

SHF Funded: Lifesaving Response and Preparedness to Flood-Prone Areas in Hiran and Middle Shabelle

Introduction

This document lays out the approach to allocating funds from the Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF) reserve allocation to respond to the highest and immediate needs (shelter and NFIs) of communities that are affected by heavy rains in flood prone regions of Hiran and Middle Shabelle. A total of **US\$1.3 million** will be made available to distribute and preposition emergency shelter kits/NFIs to most vulnerable communities.

Situation analysis

The *Deyr* rainy season (September- December) begun in some parts of Somalia and is expected to continue spreading over the coming weeks. A recent forecast issued by the Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum indicates a 40 per cent change of above-average rainfall in most parts of Somalia except north-western areas of Somalia. Though the rains are expected to further improve food production, average to above average rainfall will likely lead to increased risk of flooding along the Juba and Shabelle River. Riverine communities in flood prone Hiran and Middle Shabelle regions often bear the brunt of floods. The heavy rains in June 2018 affected nearly 306,000 people in Hirshabelle State and displaced approximately 186,000 people with population in Beletweyne being the worst affected. Current projections from the Shelter cluster shows that about 150,000 people in Hirshabelle will be affected by the heavy rains and imminent floods. While the needs of flood affected communities are numerous, provision of basic non-food items and emergency shelter always remains a priority in terms of immediate life-saving response.

Rationale and core elements

Floods presents major life threatening health and protection risks, leading to further deterioration of the health and living conditions of most internally displaced persons (IDPs) especially in and around Beletweyne. These IDPs, already living in low lying and poorly drained settlements, did not receive sufficient Shelter and NFI support during the floods/heavy rains in early 2018. An upsurge in displacements is likely as people move to higher ground and to other IDP settlements that are already overcrowded. The poor living conditions including inadequate shelter often leads to protection violations such as Sexual and Gender Based Violence and other rights violations. Provision of emergency shelter and basic non-food items is essential as an immediate measure to respond to impact of heavy rains and prepare for imminent flooding.

Both DRC and AVORD are present in Beletweyne and Jowhar with fully operational offices and have the capacity to quickly respond effectively in a timely manner. Currently, DRC and AVORD are distributing at a small scale Emergency shelter and NFI, in both regions, using other sources of funds but to limited number of households given funding constraints. The SHF funds will ensure quick scale up of the on-going response while improving efficiency and complementarity in response.

The core elements are

- Focus on life saving response (maximum duration of project 6 month)
- Protection mainstreaming in interventions with special consideration to marginalized communities, elderly persons, women headed household and people with specific needs.
- Partners already on the ground and with capacity to quickly respond
- Cash based programming, as response modality, where possible
- Complementarity of funding mechanisms

Activities

Integrated Education and Child Protection Interventions (6 months)	Region	District	No of HH/Individuals	Partner	SHF funding
1. Lifesaving service delivery Provision and prepositioning of basic non-food items and Emergency shelter kits (both in-kind and cash transfers)	Hiran	Beletweyne Jalalaqsi Buloburto	5,000HHs (30,000 individuals)	DRC	\$700,000
	Middle Shabelle	Jowahr, Balcad	4,000HHs (24,000 individuals)	AVORD	\$600,000
Total population affected:150,000 Target for SHF funds 9000 hhs (54,000 individuals)				<i>Total SHF</i>	\$1,300,000