**RAPID RESPONSE - INTERVENTION application form**

**Applying organisation**: **International Aid Services / IAS Somaliland**

**Title of the intervention**: **Emergency Water and Food distribution in Response to the Drought Affecting Sanaag Region** **Faragul, Tuura, Tuurb and Wardgeer district, Somaliland**.

## The humanitarian intervention

**1.1 The context:**

**Emergency Response Relevance (CHS 1)**

The drought in Faragul, TuurA, TuurB and Wardheer villages of Garadag district of Sanaag region has caused a severe water and food shortage. This has continued to aggravate vulnerabilities and trigger population displacements across Sanaag region. According to FAO, the Sanaag region is one of the most affected in Somaliland. More than half of the affected people have moved from their settlement to the nearby villages due to severe drought conditions. According to the Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (FAO/SWALIM) and information from the Somaliland National Disasters Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority, more than 280 households in Sanaag region need emergency water trucking and food distribution due to lack of rain and loss of livestock associated with drought. This intervention will address these identified needs, adhering with CHS 1 to ensure that *“Communities and people affected by crisis receive assistance appropriate and relevant to their needs.”*

**Effectiveness and Timeliness (CHS 2)**

The emergency water trucking and food distribution will be effective as it helps to ensure the well-being of the most affected community members i.e. children, women, the disabled and the elderly. The reports released by FAO and the Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) substantiate that acute malnutrition is increasing and that there is gap in the humanitarian intervention in terms of water supply and food distribution in Faragul, Tuura, Tuurb and Wardheer districts. The planned intervention of water trucking and food distribution (rice, flour, milk, oil and sugar) to the most vulnerable drought effected families is an **effective** way of addressing the lifesaving needs on the ground. Coming at the end of the failed rainy season, the intervention will address these needs in a **timely** manner before malnutrition rates rise and the hunger crisis deteriorates. This ensures compliance with CHS 2 by ensuring that “*Communities and people affected by crisis have access to the humanitarian assistance they need at the right time*”.

**1.2 Content of the intervention:**

a) **Activities, results, and outcomes**

The proposed intervention aims to assist vulnerable children, women, disabled and elderly, who are identified as acutely malnourished during screenings. The intervention also aims to reduce the risk of child mortality and, through an awareness-raising component, aspires to enhance the basic nutrition knowledge of mothers and other women in communities targeted by the supplementary food distribution activity.

Through the intervention, targeted vulnerable people in Faragul, Tuura, Tuurb and Wardheer districts in Sanaag region will have immediate access to nutritious food, increasing their nutrition intake and survival rate. Accordingly, provision of supplementary food and water will reduce malnutrition and improve health conditions. 225 households will benefit from the distribution, each receiving 25 kg of flour, 25 kg of rice, 1 tin of milk powder (2500g), and 3 litres of oil per month over a 3-month period. Based on feedback from beneficiaries during emergency distributions IAS Somaliland has made in recent years, a single distribution of 25 kg of sugar will be made to reflect local preferences and demands. Each family will also receive a 200 L barrel of clean drinking water per week over a 3-month period. This intervention will also reinforce the target communities’ knowledge, skills and capability towards prevention of sexual- and gender-based violence against women and girls.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Objectives | Activities | Expected Results | Indicators |
| 1. Provision of clean water to families vulnerable to malnutrition | 1.1. Provide 3 months of water trucking for 280 droughts effected families | * Reduced dehydration, water borne diseases and malnourishment.
 | a. Number of families who get clean water |
| 2.Provision of food supply for 280 families | 2.1. Provide 3 months of supplementary food assistance such as rice, wheat flour, milk, oil, and sugar for 280 families2.2. Enhance the basic nutrition knowledge of mothers | * Reduced hunger, starvation and, malnutrition of most vulnerable persons such as children, women, disabled and elder people
* Improved level of nutritious children and mothers
 | a. Number of families who got support of flour, rice and oil, milk and sugarb. Reduction in the level of hunger, malnutrition. |
| 3.Awareness creation on hygiene | 3.1. Community sensitization on hygiene and prevention of communicable and non-communicable disease | * Reduced sickness of children, women and elderly people in the target areas.
 | a. Number of people attending training sessions.  |
| 4.Training in SEA and SGBV and other protection issues affecting women and girls in the drought crisis | 4.1. Carry out meeting and workshop on SEA and SGBV issues in target areas  | * Improved the consciousness of the local community on SEA and SGBV issues in order to prevent its occurrences
 | a. Number of people attending SEA/SGBV training sessions. |

b) **Changes as a result of this Humanitarian Intervention**

Through the planned intervention, vulnerable women, parents and children and elderly in these four villages will have immediate life-saving access to clean water and basic food (wheat flour, milk, rice, oil and sugar) that will help rehabilitate them from the effect of malnutrition caused by the drought. Assistance of this basic food and water will reduce malnutrition and some associated death and sickness, and increase the physical well-being and health of children, mothers, and elderly.

c) **Measuring achievement of results and outcomes**

IAS Somaliland will conduct real time monitoring of the project activities to make sure that the project is going on as per the plan scheduled. During the activity time consulting meetings will be held with stakeholders to review the performance of the project. Narrative, financial progress and safety reports will be submitted to IAS DK while feedback and learning from monitoring will be documented and shared for mutual learning. The achievement of the result and outcomes of the project will be measured through assessment of the progress against the set indicators.

d) **Mode of assistance**

This proposed intervention will be implemented using an in-kind assistance mechanism. As a result, therefore vulnerable children, women, disable and elderly people in these four villages shall receive direct in-kind support of wheat flour, rice, milk powder, sugar and oil. These four ingredients are the most important and basic food items Somalia peoples use regularly. From previous drought interventions IAS Somaliland have positive experience in distribution of emergency relief items to communities. IAS Somaliland will distribute the food for the target beneficiaries after joint verification by the responsible Government line department and the IAS Somaliland emergency team has been completed. In-kind assistance has been preferred to cash as the assistance is visible/transparent and goes directly to the women and children who are most in need. The concern with cash is that it may be more easily diverted by the husband for other uses (e.g. chewing chat) or, given the polygamous culture, to other households that may be less vulnerable.

e) **Consideration of DERF call priorities**

This intervention responds to the call for proposal 21-008-SP/severe drought in Somalia (including Somaliland) which calls for a short-term, lifesaving humanitarian response to address food insecurity, malnutrition, and water needs. As per DERF priorities, the proposed intervention will consider the following villages:

* This project will be implemented in four villages of Sanaag region in Somaliland. The villages are; Faragul, Tuura, Tuurb and Wardheer.
* This project focus on food security and nutrition through the distribution of wheat flour, rice, milk powder, sugar, oil and water.
* This project will target households containing children, women, disable and elderly people and other identified groups identified as being particularly vulnerable to food insecurity;
* In this project activities awareness creation will play great role to reduce risk of death of women, children and elderly.
* Due to the implementation of this this project drop out of children from school will be decreased.

f) **Ensuring resources are managed and used in an effective, efficient and ethical manner (CHS 9)**

According to our organizational code of conduct and CHS 9, IAS Somaliland will ensure that resources are managed and used properly, effectively, efficiently and ethically through the resource management principles the organization uses. To handle the resources and fairly distribute food items and water, strong attention will be given to warehouse monitoring and supervision during unloading and distribution, coupled with post-distribution monitoring to ensure proper management of the wheat flour, rice, sugar, milk, and oil. IAS Somaliland has strong financial system in place to ensure procurement is conducted in accordance with financial policies and that there is zero tolerance to corruption or fraud. At the end of project, an external audit will be conducted to ensure the project has followed the financial and procurement procedures.

g) **Starting within 7 days of receiving first transfer from DERF**

IAS Somaliland shall start the proposed intervention within 7 days of receiving the first funds transfer. It has well-coordinated operation among its regional office, country office and field staff. Activities will be shared between the country office staff in Hargeisa and field staff in four villages. IAS Somaliland staff are committed and have good experience of managing similar emergency interventions before, which can also help to efficiently and timely manage the proposed intervention. In addition to this, IAS Somaliland has developed good communication and networking with local government offices, local leaders, and communities through the implementation of similar projects in this area and other areas during similar droughts that occurred in 2012, 2014, and 2017. This experience and local contacts means that IAS Somaliland is well-placed to begin the project in a timely manner.

**1.3 The target group:**

a) **Target group description**

Food insecurity and acute humanitarian needs have been reported across all sectors, with more than one million people currently in need of humanitarian assistance and protection throughout Somaliland. Although the drought has affected communities across Somaliland, Sanaag region is shown by FAO/FSNAU (October 2021) to be at crisis levels of food insecurity. The four target villages within Sanaag region have been identified following requests for support from local administration and elders that have come to the IAS Somaliland office. IAS has an Inclusive Education (IE) project in this region, and elders, authorities and community leaders have approached IAS staff during IE project activities in this region to give attention to their needs. The proposed humanitarian intervention is designed to address the needs of four particularly vulnerable target groups who have become malnourished due to poor food security and the current drought due to absence of rain. The selection of beneficiaries is done by community leaders, local administration and village leaders. Therefore, households containing children under the age of 14 years, women, disabled, and elderly people will be targeted. These groups are vulnerable due to their specific health situation and inability to migrate to unaffected places in response to drought.

b) **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 | 214 | 396 | 610 |
| 6-14 | 128 | 161 | 289 |
| 15-24 | 129 | 166 | 295 |
| 25-49 | 225 | 330 | 555 |
| 50-64 | 86 | 143 | 229 |
| > 65 | 43 | 79 | 122 |
| **Total** | **825** | **1,275** | **2,100** |

c) **Particularly vulnerable people**

This proposed intervention focuses on vulnerable groups in the community. Therefore, the direct target group consist of children, women, disabled and elderly people because they are the parts of the community most vulnerable to malnutrition at times of food scarcity. Children with disability attending school are included in this groups. To minimize drop out of school, the project will make sure to incorporate students with different abilities and abled children to continue learning. This will create a positive impact in school attendance and minimize drop outs. In addition to vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition, women and children may be at risk of SEA and SGBV during the drought crisis. Accordingly, protection issues will be treated as a cross-cutting issue, with sensitization sessions held in all communities where distribution occurs.

## The implementing partner

**2.1 Capacity, experience and expertise:**

a) **Capacity, experience, and expertise of the implementing partner(s) (CHS 8)**

IAS Somaliland is a non-governmental organization implementing development and humanitarian intervention in Somaliland, Puntland and Mogadishu since 2001. It has Country office in Hargeisa and has three functioning field sites where there is family skill training centre in three regions. IAS Somaliland is part of the IAS-LM alliance supported by the Head office in Sweden and Regional office in Addis Ababa, both of which bear the name Läkarmissionen (the two organizations merged in 2019). IAS Somaliland relates to IAS Denmark through the IAS-LM Alliance.

The **capacity** of IAS Somaliland is based on a strong organizational structure that helps it to successfully accomplish different programmatic objectives and goals effectively. IAS Somaliland has expertise in and is implementing projects covering different thematic areas including Education, advocacy for disability, resilience, and emergency response. IAS Somaliland staff have been trained on CHS standards and adheres to CHS standard in all emergency interventions to ensure that the response is up to standard and that it follows good humanitarian response practice. This project programming capacity is supported by a strong management capacity to manage funds received from different donors. To make this project effective, IAS Somaliland’s committed and capable finance and logistics staff have the capacity to handle the project finances and procurement in an efficient way.

IAS Somaliland has considerable **experience** and **expertise** developed over 20 years in emergency operations and relief work in Somalia and Somaliland. IAS Somaliland has implemented similar projects in this area and other areas during similar droughts that occurred in 2012, 2014 and 2017. This experience includes emergency distribution of wheat flour, rice, sugar, milk and oil in response to the crisis in Somalia and Somaliland. From the previous experiences of the projects, the communities received their support from the organization properly. In addition to this the staff are well acquainted with design, implementation, reporting and monitoring of food and water distribution and humanitarian interventions.

b) **Access to the people at-risk, including particularly vulnerable people**

The exposure to the community where the intervention is planned is strong. Through IAS Somaliland, IAS Denmark has good access to the target group and particularly vulnerable groups. IAS DK pay regular monitoring visits to the area. IAS Somaliland has worked in Sanaag region since 2001 and operating development response in most parts of the region. Over recent years, IAS Somaliland implemented various projects in Sanaag region including inclusive education such as teacher training, construction of classrooms, training of education partners, elders, community leaders. IAS Somaliland has also done some rehabilitation of mother and children centres and provided training for health staff and medical supplies. This made the organisation to be well familiarized with the community, local leaders and administrations. Since IAS Somaliland has been supporting the most vulnerable part of community such as children with special needs and the pastoralist community and has a close relation with the vulnerable communities in Somaliland. A close working relationship with the local communities and authorities is vital in being able to identify, access, and serve the target groups properly and according to goal and target of the organization.

**2.2 The partnership:**

a**) Partnership agreement(s)**

The partnership agreement between the Danish organization (IAS Denmark) and the implementing organization (IAS Somaliland) will be based on a partnership agreement starting the types of cooperation, principles for cooperation and the roles and responsibilities of each partner. It was developed in close cooperation with IAS Somaliland and has been used successfully as the basis for previous intervention in Somalia during the past decades.

b) **Contributions, roles and areas of responsibilities of all partners**

IAS Denmark and IAS Somaliland have cooperated successfully since 2000 on projects that have impacted many lives in Somaliland, including emergency, WASH, and inclusive Education interventions in Awadal, Togdheer and Sanaag of Somaliland. The partnership has strong roots in the cooperation manner and the two parties have developed strong working relationships. A specific project agreement will be developed and signed by both parties outlining roles and responsibilities, reporting deadlines, good practice and management of funds. Focus is on enhancing collaboration, communication, and safeguarding, and avoid fraud, corruption and misuse of funds. The roles will be distributed as follows: IAS Denmark will offer overall coordination and monitoring role of the intervention including finances, implementation and follow up, safety management, contact to DERF, monitoring visit, and submission of final reports and assist in the risk and safety management, training, advice and establishing proper procedures, as well as the Danish audit. IAS Denmark and IAS Somaliland will closely collaborate and be cautious in all amendments, issues raised, and decisions that regards the intervention. IAS Somaliland will receive and manage funds, and implement the project, including being responsible for project audit. IAS Somaliland will have the overall supervision of the project in Somaliland including reporting to IAS DK and Regional Office in Ethiopia, ensure quality and compliance with the CHS and other standards and polices, carry out direct implementation and local monitoring and advice any risk and safety management. IAS Somaliland will be responsible in liaison with stakeholders and local authorities (Somaliland National Disasters Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority office, Sanaag regional authority and local administrations) in responsible for disaster response, with whom it will be required to monitor the implementation of the project.

## Local strengthening

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

IAS Somaliland will engage the local community and local administrative bodies in the implementation process to ensure the success of the project and develop their capacity. The target group and local administrative bodies will be involved in every stage of implementation. The intervention will adhere to the set rules and agreements that will be put in place by the local community, humanitarian community and the government. IAS Somaliland complies with humanitarian principles, code of conduct and CHS. The organization will provide training on safeguarding of the target community from any form of violence and abuse. The intervention will also be done with due compliance with government regulations in relation to Covid-19 to protect staff and avoid the spread of the virus to and within the community. IAS Somaliland will make effort to identify and act upon potential or actual unintended negative effects in a timely and systematic manner, including in the areas of:

* People’s safety, security, dignity and rights;
* Sexual exploitation and abuse by staff;
* Culture, gender, and social and political relationships;
* Livelihoods;
* The environment.

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

In this respect, IAS Somaliland will provide information to affected communities and people about the organization, the principles it adheres to, how it expects its staff to behave, the programmes it is implementing and what they intend to deliver. Information sharing and communication will be made in languages, formats and media that are easily understood, respectful and culturally appropriate for different members of the community, especially vulnerable and marginalised groups. Participatory development principles will be followed increase ownership, transparency, and equity and empowerment through greater involvement of the poor, women, and other disadvantaged groups from initiation to completion of the project. The communities and people affected by the crisis are encouraged to provide feedback and complaints on their level of satisfaction with the quality and effectiveness of the assistance received, paying particular attention to the gender, age and diversity of those giving feedback. To this end, IAS Somaliland’s complaints response mechanism will be rolled out within the target communities at the start of the intervention.

**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). |
|[x]  → | **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) The Intervention avoids and/or reduces negative environments effects, and – if relevant – mitigates their potential impacts.**

The intervention will provide awareness to the beneficiaries to properly dispose the sacks, tin and plastic jerry cans to mitigate the environmental risk of the waste materials to the environment. However, packaging materials can also be re-usable for time being for keeping dry food, construct shelter and water storage.

## 4. Risk Management & MEAL

**4.1 Intervention’s risk management approach and which systems and mitigation measures are applied.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Risk** | **Mitigation Strategy** | **Responsible Person** |
| **1** | Potential clan conflicts in the village and around the region for scarce resources (water and pastures) | Work with the regional police and settle if there is conflict | Staff of IAS and regional security bodies |
| **2** | The risk of spread of Covid-19 pandemic | Protect the spread of Covid-19 according to the instruction given by health sector | Program office and concerned bodies |
| **3** | Number of people in need in excess of target beneficiaries | Work jointly with regional and local administration and community leaders to come up the best solutions. Inform the community from the start of the project as to the limitations of the project budget and work with them to prioritise aid to the most vulnerable. | Program coordinator and field staff |
| **4** | Break down of food transportation vehicle | Make sure to inform in advance the contractor to prepare stand by vehicles to replace immediately  | Program coordinator and field staff |

Somaliland is relatively stable security-wise, although latent tensions mean the situation is volatile. IAS Somaliland has been working in this region for many years and implemented various projects. Due to its local presence and engagement with local communities and stakeholders, IAS Somaliland is able to implement projects over many years without putting its staff at this. This local presence is complemented by robust security protocols, which IAS Denmark will help to support and develop further over the course of the intervention.

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

IAS Somaliland employs a participatory monitoring approach involving beneficiaries, partners and stakeholders. A monitoring and evaluation plan that incorporates indicators, data collection methods, and data collection tools will be developed and used. The monitoring process will be directed to the timeliness, quality, and quantity of the intervention and will focus on assessing the improvements attributable to the project. A key strategy of this is the collection of age, gender, disability, and vulnerability disaggregated information during the identification of beneficiaries and the distribution of food and water that will allow for accurate quantification of the different target sub-groups. To ensure each stakeholder fulfils his/her accountability responsibility, IAS Somaliland will inform the community of their rights and entitlements in the project. They will also be notified with the available complaint mechanisms they can use to provide their concern, feedback, and complaints. Complaints contact persons will be assigned and notified to the community and other stakeholders to receive and address the complaints of the community in a timely manner. Related with discharging its accountability responsibility, IAS Somaliland will also submit progress and final reports in a timely manner to the donor and to signatory government offices as per the agreement made.

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

To make the project effective and efficient, IAS Somaliland has monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning practices that are found to be effective means to learn from experiences and improve future interventions. It has undertaken several similar emergency food and water distribution projects over the past years. That experiences will help us to apply the lesson learned from the past intervention and implement this intervention efficiency and effective and timely.

## 5. Coordination

**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 humanitarian intervention plans to provide water, wheat flour, rice, milk sugar and oil to vulnerable segments of the community in four villages. The government of Somaliland has informed the humanitarian partners to take immediate action to address the deteriorating situation of the drought and the need of water and food for the effected communities in Somaliland. There are no other humanitarian interventions by the government and the NGO sector taking place in the target area.

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

IAS Somaliland has been active in humanitarian coordination mechanisms in three regions. IAS Somaliland is member of the NGO forum. During the forum meetings include different sectoral meetings where NGOs share information and each NGO has wide information about the Country, the situation of the community, and the weather. Attending these monthly meetings help IAS Somaliland to know and identify which NGO is working where and to identify the gap of intervention. IAS Somaliland attends the coordination meeting for humanitarian sector working where the authorities and supporting partners share their projects, plan and target area. This enables government to coordinate the different projects and minimize overlapping.

The Country Director represents IAS Somaliland, and in his absence is represented by the Operation Officer. At regional level in Sanaag there is a National Disasters Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority, which is an emergency task force responsible for monitoring the humanitarian situation in Sanaag region. IAS Somaliland is an active member of this group.