**THE DANISH EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**

**Guidance note & INTERVENTION application form – RAPID RESPONSE**

APPLICATION FORM – humanitarian Intervention: RAPID RESPONSE

Yes: reference no.: 19-483-OC

Financial ceiling: DKK1mill

Has your organization prequalified for DERF funding?

## The humanitarian intervention

* **What sectors will the proposed interventions most relate to (please tick ALL boxes that apply)?**
* **Emergency FSL (Food Security and Livelihoods)**
* **The overall purpose in short, including the objectives, activities, expected results and indicators to be applied.**

**Purpose/ Summary introduction**

Flooding is common in Somalia during the rainy season where Jubba and Shabelle rivers overflow whenever there is heavy rain in Somalia or the Ethiopian highlands. The flooding causes massive displacement, crop devastation and AWD/Cholera disease outbreaks. Moderate to heavy Deyr seasonal rains, which started early in many parts of Somalia and Ethiopia, continued to be received across the country. The Ethiopian Highlands, where the Juba and Shabelle rivers originate, also received moderate to heavy rains over recent weeks, according to FAO-Managed Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM). Consequently, entire reaches of the Juba and Shabelle rivers have seen high water levels over the last few weeks resulting in flooding in riverine areas across Hirshabelle, Jubaland and South West states. Flash flooding was also reported in Banadir region, Jowhar in Hirshabelle and Ceel Cade and Jamame in Jubaland with some locations in South West State inundated. Over 87% of Beletweyne town was affected by the flooding, which means that the floodwaters got into homesteads causing a high degree of damage, with reports of deaths and missing people. However, the causality varies and the worst affected areas of Beletweyne town include (Buunda weyn section, Xaawotaako section Hilaac, Heegan and Kooshin. Majority of flood-affected communities are farmers who rely on the river Shabelle for their livelihoods. These floods have caused the worst destruction on homes, infrastructure and livelihood assets of all the affected communities along riverbanks.

This intervention is planning to respond to this emergency by delivering lifesaving food to the vulnerable members of the flood-affected communities in Beletweyne, Baidoa and El-Berde. This year’s floods have displaced more than 200.000 people according to UNHCR-Protection Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) as reported by UN OCHA. Communities throughout Southern Somalia suffer from reoccurring flooding, further exasperated by ongoing political instability that continues to result in the loss of lives, homes and livelihoods. Some of the first responders have begun to arrive in the affected areas, mainly with funds and volunteers from the surrounding regions, including diaspora actors and donors that continue to mobilise across the globe. Traditional humanitarian actors and donors are slowly beginning to react, but are expected to start allocating funds and resources in the next few months. Some aid supplies have made their way to the affected communities; however, access is a major obstacle to sustain this, with great disparities between urban and rural communities. The immediate priority is on delivering sustained lifesaving food, WASH and emergency health support.

**Objectives**

* To support the lives of people in affected by floods from the Shabelle River in Somalia.
* To improve the food security of the most affected families who are suffering food insecure and will be provided conditional food voucher to cover their need of food for 2 months.
* To improve the nutrition status for the most vulnerable member of the community living the target area.

**Expected result**

* 710 HH’s received conditional lifesaving food in Beletweyne, Baidoa and El-Berde in Somalia.
* 710 HH’s Improved their food security status and received the conditional lifesaving food in Beletweyne, Baidoa and El-Berde for 2 months.
* 710 Targeted beneficiaries from the most vulnerable member of the community improved their nutrition status and recover from food insecurity situation.

**Indicators**

* # of a people having easily access the conditional lifesaving food living in Beletweyne, Baidoaa and El-Berde.
* # of a people Improved their food security status and received the conditional lifesaving food living in Beletweyne, Baidoa and El-Berde.
* # of a Targeted beneficiary from the most vulnerable member of the community improved their nutrition status and recover from food insecurity situation.
* **The context of your selected response, in relation the relevant DERF call. Is the intervention appropriate and relevant (CHS 1) effective and timely (CHS 2) and are the resources managed and used in an effective, efficient and ethical manner (CHS 9)?**

The project’s target location of Beletweyne, Baidoa and El-Berde are all located along the Shabelle River, where the majority of communities affected by the floods are situated. This includes much of the over 200.000 displace people as reported by UNHCR-Protection Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) by UN OCHA. Reoccurring floods and ongoing political instability have affected the region, resulting in the loss of livelihoods, severe asset stripping and weak social protection mechanisms. TASCO will work closely for local community and District management council/committees and MOHADM which coordinated the emergency response and natural disasters in Somalia; TASCO staff will undertake the project management and project plans and work closely with the local community, local administration to select the right beneficiaries. Prior to implementation, TASCO will facilitate the community to come up with their own action plan and prioritize the beneficiaries select the most vulnerable persons among them. The community is the major stakeholder and will be given the chance to prioritize their selection criteria. Other stakeholders and partners will also be contacted to share their experiences and avoid duplication. TASCO has been always transparent and accountable to the community, local authority and its donors.

Protection mainstreaming will reflect in the process of bottom up project programming process/work plans and the process of decision-making, which ensures inclusive participation of project stakeholders and beneficiaries. Project strengthening mechanisms and creates enabling environment for project beneficiaries to submit their complaints and report activity feedback and protection information in each project locations. TASCO will make sure that in the process of implementation of each of the planned project activities, the expansion of community-based protection is an integral part and part of community discussions.

* **How you will start your activities within 7 days of the Danish CSO receiving the first transfer?**

TASCO has already engaged with local stakeholders in the ground that includes local Authorities, line ministries, community groups and Caawi-walaal (a local Youth CSO that mobilizes during crisis in Somalia – previously collaborated in several drought responses). TASCO ground team include an effective project management, logistics and volunteers teams that are prepared to act on a short notice. DM-Aid/TASCO previously implemented three previous DERF funded emergency response for fragile communities in Somalia, thus will apply experiences learnt from these interventions. The project management team prepares an activity implementation plan followed by Project /site officers and volunteers, who have good local knowledge, with ties to the community structure and access to the affected areas. The action plan will be based on two months of emergency response, Local staff will lead the implementation, field staff, and volunteer groups will be mobilized for an inception meeting.

Action Plan for inception includes and not limited to;

* 1st Day Government engagement/briefing and Travelling to the target areas
* 2nd Day Site visit and Community committees formalization, briefing and beneficiary registration process consultation/approval with Community Stakeholders
* 3rd and 4th Day beneficiary registration is ongoing and finalizing site selection.
* 5th Day visit concluding beneficiary registration and conduct final registration and verification; Community committees and beneficiary briefing on feedback/complaint handling mechanisms
* 6th Day Procurement/Tenders - Confirming beneficiary orders/preferences of items, preparation of logistics, site selections and delivery schedule briefing.
* 7th Day Commence Distribution Process based on community feedback on the above schedule
* As per good advice given, TASCO will ensure this process is inclusive and sensitive to beneficiary needs. Relevant adjustment will be made according to community feedback

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Planned target population** (direct target group only) | | | | | | | |
| Type of Activity: Access to lifesaving food | **Female** (by age) | | | **Male** (by age) | | | Total |
| Under  18 | Over  50 | Between  18-50 | Under  18 | Over  50 | Between  18-50 |  |
| Beletweyne | 700 | 240 | 454 | 454 | 112 | 320 | 2280 |
| El-Berde | 340 | 114 | 230 | 230 | 60 | 166 | 1140 |
| Baidoa | 256 | 89 | 168 | 168 | 40 | 120 | 841 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total: | 1296 | 443 | 852 | 852 | 212 | 606 | 4261 |
| Total adjusted for double counting\*: |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4261 |
| Total vulnerable persons of the above |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4261 |

\*correct the number if the same persons are listed in more than one activity. Each person can only be counted once.

* **How do you calculate the number of people who shall be assisted through the various activities?**

1 HH contains 6 persons: 710HHx6=4261 People

* **Which vulnerable groups are you specifically targeting?**

The intervention will target the marginalized communities, with vulnerability focus on female-headed HHs, pregnant women or those with small children, elderly and PSN in Beletweyne, Baidoa and El-Berde. The affected families face difficulties in the immediate term in relations to food security already stressed by pre-longed conflict, lack of social protection mechanisms and income generation.

* **Source of goods: Briefly explain how you plan to source your goods and tick the boxes that apply.**
* **In country / locally**
* **Does the intervention include cash-based programming?**
  + **NO/Yes – No Cash in Hand – Voucher Based System**

TASCO will distribute vouchers to the beneficiaries’ equivalent to $70/HH, where the beneficiaries will exchange for their food based on their needs from the selected vendor’s item list (see budget notes 1.1&1.2 for more). Vendor will distribute according to the beneficiary’s food vouchers, with close coordination from Site officers, volunteers and community committees. TASCO will facilitate beneficiary access to lifesaving food through negotiated fixed rates with suppliers, which reduces their individual expenditure. TASCO has a transparent procurement policy and advertises tenders for bidding to vendors, where the selected vendor will deliver the food to the affected and targeted people.

* **Financial localization of the intervention**

**% of DERF intervention funding which is spent by local or national partner CSOs, from the intervention budget: 90 %**

**% Funding spent on activities & goods for crisis affected persons, from the intervention budget: 74 %**

## The implementing organization

* **What is the capacity, experience and expertise of the proposed partner organisation(s) (CHS 8) undertaking the proposed intervention substantiating whether the humanitarian response can be delivered up to standard and to the needs of particularly vulnerable persons?**

As per our previous DERF funded intervention in drought, conflict and Cyclone affected communities in Awdal, Sool and Sanaag regions, our partnership has full competence and capacity for the proposed intervention to provide lifesaving food to these communities. In addition, TASCO has built partnerships with a dedicated and experienced Youth organisation called Caawi-walaal that mobilises in emergency response throughout Somalia during major crisis. TASCO and DM-AID successfully implemented emergency project in El-Berde, South West States of Somalia in 2019 during the dry season where we contributed to improve the food security of vulnerable community that was suffering from the effects of drought. Operationally, TASCO has presence in all regions of Somaliland, South Central Somalia and the South West States of Somalia, with functional offices in Mogadishu and Baidoa, expanding its presence in the region and establishing additional offices in South West and Jubaland States of Somalia. TASCO’s personnel have sufficient skills/capacity in implementing the proposed intervention; developed through many similar interventions including in 2016 - 2019 with the Support of Danish Muslim Aid (DM-AID), both through own funding and under DERF. TASCO has implemented successfully food and WASH projects in emergency response, in response to the Sagar cyclone disaster, Drought and clan conflict affected communities in Awdal, Sool, Sanaag. TASCO continues to support those communities through the Somalia Humanitarian Fund, proving support with food security, agricultural and fishery inputs, helping them towards recovery and building community resilience.

DM-Aid and TASCO put strong emphasis on accountability to our members, donors and partners as well as to the communities we support. We have put in place administrative and financial analytical frameworks and systems that help manage financial resources in an effective and transparent manner. This includes accounting and financial reporting, project and budget management tools, collecting accounts receivables and management of financial and related risks. The systems are based on sound financial guidelines and procedures. The administration and finance managers is responsible for maintaining and controlling the budget, allocation of overheads and for the preparation of financial reports, with close synergy with the project coordination and implementation teams . We use both independently and internal auditing to check and advice on corrective measures to ensure accurate and transparent systems are maintained.

TASCO works closely with local community, District management council/committees and MOHADM, which are coordinating the emergency response and natural disasters in Somalia; TASCO staff undertake continuous needs assessment that informs the project implementation plans and work closely with the local community, local administration to select the target beneficiaries. Prior to implementation, TASCO will facilitate community consolations to come up with their own relevant action plan and beneficiaries based on agreed selection criteria for the most vulnerable persons among them. The target community is the major stakeholder and will be given the chance to prioritize their selection criteria. Consultation will also include other stakeholders and partners to share their experiences and avoid duplication. TASCO has been always transparent and accountable to the community, local authority and its donors.

* **Is the Danish CSO proposing to self-implement?** 
  + **No**
* **Partnership:** 
  + **Kindly explain whether you have entered into partnership agreement, the main features of this agreement(s) and whether this agreement(s) was developed with the local partner**.

TASCO and DM-Aid have long established partnership, which has been ongoing for the last years. We have formal partnership agreement, also sign project agreements case-by-case basis. TASCO implements projects at the local in Somalia, while DM-Aid fundraises and coordinates at the international level, with additional capacity/operational support provided according to funds and program.

* + **Describe the contributions, roles and areas of responsibilities of all partners (including the Danish CSO) within this intervention**
* Danish Muslim Aid will run the overall project coordination, management of funds and other operational support (coordination with diaspora networks, project management tools, compliance/accountability and other M&E related activities)
* TASCO’s central and local teams will be responsible for local project planning, monitoring and reporting (both financial and site distribution evaluations); Community Registration/Verification with support from MoHADM, Line Ministries, local clusters and community leaders; Food voucher Distribution, Site Verification, Complaint handling and community engagements.
* We have already implemented a DERF Third project with Food Voucher distribution and Emergency response in the Sanaag, Sool and Awdal Regions of SLN, thus valuable experience has been gained in delivering a timely and relevant intervention to the affected communities.
* An external M&E expert, accompanied by Government district levels, M&E personnel will handle M&E activities based on DERF guidelines. Pre-defined ToRs will be completed to ensure M&E activities are planned, shared and executed in a coordinated manner.
* TASCO will be Responsible for project planning, site selection, community Registration/Verification, Food voucher Distribution, Site monitoring, Reporting both (Financial and Site distribution Activity)

## Local strengthening

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

TASCO always built on local capacity of the community when responding to any crisis, to forge stronger links with local community groups and organizations. In principle, we take into account the local community considerations during the project implementation. The selection criteria will be widely shared with the local community to avoid any tension that may occur between the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, or different segments of the community. This confirms that the beneficiaries have greater control over the project implementation and decision-making process. The MEAL team will closely monitor the activities; the community groups remain informed about the feedback and complaints handling mechanism to raise complaints and offer suggestions. These steps will mitigate any negative damage the intervention may have on the affected community in the target areas.

* **How are the local actors including the target group informed and involved (CHS 4)?**

TASCO works closely with local community and District management council; TASCO staff will undertake the project management plans during inception, to work closely with the target community and its leaders, local authority/administration to select the right beneficiaries. Prior to implementation, TASCO will facilitate the community to come up with their own action plan and prioritize the beneficiaries, inclusive decision-making and final evaluation. The community is the major stakeholder and will be given the chance to identify most suitable/vulnerable target populations using vulnerability focus described in in the application, sharing beneficiary selection criteria with all stakeholders. Secure community committee’s input on beneficiary selection criteria, registration procedure and selections of suitable site and schedule for distribution and other intervention activities, stakeholders and partners will also be contacted to share their experiences and avoid duplication. TASCO has a policy of transparency and accountability to the community, local authority and its donors, as they are included in the implementation and M&E activities.

## M&E, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

* **How are risk management systems applied in the appropriate context?**

TASCO has developed Risk Reduction and Security policy; therefore, all activities will be set up in coordination with community committees and traditional leaders, regional and district authorities. This ensures target group receive coordinated and complementary assistance, while reducing any risks to TASCO staff, volunteers and beneficiaries. During implementation of this project, TASCO will continue to make contextual assessments with focus on operational and security risks, and then apply available risk mitigation measures as per the policy guidelines. TASCO has already established cooperation with local youth volunteering networks, engagement with local community heads and structures. By forging stronger links with local community groups and organizations, this strengthens our legitimacy and community trust. This also ensures the beneficiaries have greater control over the project implementation and decision-making process.

* **How do the implementing partners apply monitoring, feedback and accountability systems (CHS 5), including a complaint mechanism that works in the specific context?**

Through previous DERF project experience, the partnership has internal M&E mechanisms in place that ensures the proper implementation of the project. The main tools used by the program team will be, weekly activity reports; weekly internal program meetings assessing the progress, identifying key challenges and corrective actions, in collaboration with support departments; monthly project management and financial reports covering achievements against indicators and activity implementation schedule; submitted by local project manager and assessed/approved by DM-Aid project manager and Program Coordination. Field officers submit on regular basis field monitoring reports and the work progress to the project stakeholders. All activities conducted will be documented through a centrally controlled system. Joint monitoring team will conduct a baseline survey at the beginning of the project and an evaluation at the end of the project to measure the impact, with direct input from beneficiaries and other stakeholders (Surveys/focus group sessions/feedback boxes-numbers). At the completion of the project activities, an external evaluation mission will make the final M&E field report using mixed method analysis including Surveys/focus group sessions, with stakeholders (beneficiaries/local committees/authorities) partaking the planning and evaluation process. The evaluation report will show how the project objectives have been achieved against the outlined indicators, beneficiary/stakeholder satisfaction and use the report as learning example for the future humanitarian projects.

TASCO has an appropriate complaint and reporting mechanism through which affected population measures the adequacy of interventions, or address concerns and complaints. TASCO complain mechanism is in place such as call centre and email. We should not only expect complaints but community feedback regarding the intervention, which TASCO continuously updates stakeholders through various platform even long after intervention has concluded.

* **How will learning and reflection be applied in terms of improving humanitarian action (CHS 7)?**

Throughout the project implementation, TASCO will ensure the documentation of the lessons learned to make use of them in any future project design and implementation. Moreover, TASCO M&E team will present in all project phases to monitor the implementation and receive the beneficiary's feedback and recommendation for improving the implementation mechanism. In addition, TASCO will ensure the community have access to Violet complaints mechanism so they can raise suggestions, and complaints.

## Coordination

* **Are the implementing organisations involved in a coordination mechanism?**
  + **Yes**

TASCO has full experience for the coordination mechanism and development cluster were TASCO is member humanitarian coordination team for Somalia and has been leading and co-coordinating Somalia Food security cluster from 2013 to 2015. TASCO actively attends different clusters include WASH, Health and Nutrition, Food Security and Livelihood, Education, Protection, GBV-Working Group, Cash Working group, Child protection working group, IDPs Working group, DRM-Working group and inter-Cluster sub sector working group. Additionally, TASCO/DM-Aid partnership are coordinating with diaspora/non-conventional actors in this response to ensure target community receives the support.

* **How does the intervention contribute towards coordination and complementarity of humanitarian assistance (CHS 6)?**

TASCO Project lead team will participate monthly cluster meetings and will share project components, locations and duration to all stakeholders including government and other stakeholders trying to solve the problem of food insecurity in the area and participate the coordination meetings to avoid overlapping. TASCO will make sure that the food should not negatively damage the flood affected community in the target areas.