

COMMUNITY BASED CONTINGENCY PLAN

DOLLOW DISTRICT, SOMALIA

Facilitated By

CARE Somalia

VSF-Suisse

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INTRODUCTION

Somalia has been without a central government for over 17 years following the collapse of the Siad Bare Government in early 1991. In 2004, a peace initiative held in Kenya resulted in the establishment of a Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in the country but to date this has failed to establish its control in the country. Many regions of the country including Gedo are still under clan-based district authorities, which have limited capacity to restore law and order and provide services.

Northern Gedo, comprising the districts of Dolow, Lugh, Belet Hawa and Ceel Waq are chronically food insecure regions of Somalia. As a result, these districts have been under food aid, which is implemented by CARE International in Somalia for the last 7-8 years. However, the level of targeting is varied in line with prevailing vulnerability at any given time.

Cyclic drought, livestock disease, conflict, absence of a central government that provides services are some of the major challenges or hazards affecting the local communities' livelihoods in the district. For instance, from 2004-2006 the region experienced one of the most severe drought in recent years that led to loss of livestock, the main household asset, chronic poverty, limited livelihood options, cyclic nature of the hazards and their cumulative effects have contributed to weakened coping capacity of pastoralists in the district and increased their vulnerability. Absence or weak TFG means that policies to address these emergencies are not in place and the communities' only support is from humanitarian organizations.

This contingency plan is been developed in a scenario where the last *Deyr* rains (October-November2007) was below average and the coming *Gu'* rains is expected to be normal or below normal¹. Thus this plan is developed to enable the local community and their organizations to prepare for natural hazards such as drought and work together to make quick and early response whenever drought strikes thereby reduce the impacts of such hazards on the people and their livelihoods. Some triggers are already there hence local organizations should start implementing the proposed interventions such as fodder production. Water trucking should be undertaken as soon as the particular trigger level is indicated by the early warning system. This underscores the importance and use of early warning information.

The fodder production intervention in this contingency plan seeks to support the Dolow community to exploit their local resources for drought mitigation and cushion themselves against recurring natural hazards like drought. It is hoped that once the community adopts irrigated fodder production and conservation as a drought preparedness and mitigation strategy it can cushion peoples' livelihoods against the impact of the drought. But this needs to be linked with early warning information to trigger local efforts to increase fodder production.

¹ FSAU weather forecast

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

Dolow district is one of the six districts of Gedo region of Somalia. The district with approximately 45,000 people lies along the Somalia/Ethiopia border and is endowed with two rivers, the Dawa and the Juba Rivers. Dawa River flows for nine months in a year and remain dry for three months (January, February & March). The Juba River flows throughout the year but the level significantly drops in the main dry season- January to march. Both of these rivers emanate from the Ethiopia highlands and provide a major source of water for both livestock and humans. Irrigated agriculture goes on in the riverine areas of these two rivers.

There are two rainy seasons in the region, the Gu'(long rains) and Deyr (Short rains). The Gu' rains are in April-May while the Deyr fall in October-November season. The district receives an average of 300- 500 mm per year of rainfall.

The district has two main livelihood zones, Dawa pastoral and Riverine group. The Dawa pastoral is the main livelihood group in the district with about 70% of the population falling in this livelihood group². The predominant animal species is the sheep and goats followed by cattle and camel. Milk and milk products forms the backbone of the daily household survival among this group. Milk provides an important nutritional component for children and when made into ghee combines a high energy value with long storage³. Mandera is the main regional livestock serving both neighbouring Somalia and Ethiopia regions. Livestock sold in this market is then traded in Kenya livestock market. Camels are sold both in Kenya and Somalia depending on the prevailing prices.

During severe drought, households send their animals to distant areas such as Lower Juba, Kenya or Ethiopia. When this happens, families are separated from their animals and lose access to them and their products for survival. So there is significant cross border livestock movement both for trade and in search of grazing.

IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF HAZARDS AND RISKS

The participants identified one main livelihood groups in the district- Mobile pastoral households (or Dawa pastoral) and decided to analyze the hazards and risks facing this group.

a) Dawa Pastoral Livelihood zones

Livestock holdings vary across the wealth groups with the very poor and poor households herd size ranging from 30-80 shoats, 3-15 cattle and 3-10 camel⁴. The main source of income for these groups include: livestock products and purchase of staple foods, food aid are major sources of food.

² FSAU – Livelihood Baseline Profile – Dawa Pastoral

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⁴ FSAU – Dawa Pastoral Livelihood Profile

The major risk or hazards facing this group were identified by the participants as drought, conflict and livestock diseases. Out of these, the participants ranked drought and livestock disease as priority.

Drought

Hazard	Causes of the Hazards	Consequences	Coping Mechanisms
Drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Failed rains in one Gu' season -Two below normal rains –Gu' and Deyr - Two failed rains (Gu' & Deyr) leads to Devastating drought - Poor distribution of rains in the region causing mass migration to few areas with normal rains - Lack of grazing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Livestock death -Poor livestock prices -Malnutrition especially for children -Destitution due to loss of assets - lack of water for both livestock and human - low livestock productivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -migrations to other regions or country where conditions are better. - Supplementary feeding for livestock with cereals from food aid and fodder bought from the riverine farmers. - sale of livestock to meet increased expenses

Livestock Disease

Main Livestock diseases identified	Predisposing factors
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Internal parasites (Gooriyan) 2. Diarrhea -(Shuban) 3. Lumpy skin disease – (4. Diif (----) shoats -- respiratory disease? 5. F & M 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of grazing combined with long trekking distance to water points -Poor forage quality

SEASONAL CALENDER AND SCENARIO BUILDING

The participants identified four seasons in a year. These are: Jiilaal, Gu', Xagaa and Deyr with each covering three months as indicated in the seasonal calendars in the annex. The participants worked on two scenarios to develop the seasonal calendar as follows:

- 1) The bad scenario: below normal Deyr rains of 2007 is followed by below normal Gu' rains
- 2) The good scenario: Gu' rains (April –May 08) is normal followed by normal Deyr rains

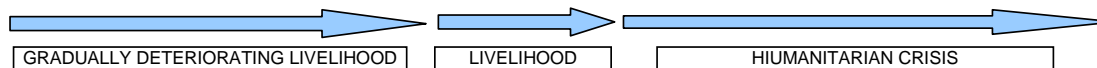
Using the parameters such as water and forage availability, livestock breeding, livestock and cereal prices, livestock migration, expected livestock mortality and proposed livelihood interventions, the participants developed the seasonal calendar that is in the table below.

2) The bad case scenario

CRITICAL POINT IN LIVELIHOOD PROTECTION



LIVELIHOOD INDICATOR	2007												2008												2009					
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Rain Amount				BELOW AVERAGE - Gu						BELOW AVERAGE - Deyr					BELOW AVERAGE - Gu rains						NORMAL Deyr rains							NORMAL - Gu rains		
Water availability	Daua river dry up							Pans/dams dry						water shortage	very poor refilling of water points					critical water shortage										
Intervention: watr trucking															x															
Intervention: rehabilitation of water points														x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	to be continued during 1 year		
Pasture	Declining/withered						Depleted			Regene rate		declining	very poor	very poor regeneration		no pasture		pasture regeneration												
Intervention: livestock feeding														x	x			x	x	x	x									
Livestock condition				Cattle declining			Sheep decline				Camels decline		very poor		critical															
Livestock death										Cattle dying			possi ble	start (cattle, sheep)	increasing mortality in all species															
Intervention: animal health												x	x																	
Livestock birth (cattle)				normal											decreased												very poor			
Milk Production			Decline except camels									declining stop	poor							almost null							very poor			
Migration	Camels migrate					cattle migrate						All species											Migrate back							
Crop Marlet Price			usual					increased				Increasing			increasing			?	?											
Maize prices			1200 Ksh					1600 Ksh					2000																	
Livestock Market Prices							low prices,						very low	no market									high prices							
Livestock vaccinations	X	X										X	X										X	X	X					
Intervention: Livestock treatments			X	X	X							X	X										x	x	X					



LIVELIHOOD INTERVENTIONS

1.0 CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR PROVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH SERVICES

Animal health interventions would address problems related to control of common killer diseases, outbreaks of notifiable diseases and disease prevention through vaccinations. Treatments would be done using either trained community based animal health workers (CAHW's) linked to reputable veterinary pharmacies or mobile veterinary teams supported by VSF-Suisse.

Details of the participants' findings are tabulated below:

Livestock disease

Livestock disease problems	Predisposing factors	Possible interventions	Stakeholders	Roles of stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal parasites (Gooriyan) Diarrhea (Shubaan) Shoats (Diif, Diarhea, Pox and CCPP) Cattle (BQ, LSD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hunger Lack of drugs Long trek to water sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get the right drugs for the disease prevailing at the time Contingency plan in place before April Water trucking for core weak animals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NGOs. Local authority Local NGOs Women groups Youth groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> funding for drought interventions security implementation of project activities Community mobilization support to the different groups

1.1 Budget (Based on PEI II treatment figures 2006-2007)

ITEM	Type of drug required	Unit cost of treating one animal (\$).	Number of animals	Estimated costs in USD
DEWORMING				
Deworming sheep and goats	Albendazole drench 10% 1 liter @ 600	0.03	156,000	4,680.00
Deworming cattle	Albendazole drench 10% 1 liter @ 601	0.15	15,000	2,250.00
Deworming camels	Ivermectin 1% ,100 mls	1.14	5,350	6,099.00
Sub total			176,350	13,029
ECTOPARASITES				
Sheep (5%)	Ivermectin 1% ,100 mls	0.16	7,800	1248
Goats (30%)	Ivermectin 1% ,100 mls	0.16	46,800	7488
Cattle (50%)	Ivermectin 1% ,100 mls	0.64	7,500	4800
Camel (50%)	Ivermectin 1% ,100 mls	1.14	2,675	3049.5
Sub total			64,775	16,586
TREATMENT OF LIVESTOCK AGAINST OPPORTUNISTIC DISEASES				
Treatment of sheep and goats against infectious diseases (5%)	Oxytetracycline 20% LA	0.08	54,600	4,368
Treatment of cattle against infectious diseases. (5%)	Oxytetracycline 20% LA	0.65	7,500	4,875
Treatment Of Camels Against infectious diseases (5%)	Oxytetracycline 20% LA	0.65	2,675	1,739
Sub total			64,775	10,982
Total cost of treatments			305,900	40,596.25
VACCINATIONS				
vaccination of sheep and goats against infectious diseases	5 % of shoats will be vaccinated.	Variuos	62,100	3100
Treatment of cattle against infectious diseases (Black-	6 % of cattle will be vaccinated.	various	7,500	2500
Treatment Of Camels Against infectious diseases	7 % of camels will be vaccinated.	various	2,675	
Total cost of vaccinations			72,275	5600
VETERINARY TEAM				
Budget line	Position	Rate per month	Duration in months	Total cost
Perdiem for personnel	Team leader	450.00	2	900.00
	AHA- Vaccinator	350.00	2	700.00
	AHA- Vaccinator	350.00	2	700.00
	AHA- Vaccinator	350.00	2	700.00
	Recorder	350.00	2	700.00
	Hired team car	1300	2	2,600.00
	Supervision car	1300	2.5	3,250.00
	Cold chain cost	250	2	500.00
Sub total				10,050.00
GRAND TOTAL				56,246.25

2.0 CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR FODDER PRODUCTION

2.1 Context analysis

Dolow is an arid district with erratic rainfall. Average annual rainfall range between 300- 500 mm per annum but these rains are erratic both in its temporal and spatial distribution. Frequent drought is a common phenomenon and over the years the frequency and severity of this natural hazard has increased. This has in turn weakened the coping mechanisms of the

local pastoralists' population. According to the local pastoralists a mild drought occurs every 2-3 years in the region while a severe drought sweeps across the region every decade. The last severe drought was experienced from 2004-2006.

Grazing conditions in the district have also deteriorated partly due to the cyclic drought and also due to the increasing pressure on the land by expanding population. This means that when ever a drought occurs, the existing grazing resources are depleted very fast leading to livestock mortality due to starvation and opportunistic diseases. As a coping strategy to drought pastoralists migrate both within their borders and across the international borders in search of pastures but widespread drought in the region have curtailed this option. Thus, in every drought that is experienced in the district, pastoral households lose their livestock particularly cattle and sheep and goats. Those families who are severely affected are forced to drop out of the pastoral system becoming destitute.

This district is endowed with two rivers that provide a huge potential for fodder production, which if properly exploited can save livestock population during drought. Riverine agriculture along these two rivers is on-going and farmers produce some fodder for sale but not adequate to satisfy increased demand especially during drought. Maize and cowpeas are the main fodder crops grown and sold in the local market depending on demand.

Though the main economic activity in the district is pastoralism (70%), the huge potential for irrigated fodder production has not been exploited to satisfy increased demand for fodder during drought period. During periods of fodder shortage, people buy cereals for their livestock, which is quite expensive making livestock compete with human for the limited household food

2.2 Objectives

2.2.1 Goal

- Reduce livestock mortality during drought

2.2.2 Specific Objectives

- Avail fodder in the market for pastoralists Households to purchase during periods of fodder shortage
- Enhance the capacity of Dolow farmers cooperative (DFCS) and Moonlight Development Association (MODA) to grow and stock fodder for use during drought period
- Promote irrigated fodder production and conservation both as an emergency intervention and as a drought preparedness strategy in the district

2.3 Proposed Activities

The main activity proposed here is irrigated fodder production along the Juba and Dawa Rivers. This activity will be implemented by Dolow farmers Cooperative Society (DFCS) and Moonlight Development Association (MODA) with funding from the ELMT project.

The activities are divided into two, those implemented by ELMT project and those implemented by partner organizations or sub-grantees.

ELMT Project:

- CARE Somalia and VSF-Suisse will train partner LINGO staff on fodder production, preservation, utilization and supply system. The trainings will be complimented with practical field demonstrations in land preparation, planting, harvesting and bailing of fodder.
- Supervision and monitoring of partner activities
- Funding the sub-grantees to implement proposed activities.

The partners will do the following:

- Contract riverine farmers to grow fodder species such as Sudan and Columbus
- Buy the fodder from these farmers and establish a fodder bank in their area of operation.
- Train selected farmers in fodder production, conservation and marketing
- Sale fodder to pastoralist during the drought periods at a profit and ensure there is always fodder available in the market.
- From the proceeds of the fodder establish a revolving fund for fodder production in their area.

2.4 Triggers

These activities will be a continuous process but will be stepped up during Alert stage of the early warning and will be triggered by the following events

- Failure of either Gu' or Deyr rains or two below normal rains
- Early warning information indicate deterioration of pasture conditions in the district
- Poor animal body condition especially cattle, sheep and goats.
- Mass cross border livestock movement in search of pastures and water
- Drop in milk production- when the milk production in sheep and goats and cattle drop by half

2.4 Budget

DFCS

	ITEM	Quantity	Total cost (USD)
1.	Personnel expenses	3 field assistants X USD 300 x 10 months 1 account assistant x 300 x 10 months	9,000 3000
2.	Office/communication expense	Lump sum 300/month x 10 months	3000
3.	Purchase of fodder from farmers	3,500 bails x \$ 5	17,500
4.	Transport (vehicle rent)	One vehicle -10 days/month x \$ 70 for 10 months (including fuel)	7000
5.	Purchase of seeds	104 acres -1040 kg x 2 USD	2080
6.	Bailing boxes	30 boxes x 20 USD	600
7.	Sisal ropes for bailing fodder	350 rolls x \$ 5	1750
8.	Training of farmers in fodder production & conservation	73 farmers x 20 USD X 3 sessions	4380
		Total	48,310

2.5 Strategy

The ELMT project will select sub-grantees to implement the above project in the district and fund their proposal based on this activity. The sub-grantees will work with the local farmers in the district to grow and conserve fodder for livestock in the district. They will contract interested riverine farmers to grow fast growing grass species like Sudan and Columbus grasses and purchase from them and supply the market with fodder. The proceeds from the sale will provide a revolving fund for them to continue with fodder production and conservation in their area of operation.

2.6 Role of stakeholders

Stakeholder	Responsibility
Sub-grantees DFCS & MODA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Selection of interested farmers to engage in fodder production- training of farmers in fodder production and conservation- Marketing of fodder- Conflict resolution arising from the activity
District Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Security issues-Conflict resolution- Monitoring and evaluation-Sensitization of the community in fodder production-Support to farmers and the NGOs in the implementation of the activity
CARE Somalia & VSF-SUISSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Funding of the activity- Training in Fodder production and conservation- Monitoring and evaluation
Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Growing of fodder

3.0 CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR WATER TRUCKING

3.1 Context

Dolow district of Somalia is endowed with two rivers, Dawa and Juba Rivers. Dawa River flows for nine months and remain dry from mid-January to early April every year. In addition to these two Rivers, the district has also few hand dug wells that provide water during normal seasons of the year.

Water availability is a critical factor that influences livestock migration, forage availability and pattern of use, and pattern and spread of livestock in the district. During drought period livestock are concentrated along the two rivers while during the rainy season, livestock move to every corner of the district for grazing.

Pastoralism is the main economic activity in the district accounting for over 70% of the populations' livelihood. Unavailability of forage, water and long trekking distances to water points normally result in livestock mortality during the drought period. During such periods, forage is only available in areas which are over 15 km from nearest water points. To reduce

livestock mortality and save livelihoods during drought, it important to support water trucking to designated areas.

Water Sector interventions.

Water for livestock	Predisposing factors	Possible interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water sources dry up. • Dams and pans are silted. • Water becomes too salty for livestock. • Where there is pasture there is no water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of watering livestock too high. • Depressed purchasing power of pastoralists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water trucking for both livestock and humans to distant areas with some grazing • Rehabilitate some shallow wells and dams

3.2 Objectives

3.2.1 Goal: To reduce livestock mortality during drought

3.2.2 Specific Objectives

- To provide emergency water to pastoralists' households and their core livestock herd with acute water scarcity for a period of at least two months during the droughts.

3.3 Proposed Activities

- a. Once early warning information is received carry out field assessment on water availability and the conditions of forage in the district and come up with a report to guide interventions.
- b. Water tankering
 - Designate some specific areas for the activity
 - Purchase plastic water storage tanks and place them in the designated areas where water will be supplied.
 - Hire water boowers to supply water to the designated areas.
- c. Identify beneficiaries in each area and amount of water required and frequency of supply
- d. Form a committee to oversee the distribution of the water to the beneficiaries and ensure the safety of the plastic water tanks.
- e. Rehabilitate some shallow wells

3.4 Triggers

- Poor livestock body condition
- Distance to water points exceeds 10 km
- Availability of grazing

Budget

	Item	Quantity	Total Cost (USD)
1.	Initial assessment	2 officers x 5 days Vehicle rental	2 x 5 days x \$ 20 = \$ 200 5 days x \$ 70/day = \$ 350
2.	Purchase of plastic tanks	5 tanks	5 tanks x \$ 2000 = 10,000
3.	Hire of water bowsers for water tankering	Hire of water bowsers For 2 months Cost of water	180 trips x \$ 100= \$ 18,000 180 trips x \$ 20 = 360
4.	Monitoring	3 people will do for 9 days Vehicle rental	3 x 9 days x \$ 20 = \$ 540 9 days x \$ 70 = \$630
		Total	\$ 30,080

Role of stakeholders

Stakeholder	Responsibility
LNGOs	- Field assessments - water trucking - Monitoring and evaluation - Conflict resolution arising from the activity
Local community	- Elect committee to supervise the activity - Ensure security of the tanks - Identification of beneficiaries
District Authority	-Security issues -Conflict resolution - Monitoring and evaluation
Donors	- Funding of the activity - Field assessment and selection of sites for water supply - Monitoring and evaluation

ANNEX 1 – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

	Name	Organization
1.	Adan Bare	Dolow District Authority
2.	Maalin Mohamed Mohamoud	Gedweyne District Authority
3.	Maalin Xassan Ali Abdille	Gedweyne District Authority
4.	Omar Daud Maloow	MODA
5.	Abdi Xussein Abdirahman	Gedweyne District Authority
6.	Mohamed Sheikh Dubow	DFCS
7.	Mahat Diriye Xassan	ASEP
8.	Sheikh Mayow	Community Elder
9.	Noor Xassan Filig	DFCS
10.	Abdirizak Farah Sheikh	CEDA
11.	Ibrahim Abdinasir Naadiyo	MODA
12.	Abdullahi Habarwa	Gedweyne District Authority
13.	Afjar Mohamoud Xassan	Tawakal village chief
14.	Diire Abdille Guleid	Community elder
15.	Anab Abdi Abdullahi	ELMAN
16.	Fatuma Abdi Adan	DAWO
17.	Farax Mohamed Abdille	Chief Tula Qaloc
18.	Abdi Ibrahim Adan	Community elder
19.	Adan Farah Dhuhul	Community elder
20.	Ibrahim Abukar Ali	Dolow District Authority
21.	Xanshi Omar Shaiye	Village Chief
22.	Sankus Omar Shaiye	Community elders
23.	Xawo Abdi Abdirahman	DFCS
24.	Xidayo Ali Gure	Women Group
25.	Ibrahim Kala Alio	VSF-Suisse
26.	Ahmed Warsame Guleid	VSF-Suisse
27.	Dr. Dan Owuor	VSF-Suisse
28.	Dr. Martin Nyamweya	VSF-Suisse
29.	Ibrahim Mohamed Nur	CARE Somalia
30.	Xussein Abdi Ciise	Community elder