

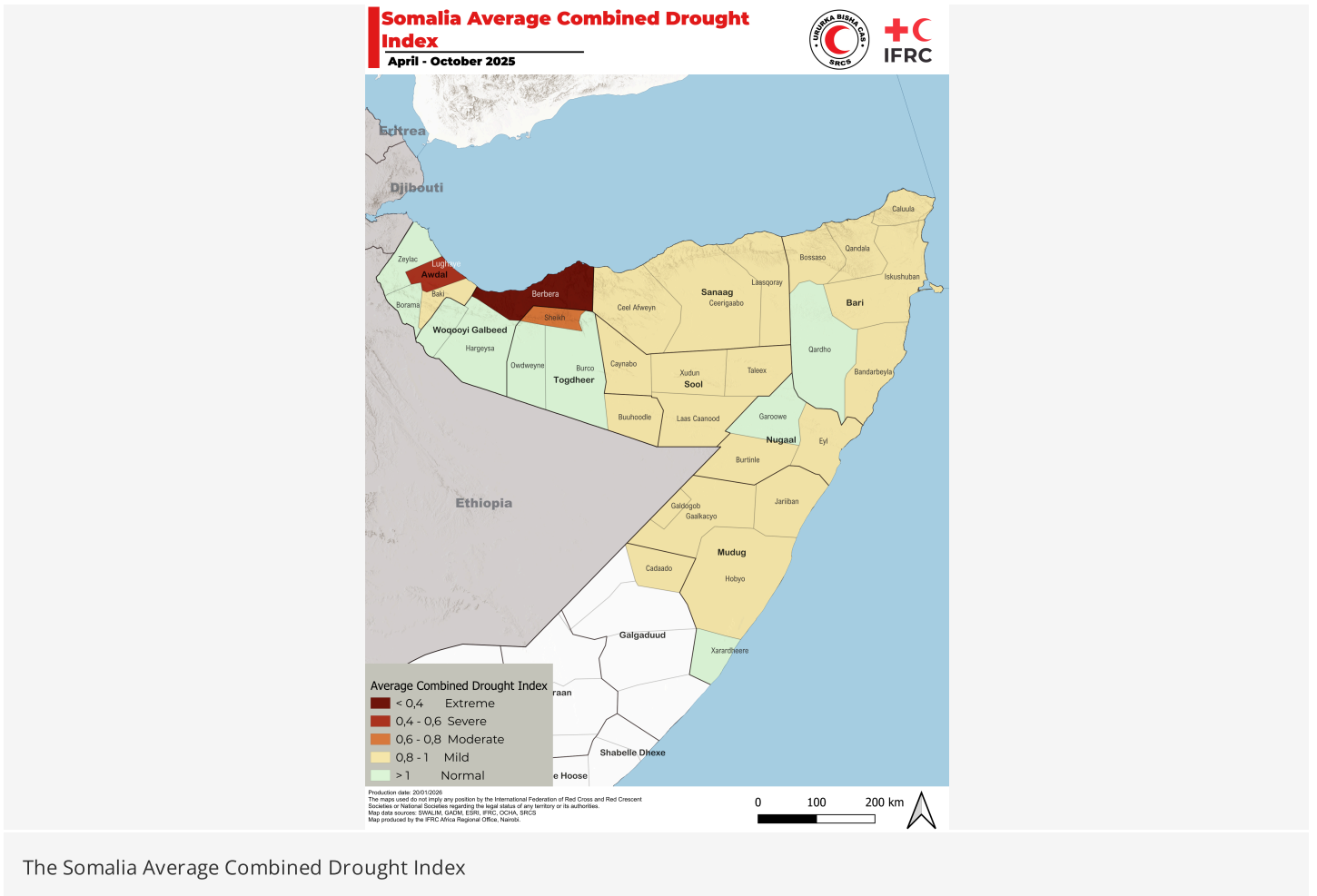


Household fetching water rehabilitated shallow-well by SRCS

Appeal: <b>MDRSO022</b>	Total DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 984,393</b>	Crisis Category: <b>Orange</b>	Hazard: <b>Drought</b>
Glide Number: -	People Affected: <b>4,500,000 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>34,800 people</b>	People Assisted: <b>39,377 people</b>
Event Onset: <b>Slow</b>	Operation Start Date: <b>23-04-2025</b>	Operational End Date: <b>31-10-2025</b>	Total Operating Timeframe: <b>6 months</b>

Targeted Regions: **Awdal, Bari, Mudug, Nugaal, Sanaag, Sool, Togdheer, Woqooyi Galbeed**

# Description of the Event



The Somalia Average Combined Drought Index

## Date when the trigger was met

08-04-2025

## What happened, where and when?

Somalia continued to face a rapidly deteriorating food insecurity situation, with an estimated 4.6 million people experiencing acute hunger between April and June 2025. According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, 784,000 people were classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and nearly 3.8 million in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), marking a significant increase from earlier projections. Acute malnutrition also rose sharply, with 1.8 million children under five requiring urgent treatment. These worsening indicators underscored the profound impact of prolonged drought, conflict, and economic instability, compounded by major reductions in humanitarian funding.

As of 5 August 2025, UNOCHA reported severe drought conditions across multiple regions, particularly Mudug, Nugaal, Bari, Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed, and Sanaag. Approximately 2.5 million people were living in areas classified as moderately or severely affected across 26 districts, including 887,000 people in severely affected areas across 16 districts. Five districts—Zeylac, Lughaye, Bossaso, Galkacyo, and Hobyo—were recently reprioritized by the Humanitarian Country Team to align with ongoing programmes following substantial funding cuts.

In Somaliland, consecutive failed Gu and Deyr rainy seasons resulted in one of the worst droughts in recent years, leading to widespread depletion of water sources, crop failure, and livestock deaths among pastoral and agro-pastoral communities. The National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFORD) estimated that 810,000 people were critically affected, with projections suggesting the number could rise to 1.2 million if conditions persisted. In response, the President declared a drought emergency on 22 July 2025, followed by the establishment of a 15-member National Drought Response Committee on 23 July 2025, chaired by the Vice President to coordinate relief efforts and mobilize resources alongside government ministries, local authorities, humanitarian partners, and international agencies.

In Puntland, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADMD) issued an urgent humanitarian appeal on 31 July 2025 in response to the escalating drought crisis. Failed Gu and Deyr rains led to severe depletion of pasture, food stocks, and water



sources, placing millions at risk of hunger and thirst. More than 800,000 people across Puntland were reported to be experiencing acute shortages of water and food, with conditions worsening daily.



SRCS and IFRC team visited



SRCS and IFRC team visited



Tragic loss of livestock death in Awdal region



Tragic loss of livestock death in Awdal region

## Scope and Scale

According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis published on 29 March 2025, nearly 4.6 million people experienced high levels of acute food insecurity between April and June, an increase from the 4.4 million projected in January 2025. This escalation reflected a worsening situation across at least 18 priority areas.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) reported that drought conditions in Somaliland were severe, characterized by widespread drying of wells, depleted pastureland, and extensive livestock deaths. In response, a follow-up appeal issued on 29 July 2025 requested urgent food assistance, water trucking, rehabilitation of non-functional water sources, livestock feed, and the delivery of nutrition and health services for 650,000 people. A joint assessment conducted by authorities and partners, including Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS), in Awdal Region from 15 to 18 July confirmed critical water and pasture shortages, extreme temperatures, and significant livestock losses, particularly in Lughaye and Zeylac districts. The assessment recommended immediate food distributions across the Baki, Borama, Lughaye, and Zeylac districts, emergency water trucking to remote villages, and the rehabilitation of water and health infrastructure. These needs emerged amid critical service gaps, as more than 38 health and nutrition facilities in Awdal were partially or fully non-functional due to funding shortfalls.

The FAO Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) programme reported that while the Gu (March–June) rainy season brought improved rainfall to southern Somalia, northern regions continued to experience widespread dryness. Seasonal rainfall totals remained significantly below average, with cumulative rainfall below 50 mm in parts of Awdal, Sanaag, and Sool regions. Insufficient soil moisture hindered pasture and crop regeneration, further undermining agro-pastoral and pastoral livelihoods. Partners reported prolonged drought and worsening food insecurity in Sanaag and Togdheer regions, particularly in Taleex, Godaalo, Xudun, and Buuhoodle districts.

Between 3 and 7 August 2025, UN agencies, SRCS, IFRC, and partners, under OCHA coordination, conducted a joint assessment in some of the worst-affected districts of Puntland and Somaliland to identify priority needs and inform response planning. Preliminary findings indicated escalating food insecurity, rapidly diminishing access to water and pasture, and severe livelihood disruptions. In Mudug Region, the failure of two consecutive rainy seasons resulted in the drying of shallow wells and a near doubling of water prices from USD 70 to USD 130 per 10,000-litre tank. Agricultural activities were disrupted, while 83 health facilities and 26 strategic boreholes became non-functional. Pastoralist communities were observed migrating within Mudug and into Ethiopia's Somali Region in search of water and pasture.

Similar drought impacts were reported across Puntland, where two consecutive rainy seasons had also failed. Rural communities, as well as displaced and conflict-affected populations in Nugaal, Bari, and Karkaar regions, were among the most affected. More than 134

boreholes became non-operational, water prices continued to rise, and access to basic health and education services was severely disrupted. On 2 August 2025, Puntland authorities issued an appeal for urgent humanitarian assistance targeting approximately 800,000 people affected by the depletion of water sources, pasture, and food supplies.

A preliminary drought assessment conducted by SRCS and IFRC in Somaliland in July 2025 highlighted a rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation compounded by significant funding reductions. As a result, 88 health facilities lost operational support, sharply constraining access to essential medical services.

Across affected areas, communities increasingly relied on unsafe water sources shared with livestock, heightening the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks. Many households travelled long distances to reach health facilities that frequently lacked essential medicines. Approximately 90 per cent of shallow wells, boreholes, and berkads had dried up, leaving water trucking as the primary source of water for many communities. The failure of the Gu rains prevented most farmers from cultivating their land, while those who planted anticipated severely reduced harvests. Standing crops were destroyed, further deepening food insecurity. Livestock losses exceeded 50 per cent in some locations, devastating pastoral livelihoods and triggering widespread migration in search of water, food, and pasture. The situation was further compounded by outbreaks of Acute Watery Diarrhea, measles, and sexually transmitted infections. In Lughaye District, contamination of a water source by livestock resulted in three fatalities, underscoring the life-threatening consequences of the drought.

The crisis disproportionately affected vulnerable groups, including pregnant and lactating women, children, elderly persons from minority groups, people with disabilities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and refugees, all of whom faced heightened protection, health, and survival risks as drought conditions intensified.

## Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. 1. Combined drought index (CDI) historical mapping	<a href="https://cdi.faoswalim.org/index/cdi-maps/2025">https://cdi.faoswalim.org/index/cdi-maps/2025</a>
2. 2. UNOCHA - Flash Update No.1	<a href="https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/somalia/somalia-drought-conditions-central-and-northern-regions-flash-update-no1">https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/somalia/somalia-drought-conditions-central-and-northern-regions-flash-update-no1</a>
3. 3. FAO Swalim	<a href="https://faoswalim.org/resources/site_files/Gu_2025_seasonal_climate_outlook_and_action_plan_for_Somalia.pdf">https://faoswalim.org/resources/site_files/Gu_2025_seasonal_climate_outlook_and_action_plan_for_Somalia.pdf</a>
4. 4. UNOCHA - Monthly Humanitarian Update	<a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-monthly-humanitarian-update-february-2025">https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-monthly-humanitarian-update-february-2025</a>
5. 5. IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND ACUTE MALNUTRITION ANALYSIS	<a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-and-acute-malnutrition-analysis-april-june-2025-published-29-march-2025">https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-and-acute-malnutrition-analysis-april-june-2025-published-29-march-2025</a>

## National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	Yes
Please provide a brief description of those additional activities	The DREF response was scaled up to an emergency appeal - The Somalia Complex Emergency Appeal (MDRSO025)



# IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Secretariat</b>	<p>The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) maintains offices in both Garowe and Hargeisa, with staff from the Nairobi cluster equally stationed between the two locations—50% in Garowe and 50% in Hargeisa. This includes a WASH delegate, a security delegate, and two Operations Officers. These, in turn, are supported by the Nairobi Cluster office, with dedicated logistics, finance, communications, PMER, and SPRM support.</p> <p>IFRC supported SRCS in the development of the DREF request and continued to provide technical assistance for the planned intervention.</p>
<b>Participating National Societies</b>	<p>On 8 April 2025, SRCS convened an urgent meeting with its Movement partners to discuss the prevailing drought situation, identify needs and gaps, and coordinate support efforts. During the meeting, partners expressed their willingness to assist the National Society and initiated discussions with their respective headquarters to explore possible support options.</p>

# ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

Overall, in Somalia, the ICRC remained present in-country, responding to the needs of families affected by conflict and climatic shocks. The ICRC worked with the Somali Red Crescent Society to support people adversely impacted by decades of armed conflict and environmental stresses. The ICRC contributed to emergency assistance and efforts to strengthen community self-reliance across key sectors, including water and habitat, economic security such as food security and health. In addition, the ICRC promoted and monitored international humanitarian law, visited detainees, and helped restore contact between family members separated by conflict.

# Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Government has requested international assistance</b>	<p>Yes</p>
<b>National authorities</b>	<p>In Somaliland, the National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR) coordinated all relief efforts and activities to assist displaced populations. In Puntland, the Ministry of Humanitarian and Disaster Management (MoHADMD) coordinated comprehensive relief efforts for affected communities, working closely with other government agencies and humanitarian partners. Both authorities coordinated responses to address the immediate needs of drought-affected communities. The government-led interventions targeted the most vulnerable populations across Somaliland and focused primarily on food assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Food Assistance NADFOR distributed food parcels to 37,200 vulnerable people (6,200 households) in Lughaya, Zeila, Borama, and Berbera districts.</li> <li>(ii) The Government of Djibouti provided food aid to 15,000 vulnerable people in drought-affected areas.</li> <li>(iii) The Somaliland Government distributed 15,000 food parcels—donated by Djibouti — to vulnerable households in Awdal, Sahil, and Sanaag regions.</li> </ul>
<b>UN or other actors</b>	<p>The United Nations and other humanitarian actors remained actively engaged in addressing the drought situation through established coordination platforms. Collective partner efforts aimed to ensure a harmonized and effective response.</p> <p>Humanitarian Assistance in Somaliland – Recent Updates</p>



WFP: Provided food assistance to over 10,000 vulnerable households in Erigabo, Hargeisa, Lughaya, and Zeila districts.

- Save the Children: Delivered food and water to 40 schools in Lughaya and Sanaag serving vulnerable children

Water Assistance

- UNICEF & Al-Rahma: Conducted water trucking to 800 vulnerable households in Sanaag, Sool, and Hargeisa districts.

- World Vision: Carried out water trucking in Oodweyne and Burao targeting vulnerable communities.

- Save the Children: Delivered water to 40 schools in Lughaya and Sanaag.

Cash Assistance:

- CARE & NRC: Provided cash assistance to 2,200 vulnerable households in Erigabo, Ainabo, Togdheer, and Sanaag regions.

### Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The National Society worked closely with several government departments, including the National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR) in Somaliland and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) in Puntland.

To ensure timely action and preparedness, the government, UN agencies, and other actors led by NADFOR, MoHADM, and UNOCHA developed a comprehensive plan. This plan supported with pooling resources to prevent scarcity, reduce duplication, and minimize the potential impact of drought.

SRCS collaborated closely with the national drought response committee in Somaliland, which was nominated by the president and led by the vice president.

Regional-Level Coordination:

At the regional level, SRCS branches engaged with regional drought committees established by the regional governments. These committees, led by governors and supported by relevant ministries including NADFOR, MoHADM, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministries of Agriculture and Water coordinated the drought response and ensured a practical, multi-sectoral approach.

In Somaliland, the National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR), with support from UNOCHA, convened regular inter-agency coordination meetings. These meetings included line ministries and humanitarian partners to ensure accurate targeting of affected populations and to prevent duplication of efforts.

In Puntland, similar coordination mechanisms were in place. Inter-agency meetings were held at both state and regional levels, led by the Office of the Governor, the Ministry of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management (MoHADM), and UNOCHA. The meetings brought together key stakeholders to forge a unified and coherent response strategy, aligning interventions and maximizing the impact of collective efforts across all sectors.

## Needs (Gaps) Identified



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

According to UNHCR and the Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), Somalia hosted nearly 4.0 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) as of September 2025, reflecting sustained displacement driven by recurrent drought, flooding, conflict, and insecurity, alongside limited opportunities for durable solutions.

This increase was driven by climate-related factors, including drought and flooding, as well as ongoing conflict and insecurity. The prolonged drought had severely impacted communities, resulting in widespread displacement and limited access to basic services, particularly shelter. Women, girls, and children remained among the most vulnerable groups, facing heightened protection risks and significant barriers to accessing essential resources. Due to the scale of displacement, there were widespread reports of families sleeping on the bare ground with only the clothes they wore

and the cover of trees as their primary form of protection. Many had little to no access to basic social services. A further concern was the lack of adequate shelter and essential resources, which placed displaced households at heightened risk of health complications, exposure to harsh weather conditions, and overall deteriorating living standards. Some displaced individuals sought refuge with host families within nearby villages, though these arrangements also strained limited community resources.

To mitigate the impact of the displacement, there was an urgent need for emergency shelter and essential household items for displaced and drought-affected populations. These interventions aimed to improve living conditions, address immediate protection risks, and restore a sense of dignity among affected households.





## Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The post-Gu IPC analysis for July–September 2025 and projection for October–December 2025 indicated that around 4.4 million people were projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) through the end of 2025, higher than earlier estimates, as per FAO in Somalia. The same analysis projected that approximately 1.85 million children aged 6–59 months were likely to suffer acute malnutrition (GAM) in 2025, including roughly 421,000 expected to experience severe acute malnutrition (SAM) requiring urgent treatment.

Assessments conducted by SRCS and IFRC indicated that the crisis in affected communities was driven by prolonged drought and consecutive poor rainy seasons, resulting in overlapping deprivations across food security, health, and water and sanitation sectors. Widespread crop failures and the loss or weakening of livestock stripped households of their primary sources of food and income. Remaining livestock were often too weak to produce milk or generate market value, limiting families' ability to access cash. Functioning markets were scarce, distant, poorly stocked, or unaffordable, further constraining households' ability to secure food. These compounding shocks led to severe food shortages, skyrocketing prices, and dwindling food stocks, rendering basic goods unaffordable and severely compromising household food consumption. The drought also affected education, as many children dropped out of school to support their families in searching for food and water, highlighting the broad social and economic impacts of the crisis. Prolonged dry spells, delayed rains, and early cessation contributed to poor agricultural yields, particularly for sorghum, maize, and irrigated crops in Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Bay, and Hiraan regions. Early onset in some central areas allowed limited opportunities for planting short-cycle crops. Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, and Lower/Middle Shabelle, as major sorghum and maize belts, faced significant declines in production, further increasing humanitarian needs. The crisis compounded pre-existing food insecurity in already vulnerable communities.

To address these needs, unconditional cash grants were implemented as a critical intervention. This assistance provided immediate financial relief to the most vulnerable families, enabling them to purchase food and essential goods and to access healthcare and shelter. Flexible cash support also enabled households to cope with livestock losses and crop failures and to invest in productive assets, thereby supporting resilience and long-term recovery.

Despite these interventions, gaps remained in the scale and coverage of cash-based assistance, particularly in hard-to-reach and newly affected areas. Expanding cash support was essential to meet rising humanitarian needs, prevent further deterioration in food security and nutrition, and uphold the dignity and decision-making capacity of affected households.



## Health

The health situation in Somalia in 2025 deteriorated sharply, driven by prolonged drought, unsafe water sources, and significant reductions in humanitarian funding. An estimated 1.8 million children under five were acutely malnourished, including 479,000 suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM)—an increase of nearly 47,000 compared to earlier IPC projections. Funding cuts resulted in the closure of dozens of health facilities, forcing communities to travel long distances for medical care, while widespread shortages of essential medicines further restricted access to treatment (IFRC/SRCS preliminary assessments).

Disease outbreaks further compounded the crisis. Measles, acute watery diarrhea, and cholera continued to spread across drought-affected areas. Diphtheria cases rose sharply in 2025, reaching more than 1,600 infections and at least 87 deaths—nearly double the previous year—driven by vaccine shortages and the suspension of mobile immunization activities. The combined pressures of an underfunded health system, drought-driven water scarcity, and rising epidemics placed millions of people at heightened risk, underscoring the urgent need to scale up nutrition, health, and WASH services across Somaliland, Puntland, and other high-burden regions.

According to preliminary assessments conducted by SRCS and IFRC in Awdal, Sahil, and Togdheer regions of Somaliland, 88 health facilities remained unsupported due to funding cuts, as confirmed by Ministry of Health data for the current year. Communities in these areas faced long travel distances to reach functioning health facilities, while some operating clinics continued to report frequent medicine shortages. Concurrently, outbreaks of acute watery diarrhea (AWD), measles, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) were reported, adding further strain to an already fragile health system.

To mitigate the worsening impact of the drought, SRCS deployed Integrated Mobile Health Teams (IMHTs) across drought-affected communities in Somaliland and Puntland. These mobile teams aimed to reduce child morbidity and mortality by improving access to essential health and nutrition services. They delivered a range of critical interventions, including treatment of common illnesses, immunization services, antenatal care for pregnant women, and the management of acute malnutrition among children and pregnant or lactating women. By bringing health services directly to vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations, the IMHTs played a vital role in addressing service gaps created by health-facility closures and widespread resource shortages.



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Somalia faced a severe water crisis in 2025, triggered by consecutive failed rainy seasons and below-average rainfall during the Gu season (April–June). The crisis affected an estimated 3 million people, resulting in acute water shortages. As water sources dried up, communities increasingly relied on unsafe water from rivers, ponds, and unprotected wells, which reduced hygiene practices and contributed to the spread of waterborne and infectious diseases.

A joint assessment conducted by SRCS and IFRC found that the prolonged dry spell had caused the majority of boreholes and shallow



wells to dry up. Many water points became non-functional or inaccessible due to extreme heat and long travel distances, further limiting access to safe water. Both surface and groundwater sources—including berkedes, shallow wells, sand dams, and boreholes were severely depleted, leaving households without sufficient water for domestic use, agriculture, livestock, and survival. The situation was particularly acute in Somaliland and Puntland, where many communities lacked access to basic water services, making sustainable water supply a critical challenge.

To address these needs, SRCS rehabilitated key water points, including boreholes, berkedes, and shallow wells, some with solar installations, to improve access to safe and reliable water sources for drought-affected communities. Emergency water trucking services were provided to the most vulnerable communities, while WASH non-food item (NFI) kits were distributed to targeted households to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases and promote hygiene. These interventions alleviated acute water shortages, supported community resilience, and reduced public health risks associated with the ongoing drought.



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Affected families moved in search of food, water, and pasture, which impacted different genders in distinct ways. During displacement, communities assumed additional responsibilities, with vulnerable children and women sometimes becoming heads of households. People with disabilities and older persons were at increased risk of marginalization and being left behind. SRCS recognized the need to sensitize communities on the diverse needs of different groups, including women, men, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, to ensure inclusive assistance. Limited resources contributed to heightened risks of gender-based and sexual exploitation. Efforts were made to educate communities on the causes of gender-based violence (GBV), preventive measures, and safe reporting and resolution mechanisms. Protection considerations were integrated across the response, ensuring that all individuals felt safe regardless of age, gender, or disability. SRCS conducted awareness-raising and orientation sessions on protection for volunteers. Engagement with displaced communities was carried out to ensure that all assistance was distributed equitably and impartially. Gender considerations informed the planning of distribution schedules and hygiene promotion activities. SRCS conducted assessments to identify the Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) needs of the most vulnerable populations, including mapping, establishing, and supporting GBV referral pathways. Gender and diversity analyses were incorporated into all sector responses - including shelter, multipurpose cash distribution, health, and WASH—to understand how different groups were affected.



## Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Somalia experiences two primary rainy seasons—Gu (April–June) and Deyr (October–December)—with Xagaa (June–October) marking the main dry period. During 2025, below-average rainfall and prolonged dry spells worsened drought conditions, water shortages, and food insecurity across the country. The most severe impacts were observed in southern and central regions (Gedo, Bay, Bakool, Lower Juba, Galgaduud, Mudug, and Lower Shabelle) and in northern regions (Bari, Nugaal, Sanaag, Togdheer, and Sool), where the combined drought index indicated significant deterioration.

Forecasts in March 2025 predicted delayed and below-normal rainfall for the Gu season, raising concerns about worsening drought in Gedo, Bakool, Galgaduud, Baydhaba, eastern Hiraan, and Galdogob. Temperatures were expected to be above normal in most regions, with a ~70% probability of hotter-than-usual conditions, particularly in Bari and Woqooyi Galbeed. Elevated temperatures increased evapotranspiration, intensified water stress, reduced livestock resilience, and heightened the risk of heat-related illnesses. High-risk drought zones—including Bay, eastern Hiraan, Mudug, Bari, Nugaal, and the Jubas—experienced extended dry spells. CDI mapping for February–March 2025 showed drought severity exceeded levels of the previous two years, comparable to 2016–2018 El Niño conditions. Analogue analyses of ENSO and sea surface temperatures confirmed that 2024/2025 conditions mirrored drought-prone years (2016/2017 and 2020/2021), driving forecasts for drier-than-normal rainfall and elevated temperatures. The Greater Horn of Africa continued to experience more frequent and intense extreme weather events, including recurrent droughts and floods, highlighting the increasing impacts of climate change.

According to UNHCR and PRMN, Somalia hosted nearly 4.0 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) as of September 2025, reflecting ongoing displacement due to drought, conflict, flooding, and insecurity. Humanitarian needs remained high: the post-Gu IPC analysis for late 2025 estimated that approximately 4.4 million people required humanitarian assistance, while around 1.85 million children under five were projected to suffer acute malnutrition, including roughly 421,000 children expected to experience severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and require urgent treatment.

These converging shocks—prolonged drought, high temperatures, severe water shortages, declining food security, and widespread displacement—intensified the vulnerability of affected communities, particularly children, pregnant and lactating women, older adults, people with disabilities, and other marginalized groups. Continued humanitarian assistance and coordinated multi-sector interventions were critical to prevent further deterioration of livelihoods, health, and food security across the country.





## Community Engagement And Accountability

During disasters such as drought, access to information posed a significant challenge for the most vulnerable populations, making communication with affected communities and collecting feedback more difficult. Consideration of Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) was therefore essential. The drought response required active community engagement to ensure that affected populations had adequate knowledge and opportunities to provide input across key sectors, including food security, WASH, health, and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI). Communities needed clear information on available assistance, how to access humanitarian services, and guidance on staying safe and healthy. Mechanisms were also established to enable affected populations to communicate their needs and preferences and to provide feedback on the support they received. This included clear guidance on reporting concerns or issues. In this humanitarian context, SRCS emphasised inclusivity, transparency, and responsiveness in all interventions. Aligned with Movement standards, the National Society ensured that assistance and services were delivered with respect for the dignity, preferences, and values of affected communities. Coordination with other partners was maintained to harmonise efforts and uphold cohesive, community-centred humanitarian action.

# Operational Strategy

## Overall objective of the operation

This operation aimed to provide lifesaving support to 5,800 families (34,800 people) classified in IPC 3+ over six months across Awdal, Maroodi-jeh, Sahil, Togdheer, Sool, and Sanaag regions in Somaliland, and Bari, Nugaal, and Mudug regions in Puntland. The integrated assistance focused on multipurpose cash, health care, shelter, and WASH services, while ensuring the protection, dignity, and resilience of affected communities.

## Operation strategy rationale

### 1. Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) Assistance

SRCS provided unconditional, one-off multi-purpose cash grants to 1,700 households (approximately 10,200 people) living in IPC Phase 3 and 4 areas across Somaliland and Puntland. Cash transfer values ranged from USD 100 to USD 160, in line with Cash Working Group (CWG) standards and adjusted to local market conditions.

The distribution covered the following locations:

- (i) Awdal: Gargaara Bari village (150 HHs)
- (ii) Maroodi-jeh: Ina Igara (75 HHs) and Warta-Mohamed Fanax (75 HHs)
- (iii) Sahil: Suuqsade (100 HHs) and Quule (50 HHs)
- (iv) Togdheer: Barwaaqo (80 HHs) and Yucub Yaboo (70 HHs)
- (v) Sool: Sarmaanyo (50 HHs) and Damal Cirbiide (100 HHs)
- (vi) Sanaag: Degbo (150 HHs)
- (vii) Mudug: Kuwayt (154 HHs), Kala-baydh (120 HHs), and Ina Xuuraan (126 HHs)
- (viii) Nugaal: Warguduud (120 HHs), Dhobobcatuug (100 HHs), Suuban (69 HHs), Suuban/Dhinowda (30 HHs), and Suuban (81 HHs)

Cash distributions were conducted through Telesom in Somaliland and Golis in Puntland. SRCS volunteers were trained in cash management procedures to ensure timely, accountable, and efficient delivery.

### 2. Shelter and WASH Interventions

SRCS reached 8,400 people (1,400 households) with shelter and WASH non-food items (NFIs) and distributed dignity kits to 2,890 displaced women and girls. Activities included household vulnerability assessments, beneficiary registration and verification, establishment of safe and accessible distribution points, and community engagement on the appropriate use of items.

Distributed kits included plastic sheets, ropes, blankets, sleeping mats, jerrycans, buckets, Aqua tabs, soap, and hygiene kits, all meeting SPHERE standards. Hygiene promotion activities reached 25,854 people (13,876 females and 11,978 males) through door-to-door outreach and dissemination of information, education, and communication (IEC) materials.

WASH Infrastructure Rehabilitation – Somaliland

- (i) 11 berkads were rehabilitated in Dharaar-waxar, Balicabane, Sayala, Xuseen Xamar, Sanyare, Ugaaso-madow, Lafaweyne, Kalabaydh, Dhagax Iskurow, Jiidali, and Dagaar.
- (ii) 2 shallow wells were rehabilitated and fitted with solar systems in Waraqa-dhigta and Lafaruug villages. These interventions benefited 12,720 people (7,654 females and 5,066 males).

WASH Infrastructure Rehabilitation – Puntland

- (i) 2 boreholes were rehabilitated in Terege (210 HHs) and Bursalah (1,800 HHs).
- (ii) 2 water reservoirs were rehabilitated in Ilfoocshe (250 HHs), alongside two berkads (210 HHs)
- (iii) In Nugaal Region, Balidacar borehole (400 HHs) and 2 berkads in Wardheer (150 HHs) were rehabilitated, while water trucking supported communities in Dhinowda (100 HHs), Dhigtaar (230 HHs), and Godobcaduun (150 HHs).
- (iv) Hygiene promotion training was conducted for 10 volunteers in Galkayo.

### 3. Health and Nutrition Interventions – Somaliland

Six mobile clinics were deployed to hard-to-reach areas, providing 39,477 medical consultations (21,486 females and 17,991 males), including approximately 16,000 children under five years of age. The most commonly treated conditions included acute respiratory



infections, anaemia, skin infections, diarrhoea, urinary tract infections, and eye infections.

Between May and October 2025, immunization services reached thousands of children, including 1,680 vaccinated with BCG, 2,445 with OPV3, 2,386 with Pentavalent 3, and 2,187 against measles, with dropout rates maintained below 10 per cent.

Maternal health services included 11,158 antenatal care visits and 625 assisted deliveries, while 10,101 individuals received HIV/AIDS counselling. Postnatal care services supported approximately 168 mothers, with 239 women receiving iron and folate supplementation and 581 receiving Vitamin A supplementation.

Nutrition screening assessed 19,698 individuals (10,333 females and 9,365 males). Among those screened, 1,176 children were identified with severe acute malnutrition and 2,152 with moderate acute malnutrition. All identified cases were enrolled in appropriate treatment programmes, including Outpatient Therapeutic Programmes (OTP) and Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programmes (TSFP).

#### 4. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

SRCS conducted refresher training for 150 volunteers (53 females and 97 males). Feedback mechanisms were established through a toll-free hotline and the KoboCollect data collection tool, while posters and volunteer outreach ensured community awareness and confidential reporting of concerns.

#### 5. Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)

SRCS staff and volunteers were trained on PGI, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and child protection. PGI was mainstreamed across all sectors through designated focal points, gender-based violence referral pathways were updated, and safeguarding policies were disseminated. All personnel signed and adhered to the Code of Conduct.

#### 6. Coordination

In Somaliland, the response was led by NADFOR with support from UNOCHA, while in Puntland it was coordinated by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) with UNOCHA support. SRCS actively participated in coordination forums, ensuring alignment with government structures and humanitarian partners.

#### 7. Ongoing Needs and Gaps

Despite these interventions, humanitarian needs remained significant. Access to food, water, and health services remained constrained, livelihoods remained severely impacted, and funding reductions—particularly from USAID and other donors—limited the scale of assistance. Vulnerable populations continued to require sustained support across health, cash, WASH, and livelihoods sectors, underscoring the need for continued, coordinated humanitarian action.

#### 8. Exit Strategy

The exit strategy focused on strengthening local capacity and ownership through training of SRCS volunteers and close collaboration with government authorities in Somaliland and Puntland. Responsibility for WASH infrastructure maintenance was progressively handed over to communities and relevant authorities, while linkages with longer-term development programmes were strengthened to promote sustainability. Advocacy for continued funding and transparent communication, supported by robust community feedback mechanisms, aimed to ensure continuity of support following the transition from humanitarian assistance.

## Targeting Strategy

### Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The targeting strategy for this operation was guided by a needs-based approach, prioritizing the worst-affected districts and villages across nine regions:

(i) Somaliland: Awdal, Maroodi-jeh, Sahil, Togdheer, Sool, and Sanaag

(ii) Puntland: Bari, Nugaal, and Mudug

These areas were identified as either in IPC Phase 3 or higher or at risk of deteriorating to IPC Phase 4, and were largely underserved by other humanitarian actors.

The operation specifically focused on communities experiencing the highest levels of food insecurity and vulnerability, particularly those who had not received recent assistance. A gap analysis was conducted to map existing interventions and ensure resources were directed to underserved populations, avoiding duplication and maximizing impact.

Priority Groups:

Priority was given to the most vulnerable populations, including:

(i) Displaced households who had lost access to traditional livelihoods.

(ii) Female-headed households, often with limited access to income or resources.

(iii) Families with vulnerable members, such as:

(iv) Children under five

(v) Elderly individuals

(vi) Pregnant or lactating women

(vii) Persons with disabilities

This approach ensured that assistance reached those most at risk of deteriorating food security and least able to cope with the effects of prolonged drought, limited access to basic services, and loss of livelihoods.



# Total Assisted Population

Assisted Women	12,900	Rural	0.6%
Assisted Girls (under 18)	8,586	Urban	0.4%
Assisted Men	10,477	People with disabilities (estimated)	0.1%
Assisted Boys (under 18)	7,414		
Total Assisted Population	39,377		
Total Targeted Population	34,800		

## Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	Yes

Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.

Risk	Mitigation action
Negative perceptions of relief efforts may arise due to unmet expectations or perceived inequities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintained open communication channels.</li> <li>- Conducted satisfaction surveys.</li> <li>- Implemented community grievance redress mechanisms</li> </ul>
Corruption and fraud continue to pose a risk in humanitarian activities	SRCS developed a communication plan to inform the communities on all aspects of the project and sensitized them on the need to prevent corruption. Communities were informed of their entitlements and notified that assistance was provided free of charge, with no payments required to access support. They were also made aware of existing mechanisms to report any suspected corruption or related issues
The security environment in Somalia remains complex and volatile, with varying levels of risk across regions.	Continuous risk assessments were conducted in coordination with the IFRC Security Unit, ICRC, and local partners to stay informed about evolving threats. As indicated below, Minimum



	Security Regulations were followed for the responders and as part of the general administration of the involved branches
Community needs may exceed the capacity of this operation as the drought situation deteriorates particularly this time where humanitarian aid is facing funding gap due to the effect USAID funding halt.	SRCS advocated for more humanitarian assistance as necessary to partner organizations to meet the unmet needs.

**Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:**

Security Context and Risk Mitigation:

Security Context:

In Puntland, the Islamic State (ISIS) maintained a presence, particularly in the Cal Miskaad and Golis Mountains of the Bari region. In recent months, counterterrorism operations by Puntland security forces, supported by international partners, had intensified.

In Somaliland, clan conflicts, notably in the Shangeed villages between Qorilugud and Buhood, escalated tensions, resulting in additional civilian displacement and complicating humanitarian access.

Risk Mitigation Measures:

1) To minimize risks to Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) personnel from conflict, crime, extremism, health hazards, and road-related dangers, the following measures were implemented:

2) Security Orientation and Briefing: All teams received pre-deployment briefings on security procedures to ensure personnel safety.

3) Adherence to Protocols: Standard security protocols covering general norms, cultural sensitivity, and the overall Code of Conduct were enforced. Minimum security requirements were strictly maintained.

4) Insurance and Equipment: All personnel had adequate insurance. Essential security equipment included functional satellite phones and communication tools, advanced first-aid kits and PPE, hibernation stocks, safe accommodation, and fully equipped vehicles.

5) Movement and Road Safety: Travel was conducted after road assessments to mitigate transport-related risks.

6) Security Training: All NS and IFRC personnel involved in operations completed IFRC security e-learning courses prior to deployment, including:

Level 1: Fundamentals

Level 2: Personal and Volunteer Security

Level 3: Security for Managers

Operational Security Plans: IFRC security plans were applied to all IFRC staff throughout the operation.

Area-specific Risk Assessments: For each operational location, site-specific security assessments were conducted, with appropriate risk mitigation measures implemented accordingly.

These measures aimed to safeguard personnel while enabling the continued delivery of humanitarian assistance to drought-affected populations in both Puntland and Somaliland.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	Yes
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# Implementation



## Shelter Housing And Settlements

**Budget:** CHF 91,526

**Targeted Persons:** 8,400

**Assisted Persons:** 8,400

**Targeted Male:** 3,948

**Targeted Female:** 4,452

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
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# of families/HHs reached with emergency shelter and essential household items	1,400	1,400
% of HHs who report that the assistance provided to them was timely, relevant, and met their relevant immediate needs	90	95
# of Households attended/training/awareness raising sessions on safe shelter and use of EHIs	150	150

## Narrative description of achievements

Due to the severe drought across the country, many people were displaced in search of water and grazing land. Families left their homes, often without shelter, and had to sleep on the ground, exposed to environmental dangers. Overcrowding in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps further worsened living conditions.

To respond to this crisis, the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) distributed essential Shelter Non-Food Item (NFI) kits to the most vulnerable drought-affected households across the Awdal, Maroodi-jeh, Sahil, Togdheer, Sool, Sanaag, Mudug, Bari, and Nugal regions. The intervention aimed to ensure that affected families could live in safety and dignity by providing access to basic shelter materials. SRCS prioritised and reached 8,400 people (1,400 households) in these regions. Each household received a Shelter NFI kit comprising:

Somaliland 600 households:

- Plastic sheets/tarpaulins – 2 per household
- Ropes – 2 per household
- Blankets – 1 per household
- Sleeping mats – 2 per household

Puntland:

- Plastic sheets/tarpaulins – 2 per household – 400 households
- Ropes – 1 per household – 800 households
- Blankets – 1 per household - 800 households
- Sleeping mats – 2 per household – 400 households

All items were distributed in accordance with SPHERE standards.

Shelter NFIs played a vital role in providing immediate protection from the elements. The materials allowed families to build temporary roofs and walls, offering cover from rain, wind, and sun, and enhancing privacy and security within overcrowded IDP sites. The distribution process was organised in collaboration with local authorities, community leaders, and SRCS community-based volunteers. Distribution activities were preceded by a needs assessment to identify the most vulnerable individuals and households, ensuring an equitable and transparent process. SRCS Procurement and Logistics teams transported items from central warehouses to distribution sites, navigating challenges such as damaged infrastructure and security constraints. Distributions were carried out in designated areas, with priority given to highly vulnerable groups, including single-headed households and older persons. SRCS also actively participated in Shelter Cluster coordination meetings in Somaliland and Puntland to ensure harmonisation of efforts and prevent duplication of assistance. As part of the operation, SRCS trained 34 volunteers (20 men and 14 women) on technical shelter response. These trained volunteers supported displaced households in constructing and upgrading their temporary shelters, helping ensure that the most vulnerable communities affected by drought had safe, adequate living conditions.

- Training on Safe Shelter Practices and Use of Emergency Household Items (EHIs): A total of 150 households participated in training sessions focused on safe shelter practices and the proper use of Emergency Household Items (EHIs). SRCS volunteers were central to the activity, providing hands-on, practical demonstrations that enabled participants to practice assembling shelter structures, setting up protective coverings, and managing the EHIs they received.

The interactive approach increased participants' confidence in using the materials safely and effectively. Volunteers also emphasised basic safety measures to reduce risks in crowded or temporary living conditions, ensuring displaced families could maintain safety and dignity in their emergency shelters.

PDM Finding: Based on the PDM findings

- 1) 95% of HHs who report that the assistance provided to them was timely, relevant, and met their relevant immediate needs
- 2) 90% of the HHs reported that found the shelter/NFI items useful and appropriate for their needs
- 3) 97% of the HHs reported satisfaction with the distribution process (e.g., organization, fairness, communication)

## Lessons Learnt

Effective coordination with the government and other implementing partners is essential to prevent duplication and ensure equitable distribution of relief items and services



## Challenges

There has been a huge need for shelter and non-food items (NFIs) due to the large number of people displaced by drought in search of water and pasture. The high volume of requests has posed a significant challenge in meeting the urgent needs of affected populations.



## Multi Purpose Cash

**Budget:** CHF 234,179  
**Targeted Persons:** 10,200  
**Assisted Persons:** 10,200  
**Targeted Male:** 2,550  
**Targeted Female:** 7,650

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households who successfully received cash for basic needs after being identified and processed for transfer	1,700	1,700
# of SRCS staidn volunteers trained on fundamental cash used to do the CVA mobilisation, targeting, registration, verification and validation	150	150
# of post distribution monitoring conducted	2	2

## Narrative description of achievements

The Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) provided a one-off multi-purpose cash (MPC) grant to drought-affected households in Somaliland and Puntland, reaching 1,700 households (approximately 10,200 individuals), including 900 households in Somaliland and 800 households in Puntland. The assistance, delivered in June and July 2025, enabled targeted households to meet immediate basic needs following the prolonged and severe drought. The response focused on the most vulnerable areas, particularly internally displaced persons (IDP) sites and remote rural locations.

Targeting was guided by established vulnerability criteria, prioritizing persons with disabilities, female-headed households, older persons, malnourished individuals, minority clan groups, newly displaced families, and households living in poor shelter conditions. Recipients used the cash grants to purchase food, access essential services such as healthcare, and cover education-related expenses. SRCS's capacity to deliver unconditional cash transfers remained strong, supported by active participation in the Food Security Cluster and Cash Working Group, and by applying region-specific transfer values recommended by the Somali Cash Working Group, ensuring alignment with market prices and operational consistency.

Cash transfers were delivered through SRCS's existing agreements with Telesom (Somaliland) and Golis (Puntland), both of which have a longstanding record of effective collaboration with SRCS on emergency appeal and food security operations. To support implementation, SRCS conducted refresher training for volunteers on cash distribution management, leveraging its extensive experience in cash-based interventions. A hotline and feedback mechanism were maintained throughout the operation, enabling communities to seek clarification, report concerns, and provide feedback, thereby strengthening accountability to affected populations.

In addition, SRCS trained 150 volunteers on cash assistance procedures, covering beneficiary registration, distribution processes, and post-distribution monitoring (PDM). Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials, including posters, brochures, and banners, were produced and disseminated to inform communities about the assistance package, eligibility criteria, duration of the operation, and the hotline for enquiries. These measures enhanced transparency, promoted informed participation, and ensured beneficiaries clearly understood the support provided.

Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) Findings:

Two PDM exercises were conducted in Somaliland and Puntland, highlighting the following:

Awareness and Understanding of Selection Criteria

(i) 97% of households reported being informed about eligibility requirements, including female-headed households, lack of stable income, or chronic illness among household members.

(ii) 3% reported they had not received this information.



## Awareness and Use of Complaints and Feedback Mechanism

(i) 93% fully understood how to submit complaints or provide feedback; 7% were not aware of the process.

(ii) 83% did not use the mechanism, primarily because they had no issues to report; 17% accessed it to share complaints or feedback.

## Satisfaction with the Operation

(i) 97% of beneficiaries reported being very satisfied with selection, mobilization, verification, and registration activities.

(ii) 3% reported being satisfied; no respondents expressed dissatisfaction.

## Use of Cash Assistance

(i) 48.9% purchased drinking water, highlighting ongoing water scarcity challenges.

(ii) 28.9% spent the assistance on healthcare and children's milk.

(iii) 22% used it to repay debts.

(iv) 21.8% purchased clothing or shoes for children.

## Coping Strategies Adopted by Beneficiaries

(i) 39% borrowed food or sought support from relatives or friends.

(ii) 26% relied on cheaper or less preferred foods.

(iii) 13% reduced adult food consumption to prioritize children.

(iv) 11% reduced the number of meals per day or limited portion sizes.

These findings demonstrated high satisfaction with the cash assistance operation, while highlighting ongoing challenges in water access, household food security, and coping strategies employed by affected communities during periods of financial strain.

## Lessons Learnt

- Effective coordination with the government and other implementing humanitarian partners is essential to prevent duplication and ensure equitable distribution of relief items and services.
- The use of a structured approach to identify and prioritize the most vulnerable households through community engagement and collaboration with local leaders ensured that cash assistance reached those who needed it the most.

## Challenges

One-off cash grants were not sufficient to cover the basic needs of vulnerable populations. While the Somalia Cash Working Group recommended a minimum of three months of assistance, funding constraints led SRCS to prioritize one-off cash support.



**Budget:** CHF 136,170

**Targeted Persons:** 34,800

**Assisted Persons:** 39,477

**Targeted Male:** 17,991

**Targeted Female:** 21,486

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached through the integrated health and nutrition outreaches	34,800	39,477
# of the integrated mobile health teams deployed in hard-to reach areas	6	6
# of household that receive mosquito nets	1,400	1,400

## Narrative description of achievements

To address the urgent health needs of drought-affected communities, SRCS deployed six Integrated Mobile Health Teams (MHTs) to hard-to-reach areas, where they delivered comprehensive health and nutrition services for children, women, and the wider population. Prior to deployment, all mobile health team staff received refresher training to strengthen their capacity.



The teams reached 39,477 people (21,486 females and 17,991 males) through outpatient consultations, immunization services, antenatal care, and nutritional screening. Volunteers were also deployed to provide community health promotion activities. In addition, mosquito nets were distributed to 1,400 households, with two nets provided per household. OPD kits were procured internationally, and SRCS mobile health teams utilized the prepositioned stock available in warehouses and OPD kits were replenished.

## Lessons Learnt

- Pre-positioning stocks of OPD kits was essential, as international procurement of these kits required significant lead time. Having OPD kits readily available ensured their timely utilization and facilitated prompt replenishment to maintain uninterrupted service delivery.

## Challenges

- 1) Limited availability of nutrition commodities, particularly for the management of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and Severe Undernutrition/Malnutrition (SUM), which affected the provision of comprehensive nutrition services.
- 2) Poor road conditions and difficult terrain in rural and hard-to-reach areas, which hindered access and delayed service delivery.
- 3) Increased pressure on mobile health teams to travel long distances to provide healthcare services due to the closure of static health facilities in rural areas. These closures were largely driven by humanitarian funding cuts, including reductions in support from donors such as USAID, placing additional strain on mobile service delivery capacity.



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

**Budget:** CHF 367,992  
**Targeted Persons:** 34,800  
**Assisted Persons:** 36,920  
**Targeted Male:** 17,721  
**Targeted Female:** 19,199

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached through water points (berkeds and boreholes) rehabilitated and functional.	34,800	36,920
# of households receiving WASH NFI kits (Jerrycans, Buckets, Bodysoap, laundry soap, sanitotry pads and underwear )	1,400	1,400
# of people receiving water through trucking	3,600	3,600

## Narrative description of achievements

To address the community's need for clean, safe water, SRCS conducted detailed assessments of community water points in need of rehabilitation. After that, SRCS rehabilitated 11 water points and 2 shallow wells, with solar installations, in the Somaliland region. The rehabilitated community water points improved access to safe water for 17,720 people (2,120 households) with their livestock, including their shoats, camels, and cattle.

### Puntland

SRCS rehabilitated selected boreholes and water reservoirs in Galkayo, Jariban, Bursalah, Burtinle, and Godob Jiran districts despite limited funding. The interventions included the rehabilitation of 1 borehole and 4 berkeds, improving access to safe water for approximately 3,200 households across the Nugal and Mudug regions, including IDP communities. In parallel, the SRCS Galkayo Branch trained 10 volunteers on hygiene promotion and water treatment, who conducted community awareness campaigns to reduce waterborne diseases.

SRCS focused its WASH activities on improving access to safe water, promoting hygiene practices, and preventing disease among 8,400 people (1,400 households) in Awdal, Maroodi-jeh, Sahil, Togdheer, Sool, Sanaag, Mudug, Bari and Nugaal regions. Essential WASH non food items (NFIs) including jerricans, body soaps, laundry soaps, buckets, water purification chemicals, and menstrual hygiene management (MHM) supplies for women and girls were distributed. A comprehensive hygiene promotion campaign was conducted,



emphasizing handwashing with soap at critical times.

- The operation supported 3,600 people with water trucking and 1,400 households with WAH NFI kits.

## Lessons Learnt

Training local volunteers on hygiene promotion and water treatment proved effective in raising community awareness and reducing the risk of waterborne diseases.

- Involving community members and WASH Committee from the planning stage improved ownership and proper use of rehabilitated water points.

## Challenges

Insufficient funding constrained the scale of the intervention, limiting the number of boreholes, berkedes, and Shallow-wells and water reservoirs that could be rehabilitated despite high community needs.



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

**Budget:** CHF 11,919

**Targeted Persons:** 34,800

**Assisted Persons:** 34,800

**Targeted Male:** 15,660

**Targeted Female:** 19,140

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion services	34,800	34,800
# of the volunteers trained on PGI awareness Raising on Issues of Violence, Discrimination and Exclusion	150	150

## Narrative description of achievements

During the Drought DREF response, SRCS trained 150 volunteers (97 male and 53 female) on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI). The training covered awareness-raising on violence, discrimination, and exclusion; mainstreaming PGI in community-based activities; and conducting PGI assessments.

SRCS developed and distributed IEC materials to promote social cohesion and inclusion between displaced and host communities, reaching 34,800 people (19,140 female and 15,660 male). These efforts were further supported through collaboration with local leaders and community representatives.

In addition, SRCS facilitated referral services in areas served by mobile clinics, established referral systems, and mapped available referral pathways to strengthen protection support mechanisms. Dignity kits containing reusable menstrual pads, underwear, and other essential items were distributed to women and girls to help restore dignity, ensure safety, and support their overall wellbeing during displacement.

Staff and volunteers were also briefed on the Code of Conduct, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and safe referral pathways for SGBV cases, including child protection concerns, ensuring adherence to safeguarding standards throughout the operation. A total of 600 women and girls of reproductive age received dignity kits as part of the support package. Each kit contained 6 pieces of sanitary pads and six reusable underwear, ensuring that essential menstrual hygiene needs were met with dignity and respect.

## Lessons Learnt

- 1) PGI actions and volunteer involvement strengthened dignity and equity in assistance
- 2) PGI doesn't only need to be mainstreamed in the DREF operations only targeting the affected communities but it's important to target the wider public as well.
- 3) IEC materials tailored to the cultural context and linguistic needs (Somali language) improved message retention and accessibility.



## Challenges

- Lack of trainers for PGI on the ground



## Community Engagement And Accountability

**Budget:** CHF 11,919

**Targeted Persons:** 34,800

**Assisted Persons:** 34,800

**Targeted Male:** 15,660

**Targeted Female:** 19,140

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) training conducted	2	2
# of the volunteers trained on Community Engagement and Accountability.	150	150
% of complaints or feedback about the DREF operation which receive a response through established community communication.	85	90

## Narrative description of achievements

SRCS conducted two refresher training on community engagement and accountability for 150 volunteers (97 male, 53 females). CEA activities were integrated throughout the interventions to ensure that communities were actively engaged and fully understood the interventions, their criteria, and early actions necessary for effectiveness.

To ensure community feedback was addressed, SRCS established a short toll number in settlements for beneficiaries to call or send complaints. This system protected the data and confidentiality of callers. The PMERL team developed a checklist for community feedback and complaints, which was uploaded to the Kobo Collect tool for easy registration. At least 90% of the comments were addressed with others being appreciation messages. The volunteers holder of the short toll number was trained to manage data effectively and maintain caller confidentiality. Posters with clear information about the short toll number, written in the local language, were displayed in project locations. Volunteers also disseminated the number among beneficiaries.

## Lessons Learnt

Active CEA, inclusive registration, and a functioning hotline (including the unified 358 line in Puntland, 3240 line in Somaliland) improved transparency, feedback, and acceptance

- Face-to-face communication was an important feedback channel, but providing an option for the community to share their concerns would have been beneficial. Based on observations, a toll-free hotline would have been particularly useful for the community, especially for women, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities or chronic illnesses who had difficulty going outside to seek information or who relied solely on relatives. The hotline would have facilitated their access to SRCS.

## Challenges

- There were no significant challenges worth reporting.



## Secretariat Services

**Budget:** CHF 66,697



**Targeted Persons:** 34,800  
**Assisted Persons:** 34,800  
**Targeted Male:** 15,660  
**Targeted Female:** 19,140

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of IFRC monitoring and support missions	2	2
# of Movement coordination meetings organized, to provide updates to the Movement partners	4	6

## Narrative description of achievements

The operation commenced with an inception meeting involving key stakeholders, including Movement partners, SRCS branch leadership, and volunteers, to introduce the scope, objectives, and implementation modalities of the intervention.

The IFRC supported SRCS through the Country Cluster Delegation based in Nairobi, which covered Somalia and Kenya, and provided continuous assistance in operational oversight, response coordination, and resource mobilization.

Throughout the response period, technical and operational support was provided by IFRC WASH and Security Delegates, as well as two Operations Officers based in Hargeisa and Garowe. Additional support was delivered by IFRC Finance, PMER, Logistics, and Procurement teams, ensuring compliance with DREF requirements and effective implementation across all sectors.

To strengthen coordination and situational analysis, the IFRC deployed a Surge Operations Coordinator for a three-month period, who conducted a drought assessment in Somaliland and Puntland. The assessment findings and humanitarian situation analysis were shared with relevant stakeholders to inform response planning and coordination.

By the end of the operation, six coordination meetings had been convened, and key outcomes and action points were shared with Movement partners, contributing to a harmonized and well-coordinated response.

## Lessons Learnt

- 1) The IFRC technical support staff for their support in response and resource mobilization is essential.
- 2) The National Society needs to enhance its resource mobilization strategy to ensure that it has funds available for emergencies, allowing it to respond effectively while awaiting disbursement of funds for specific operations

## Challenges

There were no significant challenges reported during the operation except the limitation of the IFRC international staff to travel in some areas due to the security issue



## National Society Strengthening

**Budget:** CHF 63,990  
**Targeted Persons:** 150  
**Assisted Persons:** 150  
**Targeted Male:** 81  
**Targeted Female:** 69

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
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# of trained staff and volunteers mobilize.	150	150
# of lessons learnt workshops conducted and report submitted to IFRC and partners	2	2
# of monitoring missions conducted by coordination offices	2	2

## Narrative description of achievements

During the Drought DREF Response, the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) successfully carried out several key operational activities, including the mobilization and deployment of branches and volunteers. The deployed volunteers actively participated in cash distribution, shelter support, WASH/NFI distribution, and other awareness activities.

SRCS also conducted joint monitoring and supervision visits with government line ministries during the operation, covering the distribution of multipurpose cash grants, shelter and WASH/NFI items, rehabilitation of water points, and post-distribution monitoring to ensure that all activities were carried out as planned.

Under this operation, SRCS procured printers, scanners, tablets, furniture, and chairs for the branch to ensure smooth and efficient operations.

### Duty of Care

- i. The operation's technical, operational, and supervision teams received briefings on the intervention requirements and planning.
- ii. Branding items were procured and made available to 150 volunteers, 8 key staff from coordination offices, and 50 staff from the respective branches engaged in the operation.
- iii. All 150 volunteers engaged in this operation were insured.

As part of the DREF operation, a two-lesson-learned workshops were conducted in Hargeisa and Galkayo to review key insights, challenges, and best practices, with the aim of fostering continual improvement for future interventions. The key lessons learned from the DREF operation include:

1. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) training was crucial in strengthening volunteers' capacity to effectively inform communities about ongoing activities, collect community feedback, and provide timely feedback back to the community.
2. Joint development of water trucking Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) with relevant stakeholders, in line with Sphere Standards, was essential to ensure quality and accountability.
3. Prepositioning of OPD kits is essential to enable timely and effective response during emergencies.
4. Strong coordination among regional, district, and local government authorities is critical for the successful implementation of DREF-funded responses.

## Lessons Learnt

- 1) Conducting the Lessons Learned Workshop helped identify challenges, recommendations, and the way forward for future operations
- 2) Improved internal coordination and reporting structures should be maintained as standard practice for future DREF operations.

## Challenges

- 1) The RFL (Restoring Family Links) services was not entirely integrated into the population movement DREF project, which could have offered a phone call service or reunification opportunities to the drought displaced communities.



# Financial Report

## DREF Operation

### FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

#### MDRSO022 - Somalia - Drought

Operating Timeframe: 23 Apr 2025 to 31 Oct 2025

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2025/04-2025/11	Operation	MDRSO022
Budget Timeframe	2025/04-2025/10	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 19/Jan/2026

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>984,393</b>
DREF Response Pillar	984,393
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-984,431</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>-38</b>

### II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	173,077	176,063	-2,986
PO02 - Livelihoods			0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	218,946	216,442	2,504
PO04 - Health	174,723	173,282	1,441
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	179,142	181,001	-1,858
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion		-7,937	7,937
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	164,370	171,051	-6,681
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	2,369	2,129	240
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
<b>Planned Operations Total</b>	<b>912,627</b>	<b>912,030</b>	<b>597</b>
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	11,682	12,805	-1,123
EA02 - Secretariat Services		-3,294	3,294
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	60,084	62,891	-2,806
<b>Enabling Approaches Total</b>	<b>71,766</b>	<b>72,401</b>	<b>-635</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>984,393</b>	<b>984,431</b>	<b>-38</b>

[Click here for the complete financial report](#)

## Please explain variances (if any)

In the Secretariat services and PGI section of the financial report, the budget figures are blank, even though they have been properly prepared in the ERP. This was as a result of an interface problem between the Business Objects platform and ERP. Budget variances did not exceed or fall short of 10%.



# Contact Information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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# DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2025/04-2025/11	Operation	MDRSO022
Budget Timeframe	2025/04-2025/10	Budget	APPROVED

## FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 19/Jan/2026

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### MDRSO022 - Somalia - Drought

Operating Timeframe: 23 Apr 2025 to 31 Oct 2025

## I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>984,393</b>
DREF Response Pillar	984,393
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-984,431</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>-38</b>

## II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	173,077	176,063	-2,986
PO02 - Livelihoods			0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	218,946	216,442	2,504
PO04 - Health	174,723	173,282	1,441
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	179,142	181,001	-1,858
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion		-7,937	7,937
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	164,370	171,051	-6,681
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	2,369	2,129	240
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
<b>Planned Operations Total</b>	<b>912,627</b>	<b>912,030</b>	<b>597</b>
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	11,682	12,805	-1,123
EA02 - Secretariat Services		-3,294	3,294
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	60,084	62,891	-2,806
<b>Enabling Approaches Total</b>	<b>71,766</b>	<b>72,401</b>	<b>-635</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>984,393</b>	<b>984,431</b>	<b>-38</b>

# DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2025/04-2025/11	Operation	MDRSO022
Budget Timeframe	2025/04-2025/10	Budget	APPROVED

## FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

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### MDRSO022 - Somalia - Drought

Operating Timeframe: 23 Apr 2025 to 31 Oct 2025

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>		<b>11,548</b>	<b>-11,548</b>
Medical & First Aid		11,548	-11,548
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>		<b>5,683</b>	<b>-5,683</b>
Transport & Vehicles Costs		1,683	-1,683
Logistics Services		4,000	-4,000
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>19,606</b>	<b>20,996</b>	<b>-1,390</b>
International Staff	19,606	20,996	-1,390
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>43,020</b>	<b>25,227</b>	<b>17,794</b>
Travel	20,831	10,374	10,457
Communications		158	-158
Financial Charges	22,189	14,694	7,495
<b>Contributions &amp; Transfers</b>	<b>861,686</b>	<b>860,895</b>	<b>791</b>
National Society Expenditure	861,686	860,895	791
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>60,080</b>	<b>60,083</b>	<b>-2</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	60,080	60,083	-2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>984,393</b>	<b>984,431</b>	<b>-38</b>