donor reporting. OFUSS will also contribute to capacity growth of DAN through resource mobilization and knowledge sharing.

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

* 1. **How does the intervention strengthen local capacities and avoid negative effects (CHS 3)?**

The intervention is planned and implemented jointly with the local communities and local government. It is anchored on government’s plans and evidence gleaned from analysis of needs, markets and the humanitarian landscape. For example, humanitarian assistance is planned to only last for a short term, so that communities don’t become over reliant on aid and fail to go back to their traditional livelihoods’ sources. Assistance provided also considers the need for the communities’ members to contribute either in kind or cash to the interventions targeting them.

Cash disbursement will be undertaken by a local mobile money facilitator whose capacity will also be strengthened by this intervention. A market analysis was undertaken during the planning phase of this intervention to ensure that the project activities do not disrupt the market but rather complements the market systems. A participatory approach adopted in the planning and implementation of this project ensures that the communities own the project activities and outcomes.

Procurement of supplies and other local materials will be done from the local suppliers injecting enough income into the economy. Local staff will implement the project, learn from this and build their response capability in future.

**3.2 Describe strategies for informing and involving affected people in the intervention (CHS 4).**

At the planning of the project, the target group was informed and involved in assessments that were done to provide information used in planning this proposal. Selection of beneficiaries, distribution/disbursement of materials and cash is a participatory process where community leaders and local administration are all involved. When funding is communicated, DAN will organize a community meeting where details about the project will be shared in a public forum so that every member of the community is provided an opportunity to raise any concerns, they may have with the project implementation strategy. DAN has a set up a community complaint and feedback mechanism to ensure that communities have a platform where they can raise issues regarding the implementation modalities of the project and expect to get justice within a framework of confidentiality, honesty and integrity.

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

a) Choose which of the following three descriptions best characterises your intervention (tick only one box)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 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). |

b) Briefly explain your answer.

The cash transfer modality reduces use of paper and people contact. It also ensures that food is sourced from the local economy and therefore no emissions expected from transporting items to the house as they are sourced from walking distance.

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

**4.1 Describe the intervention’s risk management approach and which systems and mitigation measures are applied**. Describe how the chosen risk management approaches are appropriate in the specific context.

When assessing whether to carry out the proposed cash transfer activities in this project, DAN made sure that the following aspects were taken into consideration: (a) market analysis - undertaken to establish whether the local markets are able to provide the needed items or respond to an increased demand for commodities. Most local shops have sufficient amounts of food stuffs, only that poor households can no longer afford to buy the commodities anymore. DAN further assessed the risk of possible disruption to markets needs to be considered; (b) DAN also considered its internal institutional capacity to undertake the project; (c) the local security situation in the targeted areas and corruption risks (both internal and external); and (d) the food security situation – which is very bad and needs urgent assistance. After taking keen internal analysis, DAN was satisfied it could carry out cash transfers and water trucking. Some of the risks that may likely occur and affect the project have been enumerated in a risk register with their potential impacts and mitigation factors put in place to address them in case they occur. Additional risks include sudden shrinking of access and/or uncertainty on access causing imbalance in the scope of the program and which may impede delivery, cause diversion of aid and imposition of taxation by non-state entities, security risks to staff and assets. DAN has the capacity and experience of handling such risks from implementing humanitarian and development programs in Somalia for a long time. As a result, no major challenges are foreseen in managing these risks as and when they occur during the program duration.

**4.2 Describe the implementing partner(s) approach to monitoring, feedback and accountability systems (CHS 5), including the contextual complaint mechanisms.**

At inception a comprehensive M& E framework and plan will be developed to fully capture baseline, targets, results and milestones. DAN has a significant monitoring and evaluation capacity, with an M&E Officer overseeing the Monitoring and Evaluation framework. The M&E staffs are responsible for supporting the collection, analysis and reporting across the programme areas. Data generated will be shared with all stakeholders, as well as being used to adjust programming activities as needed to address any gaps or overlaps as appropriate. M&E staff will regularly undertake field visits to sites to assess progress and meet with beneficiaries. Monthly reports summarizing progress on planned activities and plans for the upcoming month are produced. Project baseline data is collected and supplemented as needed to ensure that progress against the proposed indicators, outputs and outcomes are accurately measured. External end-term evaluation will be undertaken with the full spectrum of stakeholders to evaluate progress, highlight project achievements and challenges, and to measure final outcomes and impact. DAN has a set up a community complaint mechanism. A hot-line number will be provided to target communities to submit their complaints and appreciations. All feedback and complaints will be logged in the Feedback and Complaints Logbook by the Focal Point of DAN. The logbook will also have the remedial measures taken to address the complaint and measures to prevent recurrence in the future. The logbook will indicate when an action taken is open or has been closed. DAN will establish informal and Formal channels to receive feedback and complaints. In each case, the option to disclose the identify or remain anonymous, will be given to the individual sharing feedback or setting a complaint. The hotline is dedicated exclusively to receive feedback and complaints. After investigation, a report will be shared and feedback provided to the complainant.

DAN will compile and analyse its own M&E data to evaluate the effectiveness of each component of the intervention in achieving the outputs, and objective. DAN’ evaluation results, along with lessons learned, will be presented to stakeholders.

**4.3 Describe how learning and reflection will be applied in terms of improving future humanitarian interventions (CHS 7)?**

DAN will produce an evaluation report at the end of each project to document the results of the project and the lessons learned. During and after the project implementation, DAN will organize a stakeholder’s forum at the local level to share experiences on the implementation of the project, pick lessons and institute a follow-up action plan that will help put the lessons into perspective.

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

**5.1 Describe how the intervention complements the humanitarian and/or development efforts of the national and local authorities, as well as those of other stakeholders.**

The project will also facilitate coordination and cooperation between the diverse stakeholders (public sector, the private sector and empowered and organized citizens) and function as independent agent between the stakeholders. DAN will facilitate and participate in coordination together with other partners at organized forums through site visits, state visits, learning events, workshops, coordination meetings, evaluation, case studies, and share the same with the different stakeholders.

**5.2 Describe how the implementing partner(s) participate in relevant coordination mechanisms?**

DAN is coordinating the project within the framework of WASH, Food Security and Livelihoods, and Protection Clusters. Additionally, DAN is coordinating the project with the government-led humanitarian response committee to ensure that the activities are aligned and do not overlap with ongoing and planned interventions in the same locations. Further coordination is being promoted within the communities so that there is complementarity between interventions ongoing and support that has been raised from the local systems.

1. UN OCHA November 2021 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Each household has an average of 6 persons (250 households\*6 persons=1500 individuals) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)