Report on rapid inter-agency assessment in Bari, Karkaar and parts of Sanaag regions/Puntland Somalia.

13-18 February 2016.

Water trucked from Buraan borehole, 75 km away from this location to save lives of humans and livestock in most remote areas in Baragaha Qol Sanaag region.

Introduction

Somalia has been experiencing recurring droughts in recent history. The 2011 drought was the last that hit the country hard and caused the death of more than 250,000 people around the country. Somalia experiences these cyclic droughts and the major driver that leads to this repeated calamity includes anthropogenic activities that pressure the environment and resources.

Since the onset of El Nino in the last quarter of 2015, the impact has been severe in the northern parts of Somalia. Most parts of Puntland particularly Bari, Nugaal, Sanaag and Sool regions received below average rains since 2015 GU. In November 2015, cyclones Chapala and Megh caused significant damage which affected more than 70,000 people according to FAO-SWALIM. Agro-pastoral and pastoral communities were the worst affected. Most of rural and pastoral settlements continue to face severe water shortage especially those settlements that depend on Berkads. According to HADMA and local authorities, the price of water in most of the settlements has risen from USD 12 to USD 15 per barrel and this is likely to increase if the rains continue to delay.

Malnutrition rates in hard hit areas have doubled to 18% GAM and caseloads of malnourished children admitted into nutrition centres in Puntland have steadily increased since July 2015. The Nutrition Cluster estimates that 23,000 children under the age of five in Puntland are acutely malnourished.

Following reports from local authorities and aid organizations about the severity of the droughts in Puntland, HADMA issued an appeal on 21 January 2016, seeking assistance for 213,000 people affected by drought in Puntland. In addition, on 5 February, the Puntland President convened an emergency

meeting of humanitarian and development partners at his office to express his concern about the seriousness of the drought situation in Puntland and to elicit from partners what they have done and what they are planning to do in response to the drought. He urged partners to respond as soon as possible with whatever resources they have to alleviate the situation.

In order to get additional information, humanitarian partners in Bossaso convened an urgent RICCG meeting and agreed to undertake a rapid inter-agency assessment in critically drought affected areas in Bari, Karkaar and Sanaag regions

From 13-18 February, assessment teams coordinated by OCHA visited 96 locations in Bari, Karkaar and Sanaag regions. It is estimated that more than **90,000 households (540,000 people)** reside in the areas affected by the drought. An estimated **39,392 households (236,352 people)** have been affected by the drought and they are mostly farmers, fishing communities, livestock producers and traders in the three regions. The population in these areas had already been suffering from prolonged drought due to the poor performance of rains in the past two years. Additionally, the impact of the drought further aggravated the situation by destroying the meager livelihood assets of the communities.

Composition of the teams

Three teams were organized from Bossaso to cover Bari, Karkaar and Sanaag regions.

- **Team one:** OCHA, HADO, ASAL, SCI, NRC, PSAWEN and regional authority. This team covered Iskushuban, Xaafuun and Qandala districts in Bari region, which are severely affected by the drought. The team was led by OCHA.

- **Team two:** WFP, HADO, DRC, SHILCON, PSAWEN, MOH and local authorities. Led by WFP, this team covered Qardho and Bander Bayle districts in Karkaar region.

- **Team three:** SEDO, DRC, CARE, SCI, OTP, PSAWEN and local authorities covered Badhan, Dhahar, Fiqifuliye and Xiingalool districts in Sanaag region, and was led by SEDO local NGO.

Objective of the assessment

To assess and identify needs, gaps and recommend appropriate interventions.

Methodology

The Initial Rapid Needs Assessment tool for field data collection was utilized for the assessment.
In addition, the assessment teams employed focus group discussions, observation and transect walk to facilitate the triangulation of information gathered from the affected areas.

The assessment teams upon visiting each location, held meetings with local authorities, community leaders and village committees to explain the objective of the assessment and to obtain information about the drought crisis in the area.

Summary of key findings

- The drought has affected an estimated 39,392 households (236,352 people) in pastoralists and urban villages. In Sanaag an estimated of 21,753 households (130,518 people) are affected while in Bari and Karkaar 17,639 households (105,834 people) are affected according to the assessment team.
- 80 per cent of Berkads which are the main sources of water for most of the villages and small towns are dried up.
- An estimated 30 per cent of the students from the drought affected populations have dropped out from the schools due to the migration of their families.
- The price of livestock has decreased from US$ 50 to US$ 20 between December 2015 and February 2016, due to lack of market and physical weaknesses of the livestock. This has exacerbated the situation and affected the lives of many poor pastoralist and urban villagers.
- The price of water in most of the settlements has risen from US$ 5 to US$ 8 per barrel and this is likely to increase if the rains continue to delay.
- Malnutrition rates in drought hit areas and caseloads of malnourished children admitted into nutrition centers in Puntland have steadily increased due to the drought.
- Unemployment rate scaled up due to poor labor market resulting from drought.

Protection and Shelter/NFI

- Most of the drought affected families live collectively with host families. Families who do not afford to migrate due to high cost of transportation have built spontaneous settlement next to their relatives in the villages and they require NFI kits.
- No planned settlements reported by the interviewees. The main challenge that poor host families and displaced households face is inadequate shelter. Shelters are partially destroyed, making them susceptible to wind, heat and cold. Most of the displaced populations do not have blankets, plastic sheets, bed mats and jerry cans.
- Child protection concerns were identified including exploitation of girls and boys aged 12-18; and child labour. Meanwhile, disabled children lack basic needs due to lack of access to basic services.
- The assessment team noted that Puntland police and armed forces as well as community security are present in the visited districts to enforce law and order. Most of the drought affected populations have not received shelter assistance.

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WASH

- Gu' seasonal rains usually fall in April and May; however, the rains were poor in the past two years recording below average and failed rains in most parts of Puntland. In Bari, Karkaar and Sanaag regions, the teams observed that most surface water sources including water storages (berkads) and wells have dried up. Most of the villages visited rely on water storages (berkads).
- The assessment teams noted that the water situation is deteriorating in terms of quantity and quality.
- Most of the communities visited were stressed with lack of constant sources of water and mainly depend on seasonal rain water.
- There were a few berkads with minimal water of poor quality and unfit for human consumption.
- Shallow wells are dried up due to decreasing water table in the three regions. Berkads were cleaned in December 2015 to prepare for rains and fresh water, however, communities are concerned that all berkads are caving in and cracking especially in eastern Sanaag and Karkaar regions.

Food Security and livelihoods

- Drought disrupted the pastoralist and poor host community livelihood activities and increased vulnerability.
- The worst affected people are low income earners who rely on providing casual labour and informal trade.
- There is mass movement from rural areas in Sanaag to Nugaal and Togdheer regions, in search of pasture for their livestock.
- Key informants reported that people who have been displaced as a result of drought face food insecurity. Some households are borrowing food from traders and relatives from point of displacement in Sanaag.
- Animal body condition in Bari, Karkaar and Sanaag regions has started to deteriorate due to lack of water, edible pasture and the scorching sun, as well as long distances covered to access water. In some areas, livestock miscarriage was reported and other areas such as Karkaar, culling of new born herds were reported.

Education

- Some schools were closed due to drought, but schools receiving WFP feeding support remain functional and running regularly.
- Number of enrolled students in drought affected areas and surrounding villages of the assessed regions has gone down. Parents reported that they cannot afford to pay school fees, forcing teachers to leave the schools due to lack of salaries.
- An estimated 30 per cent of the students from the drought affected populations have dropped out of school due to migration of their families.

Health and nutrition

- Malnutrition signs were observed in some of the drought affected areas for both women and children. The assessment teams noted that WFP is operating in most of the drought affected areas and providing Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme and Maternal and Child Health Nutrition support. WFP programmes is evidence that there were malnutrition in the affected areas before the drought deteriorated.
- Water scarcity and dry climate has resulted to unknown livestock disease and decline in their market price.
- Human diseases such as cough, fever and high mosquito breeding conditions are raising fears of malaria outbreak.

Recommendations

- Emergency water trucking for drought affected households districts/villages should be a priority **(See Annexes).**
- Rehabilitation of non-functional boreholes/water sources in Ceelbuh, Badhan, Xingalool, Carmaale, Juurile, Jidad, Qardho Biyo addo, Shaxda, Hadaaftimo, Cawsane, Baraagaha-Qol and Ceel Lahelay, Kulaal and Awrboogays.
- Provision of adequate medical supplies and mobile clinic services to affected communities.
- Vaccination and treatment of livestock.
- Provision of supplementary backup fuel for operational boreholes and standby spare parts.
- Provide cash relief to worst drought affected households.
- Cash and food for work projects to be implemented in the affected areas.
- Livelihood activities to cope with shocks and enhance people's capacity to address their needs.
- Supplementary nutrition food for drought affected children, pregnant and lactating mothers.

- Improve sanitation and hygiene to control and prevent disease transmission as a result of lack of proper sanitation and poor water conditions.
- Supply of essential drugs to existing community health facilities and also to set up mobile health teams for affected areas.
- Expansion of school feeding intervention to affected areas and the rehabilitation of schools and provision of school materials

Annex 1: Water situation in Sanaag region

Region	District	Village	Pop. estimate including Households affected by the drought.	Current water status	Nearest water source and distance	Cost per truck/drum in Somali Shilling	Priority	Population type	Estimated number of dependent livestock
Sanaag	**Badhan**	Awsane	170	Water trucking	Ibo-Fure (40 km)	150, 000	1	Pastoralist/ residents of village	7,400
		Midigale	700	Water trucking	Habarshiro (100 km)	150,000	1	"	8,000
		Ceel lahelay	145	Water trucking	ibo-Fure (50 km)	160,000	1	"	7000
		Rad & Laako	130	Water trucking	Habarshiro (70 km)	150,000	1	"	9400
		Gumar	58	Water trucking	Hadaftimo (50 km)	120,000	1	"	7600
		Highland	90	Water trucking	Hadaftimo (20 km)	90,000	1	"	4800
		Ceelbuh	690	Water trucking	Buraan (60 km)	105,000	1	"	20200
		Caadsaran	280	Water trucking	Buqdhuure (70 km)	150,000	1	"	9300
		Ceel-magacleh	480	Water trucking	buqdhuure (50 km)	140,000	1	"	12000
		Damalaxagare	1500	Water trucking	Dhahar (110 km)	200,000	1	"	12800
		Xarkadhere	430	Water trucking	Habarshiro (30 km)	80,000	1	"	7800
		Shimbiralle	550	Water trucking	Erigavo (100 km)	170,000	1	"	11000
		Dawaco	360	Water trucking	Erigavo (100 km)	170,000	1	"	6000
		Habarshiro	280	Borehole	Habarshiro (10 km)	50,000	2	"	15000
		Mindhicir	390	Water trucking	Habarshiro (30 km)	70,000	1	"	9000

		Carraweyn	250	Water trucking	Hadaftimo (100 km)	150,000	1	“	9700
		Hadaftimo	2700	Borehole	Hadaftimo (7 km)	50,000	2	“	18000
	Fiqifuliye	Fuqifuliye	1800	Water trucking	Erigavo (90 km)	200,000	1	“	10,000
		Ardaa	470	Water trucking	Erigavo (80 km)	170,000	1	“	9900
		Dalsan	110	Water trucking	Erigavo (75 km)	150,000	1	“	9600
		Dib-Qarax	80	Water trucking	Erigavo (75 km)	150,00	1	“	7000
		Biyo-Gudud	340	Water trucking	Erigavo (60 km)	130,000	1	“	12300
		Ceelqooxle	95	Water trucking	Erigavo (70 km)	140,000	1	“	7600
		Kulaal	170	Water trucking	Erigavo (55 km)	120,000	1	“	4500
		Dhanaan	40	Water trucking	Erigavo (76 km)	150,000	1	“	3900
	Xingalool	Xingalool	500	Water trucking	Dhahar (65 km)	150,000	1	“	16000
		Dharkeynka	800	Water trucking	Dhahar (76 km)	150,000	1	“	8900
		Wardheer	450	Water trucking	Dhahar (90 km)	170,000	1	“	5700
		Tawakal	400	Water trucking	Dhahar (85 km)	170,000	1	“	5000
		Sibaaye	370	Water trucking	Dhahar (90 km)	170,000	1	“	19000
		Jingada	60	Water trucking	Dhahar (80 km)	170,000	1	“	3000
		Qoyan	90	Water trucking	Dhahar (90 km)	180,000	1	“	4000

		Gurmale	50	Water trucking	Dhahar (100 km)	200,000	1	“	9800
		War-idaad	70	Water trucking	Dhahar (105 km)	180,000	1	“	9000
		Gacal-Gulle	100	Water trucking	Dhahar (55 km)	80,000	1	“	5000
		Baragaha Qol	2100	Borehole	Dhahar (50 km)	100,000	2	“	17,000
		Carmo	400	Water trucking	Dhahar (40 km)	80,000	1	“	9000
		Higlo	315	Water trucking	Dhahar (30 km)	70,000	1	“	8000
		Geed cilmi	40	Water trucking	Dhahar (30 km)	70,000	1	“	4900
		Kala dhac	600	Water trucking	Dhahar (50 km)	80,000	1	“	6000
		Bali busle	1200	Borehole	Dhahar (50 km)	90,000	1	“	7000
		Buraan	1100	Borehole	Buraan (20 km)	70,000	2	“	14000
		Goraan	800	Water trucking	Buraan (40 km)	70,000	1	“	8000

Annex 2: Water situation in Bari Region:

Region	District	Village	Pop. estimate including Households affected by the drought.	Current Water status	Nearest KM	Cost per truck/drum in Somali Shilling	Priority	Population type	Estimated number of dependent livestock
Bari	Iskushuban	Xaafuun	300 HHs in town 400 Pastoralist families:	Shallow well rehabilitation. And installation purchase of Booster pumps for shallow well.	4-KM	Sh:72,000	2	Pastoralist/ residents of village	4200
		Dardaare	120hhs in village & 100 surrounding pastoralist	Borehole/ Emergency water trucking	18-KM: Drinkable water from Wanani-18-kM	72,000	1	“	1320
		Gargoore	312 hhs	Borehole/ Emergency water trucking.	2-KM	72,000	1	“	2184
		Goobguduud	50hhs	Shallow wells	4-Km	72,000	1	“	
		Timirshe Isku shuban	800HHs	Borehole rehabilitation/ Water trucking	3Km	100,000	1	“	4000

		Xamure	400hhs	Shallow wells/ Water trucking.	15KM	110,000	1	“	2000
		Dooxagaban	45hh: thirty of them migrated to due to the drought	Shallow well/ Water trucking.	21-KM	150,000	1	“	80
		Iskushuban	900HH	Purification of spring water/ water trucking for surrounding pastoralist	4K	50,000	1	“	4,500
		Xiriiro, Xubabays, Ceelahelay, Ceemareerey Caleemaley	57HH, 50H, 55HH, 40HH, 30HH, 30HH Respectively.	Water trucking.		168,000	1	“	1062
		Dharor, Caman Dharjale, Barako	450 HH	Spring and steam water/ Water trucking.		200,000	1	“	2250
		Ufeyn and surrounding villages	400 HH within the entire district.	Spring and steam water/ Water trucking.			1	“	2,400

	Qandala	Beeliwacatay	300hhs in village 400hh in surrounding areas	Water trucking	4-KM	144,000	1	“	4200
		Qandala	700hhs	Natural water connection from the top of the mountain/ Immediate rehabilitates two water tanks.	20-KM	72,000	2	“	4900
		Unuun	300hhs/200 surrounding pastoralist	Water trucking	30-KM	100,000	1	“	2500
		Bali Dhindin	2500hhs	Borehole/ Water trucking	35-KM	200,000	1	“	15000
		Xagar Qandal	100HHs	Water trucking	5-KM	192,000	1	“	500

Annex 3: Water situation in Karkaar Region

Region	District	Village	Pop. estimate including Household affected by the drought.	Current water status	Cost per truck/drum in Somali Shilling	Priority	Population type	Estimated number of dependent livestock
Karkaar	**Qardho**	Misirta	400	Water trucking	170,000	1	Pastoralist/ residents of village	14,500
		Dhaxan	200	Water trucking	160,000 per drum	1	“	4,300
		Shire	400	Water trucking	200,000 per drum	1	“	4380
		Libaaxar	360	Water trucking	200,000 per drum	1	“	16,000
		Jedded	500	Water trucking	130,000 per drum	1	“	7,800
		Qormo	200	Water trucking	150,000 per drum	1	“	5,000
		Xabaal reer	800	Borehole/berkads	90,000 per drum	1	“	13,000
		Cambaar sare	200	Water trucking	150,000 per drum	1	“	14500
		Rako	800	Water trucking	100,000 per drum	1	“	10500
	Bender Beyla	Bandarbayla Town	1500	Water tracking	180,000 per drum	1	“	6000
		Dhuur	200	Water trucking	100,000-50,000 per drum	1	“	10000
		Dhudhub	300	Water trucking	160,000 per drum	1	“	5000
		Dhuudo	150	Water trucking	160,000 per drum	1	“	12,000
		Qotom	100	Water trucking	180,000per drum	1	“	8000

Karkaar	**Bender Beyla**	Xunbays	200	Water trucking	150,000per drum	1	“	13400
		Qodax	100	Water trucking	166,000 per drum	1	“	8,000
		Bixin	80	Water trucking	100,000 per drum	1	“	4000
		Dhalinbaar	80	Water trucking	100,000 per drum	1	“	1000
		Durduri	70	Water trucking	100,000 per drum	1	“	2500
		Kulule	70	Water trucking	140,000 per drum	1	“	10500
		Dhuur	120	Water trucking	170,000 per drum	1	“	13,000
		Ceel Dhidir	70	Water trucking	210,000 per drum	1	“	12,000
		Carif	50	Water trucking	280,000 per drum	1	“	8000
		Hulanod	50	Water trucking	155,000 per drum	1	“	13400
		Ceel lahelay	100	Water trucking	180,000 per drum	1	“	1500
		Maygaag	200	Water trucking	170,000 per drum	1	“	1,000
	Waiye	Sherbi	400	Water trucking	200,000 per drum	1	“	2,000
		Xida	500	Water trucking	350,000 per drum	1	“	5000
		Alxamdullilaah	400	Water trucking	130,000 per drum	1	“	3400

Photos

A woman boiling tea in front of her shelter in Sanaag

Dried water berkad.

Communal water storage with small amount of water.

Dried water berkad in Sanaag region.