

# HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT RESPONSE

Issue No. 3 4th September 2017



OXFAM

Name Halima Usman, mother of 10, currently internally displaced by drought and living in Gunagado IDP camp supported by Oxfam.  
Photo: Tigist Gebru/Oxfam



## KEY STATISTICS

**22.9 MILLION** People affected by drought in the region

**15 MILLION** People facing crisis and emergency food insecurity

**15 MILLION** People with limited access to safe drinking water in 2017

**84,575** Cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) /Cholera have been reported in 2017 – with 1,546 associated deaths

**1.8 MILLION** People in Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia have been displaced by drought conditions

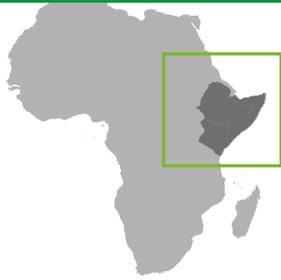
**\$1.6 BILLION** Horn of Africa Drought Response funding gap

## CONTEXT UPDATE

- Drought and conflict have now displaced 3.7 million people in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya: 2.3 million of whom are internally displaced persons (IDPs), and 1.4 million refugees. Across the region, rainfall performance remains below-average, and conditions in most drought-affected areas are expected to deteriorate in coming months.
- More than **3.4 million** people need food assistance in Kenya with the number of severely food insecure (IPC Phases 3 and 4) rising from 2.2 million to 2.6 million. In the pastoral areas, **food insecurity** is projected to increase as livelihood resources continue to deteriorate through at least mid-October. Food prices continue to rise, and decreasing income is likely further reduce food access and consumption at the household level. In addition, **severe water shortages** have impacted thousands across the drought affected counties including Wajir and Turkana. Food insecurity is expected to peak in September, October with additional areas in Wajir moving into Crisis (IPC Phase 3), while households in Turkana (Turkana East, Turkana South and Turkana North) are likely to face **Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes**. The worsening drought situation, is further compounded by funding shortfalls in Kenya. Again, the recent national elections have negatively impacted delivery of humanitarian assistance in the drought affected counties. In Wajir the government has stopped vital water delivery to over 150 villages due to budgets not being released to the water department. With the court decision to have a re-run of the elections in Kenya it is likely that critical assistance will continue to be affected. The ongoing **nurses' strike** has continued to impact the health and nutrition sector which is coupled by a national cholera outbreak that is currently active in 8 counties. Over 800 cases of **AWD/cholera** and 30 deaths were reported from Nairobi. The rainfall outlook for the next three months indicates further stress to livelihoods as the dry season unfolds.
- In Ethiopia, **Somali region remains worst-affected**, with Emergency (IPC Phase 4) level being widespread. Ethiopia Multi agency assessment identified **8.5 million people** in need of emergency food assistance during the second half of the year (August- December 2017)<sup>1</sup>. In Somali region 1.7 million people continue to be at risk of food insecurity. 10.5 million don't have regular access to water, and over 1.02 million have been internally displaced. Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admission rates have been highest in June 2017 with 11 % increase from the beginning of the year similarly nutrition support need increased by 44% in Somali region. Somali region's **SAM** admissions account for 25 per cent of the national SAM caseload in country. In Ethiopia, 37,989 AWD cases were reported across the country till August 2017, and 90 per cent AWD cases are in Somali region, mostly in Doolo, Jarar and Korahey zones.
- In Somalia, the situation remains as indicated in the 2017 Post Gu Assessment, with the risk of famine persisting in areas of Somaliland, Puntland and South Central Pastoral areas which are expected to face Emergency (**IPC Phase 4) food insecurity until January 2018**. 25 per cent of the population (3.1 million people) are expected to be in crisis (IPC 3) or emergency (IPC 4). In Somalia, severe drought is expected to continue until the start of the next rainy season in October 2017. **Deyr rains** (Oct-Dec) expected to be average to below average and northern part of Somalia likely to have lower than average rainfall. Food security situation remains poor, beneficiaries are still reliant on cash transfers from humanitarian agencies, however, **funding shortfalls** in Somaliland will impact the ability of agencies to continue critical assistance beyond October. Whilst, **AWD/Cholera** cases are reducing, with increasing vulnerability of communities and poor nutrition intake re-occurrence of AWD outbreaks is very likely. Levels of acute food insecurity continues throughout the rest of the year.

<sup>1</sup>(OCHA update 10 Aug)

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE TARGETED BY OXFAM



**1.8 MILLION**  
WOMEN, MEN  
AND CHILDREN  
ACROSS THE  
HORN OF AFRICA



### ETHIOPIA

SOMALI REGION

**1 MILLION**  
PEOPLE

### KENYA

WAJIR & TURKANA COUNTIES

**600,000**  
PEOPLE



### SOMALIALAND

SOOL & SANAAG COUNTIES

**200,000**  
PEOPLE

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH INTERVENTIONS

**1,194,949**

**1,194,949**

people reached with  
clean and safe water



**145,958**

people received cash  
transfers

**432,202**

people reached through Public  
Health and Sanitation Programmes



**240,968**

animals vaccinated

**\$ US\$3.01**  
**MILLION**

cash disbursed



## OXFAM HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT RESPONSE

### KENYA

Oxfam has reached **438,393** beneficiaries in **Northern Kenya** in **Turkana and Wajir counties** with its local partners **Diocese of Lodwar** in Turkana, **ALDEF** and **WASDA** in Wajir.

- **WASH: 388,023 people** and **1,396 children** in **5 schools** can access clean and safe water through the rehabilitation and upgrading of water points. Oxfam has also supported county governments in Wajir and Turkana Counties by supplying them with spare parts to repair non-functional water points.
- **IMPROVED WATER ACCESS** Oxfam is providing safe water through the e-water (Cash for water) activity ensuring supply of water to 18,000 people in Wajir and surrounding areas.
- **HYGIENE PROMOTION AND SANITATION: 30,165 people** have been reached through hygiene promotion and sensitisation activities.
- **CASH TRANSFERS: 50,246 people** have been supported enabling them to purchase food items in partnership with the Hunger Safety-Net Programme (HSNP) and Equity bank.
- **PROVISION OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT:** Oxfam is supporting the capacity of county water departments by offering technical and logistical expertise.

### ETHIOPIA

Oxfam's WASH intervention has reached **670,873 people** in the Southern Somali region covering 87 institutions more specifically in Koraha, Jarar, Fafan, Nogob and, Erer zones. In Doolo and in Afer zones.

- **WASH: 213,252 people**, including **15 institutions** (7 health posts, 6 schools and 2 cholera treatment centres) received clean safe water through water trucking. Repair of 21 bore holes is on-going.
- **HYGIENE PROMOTION AND SANITATION:** Oxfam's Public Health Program has reached **330,017 people** in Somali region of Ethiopia.
- In Response to **Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD)** outbreaks in Ethiopia over **24,397 people** have been reached to address the urgent need of clean water, and promotion of improved hygiene practices to mitigate transmission and prevention of AWD.

- **CASH TRANSFER: 78,144 people** across Somali region have been supported through cash transfers
- **LIVESTOCK TREATMENT AND VACCINATION:** Over 212,000 cattle vaccinated in Somali region.

### SOMALIALAND

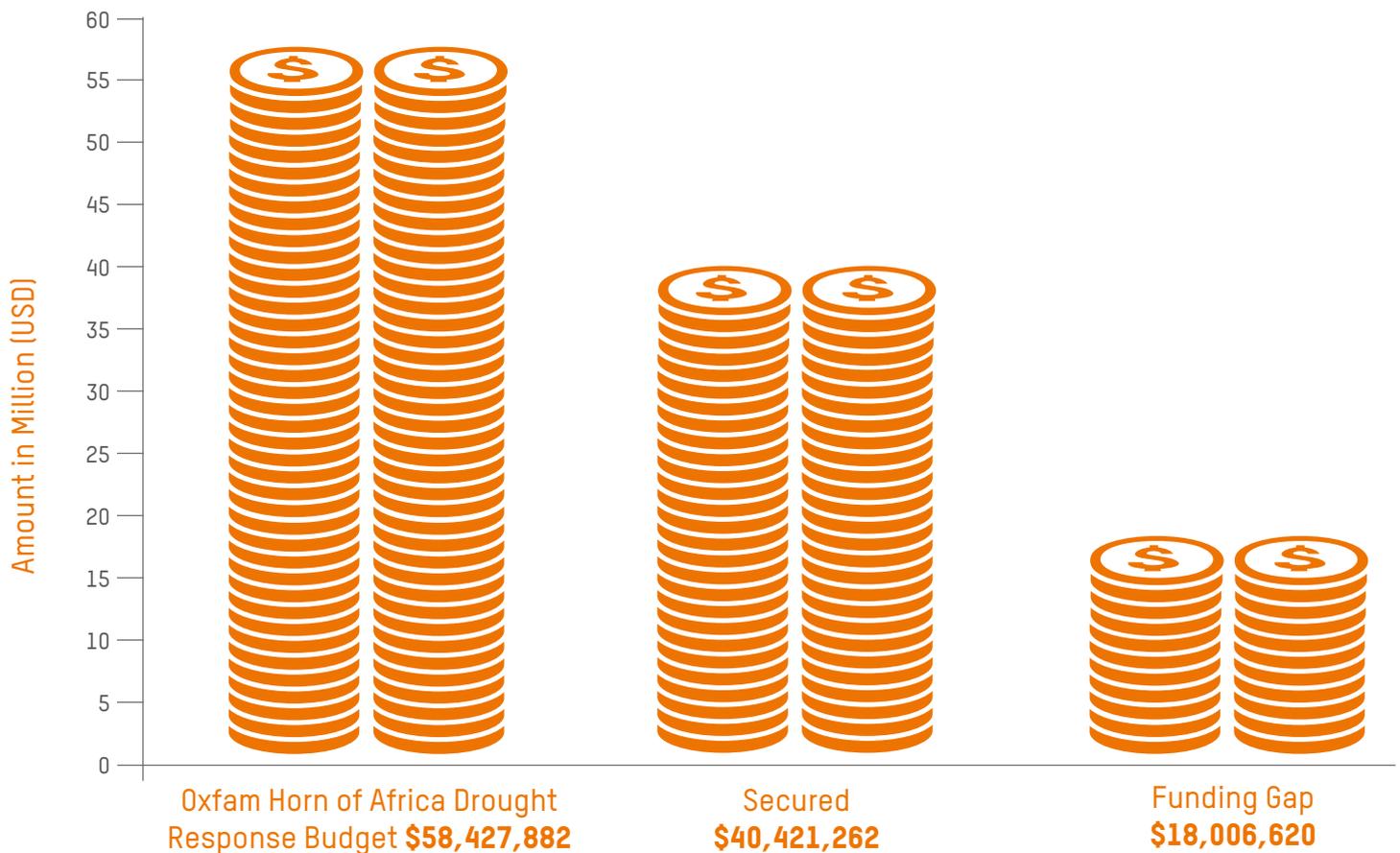
**Somalia:** Oxfam intervention in **Sool and Sanaag** has reached **85,683 people**.

- **WASH: 36,042 people** provided with clean water through water trucking
- **HYGIENE PROMOTION AND SANITATION: 15,000 people** have been reached with hygiene and sanitation interventions in response to Acute Watery Diarrhoea in Togdheer region.
- **CASH TRANSFERS: 17,568 people** received unconditional cash transfers, and cash for work support.
- **LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT:** Oxfam plans to pilot agriculture activities in selective locations as part of the diversification of food/livelihoods sources.
- **LIVESTOCK TREATMENT AND VACCINATION: 390,000** livestock vaccinated / treated.

# KEY ADVOCACY MESSAGES

- Donors and Governments need to move with speed to address cases of severe Malnutrition in Kenya, Ethiopia and Somaliland by equipping and increasing the number of treatment facilities. Creation of a special contingency fund coupled with increased number of health workers will go a long way to halt the vicious cycle of under 5 mortality, poor nutrition, increased susceptibility to infection and illness.
- There is an urgent need for increased funding for emergency cash transfers, WASH interventions and Cholera/AWD response. Major funding shortfalls exist for Kenya and Somalia placing households in precarious positions.
- More focus should be placed on gender sensitive response interventions that take into account the special needs of women and children who are most affected by the drought. Embedding protection mechanisms especially in areas of settlement will go a long way to minimize incidences of domestic violence, child separation, child marriage, and sexual exploitation, abduction of children and women and hazardous child labour in the camps.
- Governments should pay special attention to the livelihood needs of displaced families, most of who face a low chance of returning to their places of origin in the near future. While they have potential to participate in local economy regeneration, they are often excluded from meaningful work arrangements.
- Following the massive devastation of close to 220,037 hectares out of the 1.5 million hectares of maize by armyworms in Somali Region now is the time to start preparing for emergency food ratio supplies to enable households cope through the impending food shortage.

## FUNDING REQUIREMENTS



### DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DEC, ECHO, Global Affairs Canada via Oxfam Canada, GFO via Oxfam Germany, ECHO RRM via International Rescue Committee, Irish Aid via Oxfam Ireland, SHO/Giro555, SIDA, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UK AID Match, USAID/OFDA; Oxfam affiliates: Oxfam America, Oxfam Canada, Oxfam Great-Britain, Oxfam Hong-Kong, Oxfam Ibis, Oxfam Intermon, Oxfam Ireland, Oxfam Novib and the generous contribution of the public and Oxfam supporters via fundraising appeals and voluntary contributions.



Khadera (38), Pastoralist. Photo: Tina Hillier/Oxfam

## GIVING A LIFE LINE TO THE MOST VULNERABLE

Khadera is one of the internally displaced people living in one of the many camps in the Somali region. She has 5 children and arrived at the camp at the onset of the drought. According to her, she came to get food for the livestock. *"We lost many livestock. We came here to survive. We came to get water and food. We used to live in one area permanently, but when the droughts became recurrent we would move from one place to another. We walked for more than 12 hours to get here. We fled from there because there was no rain and nothing for our livestock to feed on walking for two days and two nights. It was a long journey and we suffered a lot. If the*

*drought continues like this I am afraid for my children and even for my soul. We might die."*

When they first moved to the IDP camp, they received a sack of wheat, maize and a bottle of oil. They fetched water from the tank one of the tanks supplied by Oxfam. The drought has affected the whole population. There is nobody better off than others. The households which used to be better off are today also poor. There is nobody who can support the other family members.

People in parts of Ethiopia are walking for three days to get water for their families and animals as the country suffers its worst

drought in over thirty years. The residual effects of last year's El Nino-induced drought and below average rains caused by the negative Indian Ocean Dipole have led to a new drought particularly in Southern and South East parts of Ethiopia. In the Somali region in the east of the country, many people have told Oxfam that they are dependent on food and water aid to survive. The pastoral areas are facing acute water and food shortages. The Ethiopian government estimates that 8.5 million people will need humanitarian assistance this year.

Oxfam has reached 670,873 people in the Southern Somali region.

### CONTACT DETAILS

Nigel Tricks  
**Organisation Lead,  
Horn of Africa Drought Response**  
NTricks@oxfam.org.uk

Zubin Zaman  
**Regional Response Operational Lead**  
zubin.zaman@oxfam.org

Coralie Rey  
**Drought Response Regional Funding Coordinator**  
crey1@oxfam.org.uk

Edward Wanyonyi  
**Regional Drought Information and  
Communication Advisor**  
ewanyonyi@oxfam.org.uk

Faith Kasina  
**Regional Drought Response Media Lead**  
Faith.kasina@oxfam.org

