



IOM International Organization for Migration

HORN OF AFRICA

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY DROUGHT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA.

IOM IN ACTION

- Carried out training on pasture storage and preservation for up to 150 beneficiaries in Dadaab district and a de-stocking exercise to help reduce the emaciated livestock population that is not likely to survive the drought in the region.
- IOM is selling sorghum through local merchants in an effort to increase access to food for the poor and the internally displaced persons in Mogadishu.
- IOM is supporting up to 1,000 households in the Somali region of Ethiopia to enable them cope with the effects of drought through livestock restocking, rehabilitation of water points and environment conservation activities.

THE PREVAILING DROUGHT AND FAMINE IN NORTH-EASTERN KENYA HAS DRIVEN COMMUNITIES FROM AS FAR AS WAJIR TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF DADAAB.

Dadaab District in North Eastern Kenya stretches to the border of Southern Somalia and hosts the largest refugee camp in the world, recently receiving high numbers of asylum seekers fleeing the famine-hit country of Somalia.

Similar conditions affect the North-Eastern regions of Kenya and the situation has driven communities from as far as Wajir to the outskirts of Dadaab camps where they hope to access cheaper market, water facilities and food.

Several members of the host community fear that they are being “forgotten” due to the influx of the arriving

asylum seekers yet they are experiencing conditions similar to that of the new arrivals.

In Dadaab, IOM is working with the refugee host communities in livelihood interventions that aim to reduce the pressure that the refugee influx in the region is creating and in so doing, prevent possible resource-based conflict.

In the Somali region in Ethiopia, an area hosting communities affected by both conflict and drought, IOM, FAO and UNDP have partnered to rehabilitate water points and carry out livestock restocking. This joint initiative targets 106,967 individuals. IOM has started to rehabilitate some 28 water points as well as to distribute 17,000 goats to a targeted 6,000 households.

IOM has also initiated a [Market Assistance](#)

[Programme for Somalia \(MAPS\)](#) where IOM is selling sorghum through local merchants in an effort to increase access to food for the poor and the internally displaced persons in Mogadishu.

IOM expects to import 60,000 tones of sorghum during this exercise. The proceeds of the sales will be used to fund projects that will also increase the purchasing power of IDPs in Mogadishu through unconditional cash distributions and cash for work projects.

Livelihood Support to Host Communities in Dadaab

The refugee host communities in Dadaab are equally affected by the famine in the Horn of Africa.

Although the livelihood project has been temporarily stopped due to security concerns in Dadaab and its environs, the project aims to:

- Replace hundreds of goats and sheep with camels that are better able to resist drought and provide milk for families.
- Provide water storage facilities and/or refurbish water points for use by the refugee host communities who are currently sharing feeding troughs with their livestock.
- Rehabilitate or construct water pans, tanks and kiosks in Dadaab and its environs.

The implementation of this projects are expected to continue once security is restored in Dadaab.

Livelihood Support to Host Communities in Ethiopia

The situation is similar in the Oromia region in Southern Ethiopia. A joint assessment by IOM and the Government of Ethiopia established that out of the 4.5 million people in need of emergency food aid, 41% are from Southern Oromia.

The largely pastoralist communities in the Oromia region rely on their livestock as a means of livelihood. IOM is supporting up to 1,000 household or 5,000 individuals from this communities to enable them cope with the effects of drought. IOM is helping to restock their livestock, rehabilitating some 1,259 non functioning water facilities and providing energy saving stoves for up to 3,000 households to reduce the reliance on trees as a source of charcoal.

IOM has also partnered with relevant ministries from the Government of Ethiopia and is providing training to officials from the agriculture bureau on possible alternative means of livelihood.



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

MIGRATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

IOM Geneva
Preparedness Response Division
PRD@IOM.INT
Donor Relations Division
DRD@IOM.INT

IOM NAIROBI
Public Information Assistant
Lilian Matama
lmatama@iom.int

IOM ETHIOPIA
Communications Assistant
Demissew Bizuwork
bdemissew@iom.int

PREPARED: NOVEMBER 2011