



URGENT APPEAL

FAO's response to the deteriorating food security situation in Somalia

URGENT FAO FUNDING NEEDS: USD 18 MILLION



1.1 million people

estimated displaced mainly due to conflict.



860 000 people

Facing crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity ; 2 million remain at risk in 2014.



USD 18 million

needed by FAO to respond to the deteriorating situation.



Late rains and erratic weather patterns in Somalia have raised concerns over a worsening of the food security situation, as food stocks from the last poor harvest become depleted and food prices continue to rise sharply. The situation is being exacerbated by conflict and inadequate funding for priority actions designed to address the needs of hard-hit communities, according to FAO's Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) report. This is in line with an earlier report from FAO Somalia's Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU). Currently, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance in Somalia is estimated at about 860 000, including over 200 000 malnourished children under the age of five years. Somalia has the one of the highest levels of malnutrition in the world.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- ❖ **Food Crisis:** a combination of delayed Gu (April-June) rains, rising food prices, persistent insecurity and displacement in Somalia is likely to worsen the country's food security situation in the coming months, experts have warned.
- ❖ **Malnutrition:** levels of acute malnutrition remain Critical (Global Acute Malnutrition rates exceeding 15%) among rural populations in many parts of South-Central Somalia and among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Nutrition survey results carried out between November 2013 and January 2014 indicate that an estimated 203,000 children under the age of five are acutely malnourished. This figure includes 51,000 children that are severely malnourished and consequently face a higher risk of death.
- ❖ **Conflict and Impact on Food Prices:** recent displacements in the lead up to and during the recent military offensive against insurgents and subsequent movement and trade restrictions by insurgents have hampered agricultural activities in parts of the South (Lower Shabelle, Bulo-Burti, Jalalaqsi, Hudur, Wajid and Buurdhubo) and caused disruptions in trade and market activities in South-Central. Trade embargoes imposed by insurgents in government-controlled areas (Hudur, Wajid, Bulo-Burti, Qoryoley, Elder and Elbuur districts) resulted in increased prices of essential food commodities. For instance, the price of red sorghum increased by 25 percent, while the prices of other essential imported food (rice, wheat flour, sugar, vegetable oil) increased in the range of 40-50 percent during the month in Xudur market of Bakool region.

FAO'S PLANNED IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

FAO, in coordination with its partners in the Food Security Cluster (FSC), is planning rapid interventions (90-days priority needs response) to prevent and mitigate the further deterioration of the food security situation. Against the background of a low funding rate of the overall 2014 humanitarian programme (19%), this FAO component is part of a joint response plan of USD 60 M by all humanitarian partners to cover the most immediate humanitarian needs. The activities planned by FAO for this period, totalling USD 18 M, are aimed at meeting the most vulnerable Somali communities' immediate needs and making them more resilient to droughts and other shocks:

- ❖ Temporary employment creation through FAO's Cash-for-Work programme for the rehabilitation of water catchments and irrigation canals for an estimated 13,000 households (estimated cost: USD 6,300,000);
- ❖ Distribution of adapted crop and fodder production inputs (seed and vouchers for fertilizer and tractor hours) and basic training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for the coming Deyr 2014 season for an estimated 15,000 households (estimated cost: USD 5,200,000);
- ❖ Livestock restocking for 4,000 destitute pastoralists (estimated cost: USD 3,200,000).
- ❖ Pest and disease prevention and control (mass vaccination and treatment against Sheep and Goat Pox (SGP), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) in affected areas (estimated cost: USD 3,000,000).

Response Plan Objectives

- 1 To help vulnerable communities afford food through temporary employment;
- 2 To protect livelihood assets to prevent communities from falling into crisis;
- 3 To help farmers continue food production amidst shocks;

The above interventions, planned for the upcoming three months, will in priority target affected areas of Hiran, Middle Shabelle, Lower Shabelle, Galgadug and Bakol Regions in South Central Somalia and Bari region in the North East.



FAO'S 4-YEAR COUNTRY PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

The overall FAO programme in Somalia consists of three “pillars”, as per the below:

❖ Pillar 1 – Building Resilience (USD 450M planned for 2014-2017)

This strategic pillar is focused on building capacities and contingencies of targeted households and communities, to enable them withstand shocks and improve their ability to adapt to changing livelihood situations. The approach entails a greater emphasis on reducing and managing risks and enhancing investments in building productive, human, social, natural and financial resources; recognising the different roles, capacities and distinct needs and realities of women and men, girls and boys and; enhancing access to basic services.

❖ Pillar 2 - Institutional Capacity Development and Policy Support (USD 74M planned for 2014-2017)

Under this pillar, FAO will continue to support the development and implementation of enabling policy and regulatory frameworks and institutions targeting the main productive sectors. The ability to develop policies and regulatory instruments is critical to creating enabling environment, which in turn improves the investment opportunities and competitiveness of the productive sectors.

FAO will support the government through providing support towards the development of marketing systems and infrastructures; improving access to market information, development of the value chain and identifying products for new markets; supporting crop production; supporting efforts to improve animal disease surveillance and control, supporting the veterinary public health service, improving access and availability of water for livestock (large and small ruminants), developing and implementing rangeland management strategies, and supporting improved production and preservation of animal feed resources; ensuring that fishing in Somalia becomes more sustainable developing capacities of national institutions as well as communities to sustainably manage natural resources.

❖ Pillar 3 - Information for Early Action (USD 42M planned for 2014-2017)

FAO strongly believes that timely and accurate information on food security, nutrition and natural resources is fundamental to coping with

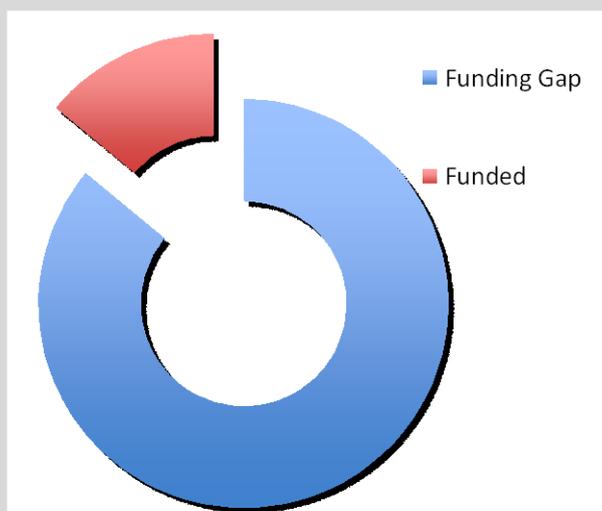
the increasing livelihood challenges in Somalia.

Timely and accurate information allows for quick decision-making.

To that effect, the country office manages **the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU)** and the **Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM)** units, providing early warning and situational analyses on food, nutrition, livelihoods security and water and land resources. They collect relevant gender disaggregated data and analyse it through a variety of techniques and information processing tools and actively communicate the information to a wide range of governmental, humanitarian, development and resource partners inside and outside Somalia. FSNAU and SWALIM thereby ensure neutral and objective analyses, which is of great importance in such a complex political and humanitarian environment.

FAO PROGRAMME 2014-17 FUNDING STATUS

The total planned value of the FAO Somalia Programme (2014-2017) is USD 566 M. As of today, only 14% of this program is funded.



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