

THE DANISH EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

RAPID RESPONSE - INTERVENTION APPLICATION FORM

Applying organization: Iftin Women's Organization

Title of the intervention: Rapid Response for Ali Issa and Bilcille villages

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

1.1 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.

Our partner, Action for Rural Development (ARD), submitted a request for aid. We compared their data to the data at [Relief Web](#), the OCHA department that monitors living conditions and poverty in Somaliland including the Togdheer region where our partner requested RR.

Our partner's description of the present conditions in the Togdheer region matches the data submitted by Relief Web for 2021. Therefore we conclude, verify and ensure that our proposed intervention is a relevant and appropriate response and intervention to meet our partner's needs, because their needs correlate with verifiable data submitted by internationally recognized humanitarian aid organizations. Please see the table below for a comparison.

After 3 consecutive failed rainy seasons the Togdheer region is facing serious drought.	
Partner's and OCHA's description of Togdheer region	Iftin Women's Organization's RR for Togdheer region
Lack of water has resulted in <ul style="list-style-type: none">• food insecurity• dying livestock• very poor sanitation	Deliver <ul style="list-style-type: none">• water• nutrition• CBA (Cash Based Assistance)

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.

We want to mitigate the plight of hungry and thirsty families in Togdheer district where we already are known for humanitarian assistance. We have an excellent working relationship with ARD, the villagers and elders in the two affected villages. Our intervention is simple, efficient and effective: 380 families in Ali Issa and Bilcille villages will receive water and CBA from the Somali mobile company, Zaad, to help them through the next two months. The following LFA below describes our rapid emergency response.

	Project summary	Indicators	Means of verification	Risks/ Assumptions
Goal	1 - Distribute CBA and water to 380 families in Ali Issa and Bilcille villages to mitigate hunger and thirst.	1.1 - Before our intervention 380 families were unable to drink and eat every day. After our intervention they can.	1.1.1 - Deadlines are set to distribute aid. 1.1.2 – CBA receipts prove that recipients have received cash	1.1.1.1 – Deadlines are cancelled and moved. 1.1.2.1 - Nepotism is uncovered and dealt with.
Outcomes¹	2 - At least 380 families live longer.	2.1 - The two villages continue to move forward.	2.1.1 - Head counts show that a majority of children and adults have survived.	2.1.1.1 - More villagers than expected get ill or die due to dehydration and malnourishment.
Outputs²	3 - CBA and water is distributed.	3.1 - Families are nourished and hydrated.	3.1.1 - 380 families digitally verify CBA. 380 people manually verify access to water.	3.1.1.1 - Glitches 3.1.1.2 - Unforeseen events
Activities	4 – Coordinate teams that organize the procurement.	4.1 –Iftin and ARD will coordinate their capacities.	4.1.1 – Our partner has contracts with CBA and money laundering.	4.1.1.1 - Glitches 4.1.1.2 - Unforeseen events

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?

- Cooperation and trust from the beneficiaries in Ali Issa and Bilcille villages is essential to our collective success. Iftin and ARD are trusted thanks to our recent projects delivering school and medical equipment to Ali Issa and Bilcille villages' school and MCH clinic.
- With the cooperation of the beneficiaries up to 380 families (approx. 2280 men, women and children) will avoid hunger and thirst for the next two months.
- A sense of community will prevail and people can continue to live in relative peace.
- Clan conflicts will hopefully be avoided.

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

We have asked ARD to monitor in numbers whether there is a rise in conflicts and deaths above what is normal and to be expected. We are also asking the local MCH clinic for statistics to monitor whether there is an increase or decrease in illness due to thirst and hunger.

d) Considering the mode(s) of assistance your intervention includes (CBA 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?

Iftin and ARD need to be quick, flexible and efficient, and CBA provides an easy way of doling out help. The families will receive CBA (80\$ per family) because they prefer cash as it gives them the freedom to buy what they really need as a family. In turn, we are better able to monitor and account for the assistance.

¹ The outcomes are what the CSO wants or needs to achieve.

² The outputs are the actions or items that contribute to achieving an outcome.

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)?

- **Priorities** - Iftin and ARD have prioritized food and water due to the financial limitation of the DERF grant.
- **CBA management** – We will use the most familiar money app in Somaliland called Zaad. This saves time, avoids confusion and provides ample digital tracks and data to avoid the majority of usual corruption and conflicts of interest.
- **Water management** – Water will be trucked to the villages. Water distribution to the beneficiaries is recorded manually in a logbook and every water recipient must have a card with their name, number and registration information in order to receive water rations. This way we can keep track of who is receiving water and how much until they reach their limit. This method has been used before successfully so we are building on previous experience.

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

We want to get a head start instead of waiting to see if we get approved. As soon as we send this Application Form, ARD and Iftin will develop a *step-by-step preliminary logistics and timeline*. If we get approved we can deploy the intervention much faster, building on the timeline, developing logistics a little faster, and organizing the villagers a bit quicker than if we had just waited passively.

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 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.

The target group is 380 families and roughly 2280 people. They are vulnerable pastoralists and IDPs who have lost their livelihoods due to drought. These include single parents, widowers and widows, orphans, invalids, sick adults and children. The pastoralist's animals do not have enough water and are malnourished due to lack of grasslands. **We justify their needs for food and water** by the mere fact that they are slowly dying of thirst and hunger and we need to act asap. Since they all need food and water and all are affected by the same drought conditions we are including everyone. We cannot justify feeding a mother but not a father, feeding a son but not a daughter. Approx. 2280 people will benefit from this RR that includes CBA and water.

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

Age	Males	Females	Total
<5	88	102	190
6-14	265	319	584
15-24	280	299	579
25-49	175	213	387
50-64	129	161	290
> 65	100	149	250
Total	1037	1243	2280

c) Describe who and how many of your direct target group are particularly vulnerable people. How have the 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.

1. **Who are the vulnerable people?** Children, lactating mothers, invalids, single mothers, widows, orphans.
2. **How many are there?** About 25% or 570 people
3. **How have they been selected?** They have been selected based on their status.
4. **How does the intervention address their needs?** They need food and water and this is what the intervention provides.
5. **How does the intervention address protection needs of vulnerable people?** ARD gives special attention to this group to ensure that they not forgotten but are included as recipients of the intervention.

2. The implementing partner (describe within max. 1.5 pages)

The implementing partner ARD, Action for Rural Development, is a trusted partner that we have collaborated with over the past four years. We communicate every Sunday via Whatsapp to discuss the ongoing progress of the highly successful climate-smart agriculture projects that we have started in southern Somaliland. We visited ARD in Somaliland 6 months ago and our working relationship is rock solid and builds on mutual trust and efficiency. We listen to each other and offer mutual feedback when needed. ARD's director, Dirye Husein, is an articulate, intelligent young doctor who is highly respected among locals as well as in the local and regional government.

2.1 Capacity, experience and expertise:

a) What is the capacity, experience, and expertise of the implementing partner(s) (CHS 8)?

1. **Capacity, experience and expertise:** We can validate that Iftin and ARD have completed 5 projects with ARD. These include 2 Genbrug til Syd (GTS) projects, 1 DERF project, 1 water project (self-financed) and 1 Danish Refugee Council (DRC) projects together with Iftin covering the following areas: health, agriculture, covid preparedness, construction and emergency response in the form of CBA, food and water distribution. Their experience and expertise covers the proposed intervention. ARD's experience in completing similar emergency responses to the present DERF RR is well established and they definitely have the professional experience to conduct this intervention.
2. **Describe the organizational and financial capacities.** ARD has completed the successful audit of 857.000 dk. to date with no corruption issues or complaints.

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

1. ARD already has a trusted team in place in the two villages. The team was established earlier in connection with the successful completion of a school and MCH clinic in 2020 and '21. ARD will engage the team, they will delegate tasks and responsibilities in unison and work to distribute the aid to the designated group of villagers without forgoing the most vulnerable individuals. When there is a question that ARD cannot handle all they need to do is call Dekha, the president of Iftin, in Denmark and assistance is on its way.
2. **How is the partner's access to the people affected by the humanitarian crisis, and its experiences of meeting the needs of particularly vulnerable people, substantiating that the partner will be able to deliver the proposed humanitarian intervention?**
There are no issues, because ARD is a well-known, trusted and respected figure in both villages based on the success of their former humanitarian aid projects. In fact, the villagers hope ARD comes back ASP with some more assistance hopefully from DERF.

3. **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?

- Not applicable

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) were developed with the local partner.

(This question is unclear, because we do not know if you are requesting a general answer regarding partnership agreements or a specific answer in regards to this particular intervention. Therefore we answered this both generally and specifically in relation to the present RR intervention and this answer overlaps into **part b** of your question.)

Yes, we have a long-standing working relationship that is in ongoing and in full function. ARD and Iftin have partnered in completing a GTS project in the two villages Ali Issa and Bilcille:

1. Procurement of furniture and education tools for an elementary school
2. Procurement of hospital furniture and equipment.
3. In addition we have completed 4 projects in Balimataan village, Somaliland
4. In regards to this intervention we have agreed to work together to complete the intervention and the final audit and reporting.

The overall main features of our working agreement were developed with ARD and include:

- Working at a professional level even though we are not paid.
- Communicating respectfully, directly and clearly to avoid personal conflicts.
- We educate each other respectfully when one party is incompetent due to lack of knowledge.
- We are patient but efficient, direct but diplomatic.
- Budget and accounting is an integral and mandatory part of our financial auditing.
- We adhere to Core Humanitarian Standards.

In regards to this specific intervention in Ali Issa and Bilcille villages:

1. Iftin's roles and responsibilities include
 - Obtain funding from DERF and sign a contract agreement with DERF
 - Transfer funds to ARD after the approved budget is released.
 - Monitor the project and settle disputes when needed.
 - Write a final intervention report in collaboration with ARD.
2. ARD roles and responsibilities include
 - Administer and manage DERF funding.
 - Register and validate families and vulnerable individuals.
 - Coordinate community committee, volunteers, target groups, authorities and stakeholders.
 - Hire security guards
 - Buy water and transportation.
 - Designate a chief CBA coordinator.
 - Ask for help when needed and report disputes to Iftin.

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

Please look above for the answer

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

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

To avoid gossip and misinformation we will prepare the community to the intervention through the village meetings mentioned below. We will implement local authority at the onset of the project. Furthermore we are implementing a local committee consisting mainly of females, then men and elders. This avoids most conflicts and ensures that the target groups feel included.

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

News in Ali Issa and Bilcille travels mouth-to-mouth and quickly turns into gossip and misinformation. To avoid confusion, we are asking ARD to coordinate together with the community coordinators a series of village meetings with the heads of families. We do not want to dictate how many meetings, nor how many people should participate at each meeting, but the clear purpose is to inform the heads of families that help is coming, what kind of help, and particularly how, when and to whom it will be distributed.

3.3 Environment marker (only for monitoring purposes)

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

MARK		DESCRIPTION		EXPLANATION
X	→	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).
<input type="checkbox"/>	→	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).
<input type="checkbox"/>	→	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.

Our intervention hands out cash and water hence there is little to no environmental consequences other than the gas fumes that the truck produces when transporting water over a distance of 120 km.

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?

We take this aspect very seriously. During the initial phase of this RR intervention, ARD and Iftin will assess the situation on the ground and ensure the safety of all the stakeholders affected by the intervention. Iftin and ARD confer with the community committee, authorities and the target groups to get an overview and reach an agreement on risks and security protocols. All indicators of potential risk are considered. Strategies for remediation are developed. The performed risk assessment is discussed and adjusted continuously. We strive to create a safe environment, so the supply chain of CBA and water runs smoothly.

RISK	SOLUTION
People are so impoverished that conflicts can arise when selecting the target groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Involve community committee and volunteers• Register beneficiaries with contact info, ZAAD verification nr and distribution of ID cards to avoid misrepresentation.• Hire security guards at water distribution sites• ARD will convince the local elderly leader and communities to follow the criteria of selection and currently identify the families
The fluctuation of the purchasing price of water commodities.	DERF will be notified and we will request intervention adjustments
Delay of funds due to bank	With DERF's permissions we use Dahabshiil instead of the bank.
Sexual harassment from ARD	Our cooperation stops

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

We plan to build on the risk management mechanism we used last year during our latest RR project. This included

- ARD kept a strict eye on the budget and schedule and had Iftin on speed dial in case of problems.
- Iftin requested that four village women record all complaints including sexual harassment and address the issues with the Elders, the local partner, and ARD. In addition, we want ARD to record and monitor all complaints and send them to us.

These implementations ensure that complaints are taken seriously and that people can feel secure about reporting complaints or other issues.

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

Iftin and our partner are down to earth and practical people who see eye-to-eye. We take responsibility for our mistakes and this is how we learn. Iftin and our local partner ARD have implemented several projects together and we established a simple, practical and direct method of reflecting and learning from our mistakes and our success too. We do this by regularly giving each other mutual feedback and keeping in constant contact on a daily basis when we are in the heat of a project. This back-and-forth dialogue is typical before, during, and after a project or intervention. This allows us to reflect on what went well and what can be improved.

We always have our target group as our main focus while maintaining our distinctive role as the people in charge of making sure that things run as smoothly as possible. We work hard to build on successes and mistakes from the past so we can improve our endeavors in the future.

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?

This intervention complements the emergency efforts of the national and local authorities. It is an established fact that there is an acute drought in the Somaliland. Therefore local and national

authorities are eager and thankful to all countries, all Diaspora groups and all aid agencies that are ready and willing to deliver food and water to the people.

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

Our partner takes the lead in coordinating the stakeholders and ensuring that the intervention runs smoothly. The intervention is carried out in close coordination with the relevant authorities, Somaliland food cluster, other stakeholders, affected families, the community committee and selected community volunteers. This ensures that the intervention will be implemented effectively, prevent emergency relief overlap, and reach those who have not received help from other organizations. This is to our knowledge the best way to ensure that as many affected families as possible are helped effectively through our joint coordination efforts.