



Save the Children

HORN OF AFRICA ONE YEAR ON REPORT.

Helping children and their families survive the gripping impact of the drought in 2017

March 2018



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Save the Children is the world's leading independent organisation for children. Save the Children works in more than 120 countries. We save children's lives. We fight for their rights. We help them fulfil their potential.

Our vision

A world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation.

Our mission

To inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives. We will stay true to our values of accountability, ambition, collaboration, creativity and integrity.

FOREWORD

The Horn of Africa has been grappling with the effects of consecutive failed rains across Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia that led to 12 million people in need of humanitarian assistance at the start of 2017.

Children bore the brunt of the crisis as their families struggled to survive in a worsening situation that resulted in malnutrition, increased susceptibility to diseases, limited access to school and exposure to protection concerns as families would migrate in search of food and water.

Save the Children's response over the past year has reached over four million people with an integrated response in health and nutrition, food security and livelihoods (FSL), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), child protection and education. We have expanded our operations and worked to ensure that children in some of the worst affected areas received humanitarian support.

Humanitarian funding and assistance has enabled millions of people to survive the harmful effects of the drought and has helped avert famine in many areas across the region. Save the Children's Horn of Africa drought response budget for 2017 was \$256 million, of which we managed to raise \$224 million.

This report is intended by way of gratitude to our donors, partners and governments that have supported us as we sought to meet the needs of children and their families. We acknowledge that only with your invaluable support could we have achieved so much.

You helped us provide lifesaving food and nutritional support to millions of people who were adversely affected by lack of food and water, support pastoralists survive the deadly impact of the drought that depleted their animal stocks, and provide safe environments for children to learn, play and receive psycho-social support.

You have also helped us strengthen the capacity of health institutions to deliver services by training their health and nutrition staff and work alongside community leaders to address the challenges brought on by the drought.

Children are not yet out of danger. They will need additional support, along with their families, in 2018 to help them survive the ongoing impact of the drought. We continue to work alongside partners, governments and local organisations to support the immediate needs of those affected by drought and will work to support longer term recovery development programmes to ensure children live in a world where they can survive, learn and be protected.

Alan Paul
Regional Emergencies Director

David Wright
Regional Director-East & Southern Africa

KEY HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

4,352,747

Number of people reached through our response



We have provided a total of **1,617,509** people with water and sanitation services including construction and rehabilitation of **485** water points in drought affected communities across the Horn of Africa.



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Our water and sanitation services reached over **600,000** children across the Horn of Africa and helped keep **33** education facilities and **33** health and nutrition centres in Kenya open during the drought.

Our lifesaving health and nutrition services reached **3,496,584** people through screening for malnutrition, treatment of diseases such as cholera, malaria and acute watery diarrhoea in some of the worst affected areas.

297,785 severely and moderately malnourished children were admitted to our nutrition centres while **300,000** children under five and pregnant and lactating women benefited from our blanket supplementary feeding programme across the three countries.



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We treated over **156,000** cases of pneumonia and diarrhoea among children under five through our health facilities and trained **469** health workers in Somalia and Kenya.



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Over **80,000** drought affected families benefitted from cash transfers across the Horn of Africa to help them survive the impact of the drought.

Our food security and livelihood interventions reached **840,931** people across the three countries after consecutive failed rains that depleted stocks, led to increased food prices, crop failure and lack of water.

Our livelihood interventions providing animal feed and treatment assisted close to **150,000** drought affected pastoralist families in Ethiopia.



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Over **103,000** children stayed in school through our education in emergencies programmes in Ethiopia and Somalia and WASH support to schools in Kenya.



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Our child protection in emergencies programmes helped provide **100,912** children with safe environments to play and receive psycho-social support to help them survive the impact of the drought.

COUNTRY FOCUS: ETHIOPIA

Introduction

In past year, Ethiopia experienced its worst drought in thirty years, pushing official government figures to over 10 million² people in need of food last year. The country had experienced consecutive failed rains that left drought affected communities in critical need of humanitarian assistance. The government of Ethiopia, together with humanitarian partners, have been working around the clock to help drought affected communities in the Southern and Eastern regions to survive the impact of the drought.

In 2017, the response targeted over 1.5 million people with health, FSL, WASH, nutrition, education and child protection services and raised **\$36.9 million** between March to December 2017.

Our Reach



669,990

Number of children
reached in 2017



Our response in 2017 reached a total of **1,166,441** people including **669,990** children in the past one year.

Specifically:

- **672,463** people including **442,987** children were reached with water, sanitation and hygiene services
- **619,692** people were reached with lifesaving health and nutrition services
- **17,007** children were reached with education services and **5,145** children with protection services
- **297,014** people were reached with food security and livelihood support to enable them cope with the impact of the drought





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REAL LIFE STORY

Providing safe water for IDPs in the Somali Region of Ethiopia

Ardo Mohammed Abdi, 35, is a mother of eight children who had to give up her pastoralist livelihood due to the recurrent drought in Ethiopia's Somali region. Having lost all their 100 shoats, 40 camels and ten heads of cattle to the drought, the family walked 25 kilometers to end up in a temporary settlement outside of Boholhagare, a small town in Adadle Woreda of Somali's Shebelle zone.

For the last seven months, Ardo and her family have been staying in the settlement where over 900 households comprising of internally displaced persons (IDPs) live in critical humanitarian conditions. In addition to Save the Children's support to access clean water for drinking and domestic use and education for her children, her family benefited from food rations and nutritional support from partners.

"All my livestock died before my eyes, but thank God I could take all my children out of our village alive. That is the only thing that keeps me on. Now, they all go to the school Save the Children built for our settlement.

Save the Children gave me training on proper hygiene and sanitation practices. They fill all the tanks they brought here with water for us to use for drinking, cooking and keeping clean. As a

community volunteer, I mobilize the community to clean the latrines Save the Children built for us and also to help people improve their hygiene practices. Before, many people did not really care about hygiene and sanitation. However, our hygiene and sanitation promotion has really worked to change many people's perceptions and practices.

Most people now regularly use water purifying chemicals to ensure that they use safe and clean drinking water. They keep their personal hygiene, and properly use the latrines. Safe water is very important and we are happy to have easier access to it.

"I still plan to stay around. At least, my children now go to school. Besides, the drought is still prevailing, and we cannot reclaim our previous way of life even if we wanted to."

Save the Children provides WASH support for the IDPs in Boholhagare. Ardo received plastic buckets, water Jerry cans, soap and water purifying chemicals and she says this has helped her family to keep tidy and healthy. She is happy that they have access to clean and safe water because of the water trucking services by Save the Children which regularly fill up the water tanks that the organization put in place in the IDP site.

COUNTRY FOCUS: KENYA

Introduction

In 2017, Kenya experienced one of the worst droughts in recent history, whose impact at the time exceeded that of the 2011 Horn of Africa drought. After two and in some cases three failed rainy seasons, 2.7 million people in Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs); consisting of 23 counties were in direct need of assistance. This number was revised upwards to 5.6 million³ people after the flash appeal was revised in September 2017 to reflect increasing needs across drought affected areas.

The response in 2017 aimed at reaching 540,000 people including 337,000 children with lifesaving health, WASH, nutrition, FSL and Education support with child protection activities integrated into the response which raised **\$16.2 million** from February to December 2017.

Our Reach



643,511

Number of people
reached in 2017



Our response in 2017 reached **643,511** people, with more than half being children in some of the most affected areas in ASALs of Kenya. We helped children and their families to access critical lifesaving health and nutrition services, water, livelihood support and safe spaces to play.

Specifically:

- **40,487** people were reached with food security and livelihood support comprising of cash transfers to drought affected families to enable them cope with the impact of the drought
- **352,526** people were reached with water, sanitation and hygiene services since the beginning of the response
- **250,613** people were reached with lifesaving health interventions and **259,805** people with nutrition services in the affected areas
- **34,619** children were reached with child protection services
- Our Emergency Health Unit (EHU) directly screened **6,011** children under five and **1,172** children were enrolled into suitable programmes for treatment of malnutrition.
- **1,793** pregnant and lactating women were screened and **889** were enrolled to supplementary feeding program.
- **1,921** people in Turkana Central benefited from curative services including **837** children under five years.
- **217** Community Health Volunteers were trained in Integrated Community Case Management which included the nutrition as well as treatment of Pneumonia and Diarrhoea using the Ministry of Health training curriculum and facilitators
- Save the Children co-leads the education working group at the national level



Ewoi at home with two of her children - happy that they can have at least two meals per day.

REAL LIFE STORY

Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme...Ewoi's story

31-year-old Ewoi is a mother of three living in Turkana County, Kenya. Ewoi and her family including her one-year-old child have been greatly affected by the consecutive droughts in Northern Kenya. The family's livestock died off and finding food became increasingly difficult for Ewoi and her husband. Ewoi became malnourished and had difficulties breastfeeding her one-year-old child; she required support.

"The drought almost finished off my family. My husband lost 27 goats out of 30 goats. The only thing he could do was fishing to earn income but what he got was not enough to feed us. We used to have one meal or none a day."

"My child worsened by the day and I knew it was because of the serious drought and lack of food. The hospital was far away and I walked for almost two hours to get there."

"I have a business that supports my family; I make and sell mats and baskets. I increased basket making and charcoal selling when we lost our goats. Unfortunately, the money that I got was all used up to buy medicine for my child and not food." Says Ewoi.

Ewoi says during one of the community gatherings, she heard that Save the Children was starting a feeding programme in their area and they were required to take their children for check-up. "When I took my child, instead of the child being weighed they weighed me and told me I was underweight. That was when I was put into the programme."

"I am thankful to Save the Children because through the programme I would get eight packets of corn soya beans for myself every month and other supplements for the baby."

When I got home, I shared the corn soya with my husband and the other children and my mother in-law who is very old. We were also taught the importance of serving the food when it is warm," says Ewoi.

Ewoi who is still struggling to run her business says: "My children are healthy thanks to the feeding programme. They get two meals every day and they don't get sick every time anymore. But sometimes I wonder, if this drought continues and the feeding programme stops how will my children survive?"

COUNTRY FOCUS: SOMALIA

Introduction

At the start of 2017, an estimated 5 million people⁴, nearly half the population of Somalia, were in need of humanitarian assistance. Hundreds of thousands of children were facing acute malnutrition with numerous families on the move in search of food and water. As a result about 1.1 million people were internally displaced in the course of the year.⁵ The country was on the verge of famine and our response along with partners and the government helped to prevent a recurrence of the high mortality seen in 2011. Save the Children's humanitarian response in 2017 sought to meet these increasing humanitarian needs.

The response over the past year has reached over 2.5 million people with critical lifesaving humanitarian assistance and collectively, partners have managed to avert famine through consistent humanitarian assistance in the affected areas.

Our Reach



1,638,362

Number of children
reached in 2017



Our response in 2017 reached a total of **2,542,795** people including **1,638,362** children.

Specifically:

- **920,186** people were reached with free healthcare services
- **1,446,288** people were reached with lifesaving nutrition services
- **592,520** people were reached through our water, sanitation and hygiene interventions
- **94,250** M³ of water was delivered to drought affected families
- **503,430** people were reached through our food security and livelihood programmes
- **57,078** households / **364,507** people were reached through our cash transfer programmes
- **86,370** children were reached with access to education and **61,148** with protection services including children displaced by the drought
- **13,632** people including **2,743** children were reached through the Cholera Treatment Centers and Units
- **181** individuals and **79** community health workers were directly trained by EHU on AWD/Cholera outbreak control and management
- Save the Children was the Education cluster co-lead for the response in Somalia.

⁴ UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children in 2017

⁵ Somalia: Displacement Tracking Matrix Trends: October 2016

Haweeya Diiriye with her child.

REAL LIFE STORY

Helping Children Survive through Cash Transfers in Somalia

Haweeya Diiriye Dalmar is a 34-year-old mother of eight children six boys and two girls. Prior to the drought Haweeya lived in Booc village, 30 kilometers South East of Canjiid town. Before the drought, all her children had enough food to eat. When the drought hit, the family lost dozens of livestock each day. Haweeya was forced to reduce the quantity of food as well as number of times she fed her children. Sometimes the younger children woke up in the middle of the night due to hunger and all she could do was to feed them with sugared water for energy. She was forced to move to Canjiid in search of food and water so as to stay alive.

Presently, Haweeya's main source of livelihood is casual labour and cash grants from humanitarian actors. The cash grants have enabled her to buy food, medicine, clothes books, pens for her children.

"It is a state of despair when you watch your livestock die of hunger. More than 20 goats died per day due to lack of pasture and water. We moved to Canjiid in search of food for food survival. Children went to sleep after feeding on very little portions of food.

The drought has been a misery since camels that are able to stay without water have died. We would also have died if our household did not benefit from cash grants provided by Save the Children.

Presently, I am able to feed my children adequately. Except for this young one, the rest of the children go to school and it is free of charge. I buy books and pens for the children from the cash transfer. The drought changed our main source of livelihood from pastoralist to casual labour. I thank Save the Children and DFID who have supported us when we needed the assistance."

OUR REACH IN A SNAPSHOT

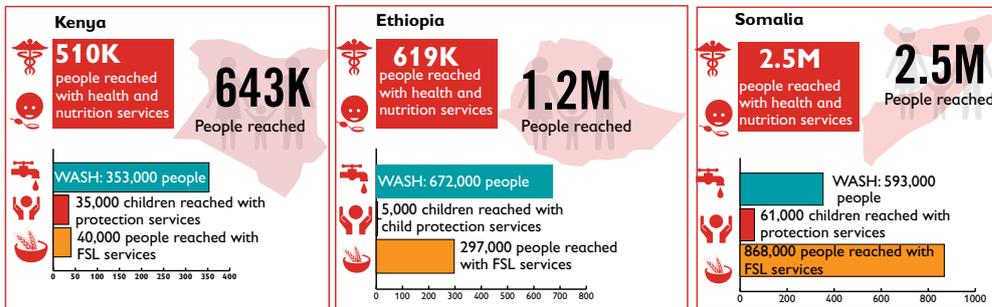
2017 HoA DROUGHT RESPONSE REACH

Kenya Ethiopia Somalia

Context



Reach



THE WAY FORWARD

The outlook for 2018 is bleak in many areas, raising alarm and highlighting the need to not only sustain but scale up humanitarian assistance as the drought continues unabated in many areas across the Horn of Africa. As we approach the fifth consecutive failed rain in many locations, livestock and assets are completely depleted leaving families with little or no options to secure food and water over the next several months.

Uninterrupted and scaled up humanitarian assistance is necessary to help communities in parts of the region that are slipping into famine. We must continue providing lifesaving assistance while supporting communities to build resilience and help them find new and innovative ways to overcome the recurrent challenges they face in the Horn of Africa.

Specifically:

KENYA: Our programmes in cash transfer, WASH and integrated health and nutrition reached over **643,000** people in 2017. **\$20.9 million** is urgently needed to continue addressing the needs of communities in the worst affected areas.

ETHIOPIA: Our response in health, nutrition, WASH and FSL helped over **1.1 million** people survive the adverse effects of the drought. We urgently need **\$61.8 million** to scale up and sustain our response to communities in the hardest hit areas in Ethiopia.

SOMALIA: We reached over **2.5 million** drought affected people in the last one year with WASH, health, nutrition, FSL, child protection and education in emergencies services. **\$81.7 million** will enable us to continue to meet their needs, save lives and help affected families transition to recovery.



Save the Children

HORN OF AFRICA ONE YEAR ON REPORT:

Helping children and
their families survive
the gripping impact of
the drought in 2017

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