

**FINAL REPORT FOR:  
THE EVALUATION OF ISLAMIC RELIEF'S GLOBAL HUNGER PREVENTION AND  
RESPONSE PROGRAMME.**

*Prepared for:*



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## IRW REPORT OUTLINE

### 1.0. BACKGROUND

#### 1.1. Title of Report:

**EVALUATION OF ISLAMIC RELIEF'S GLOBAL HUNGER PREVENTION & RESPONSE PROGRAMME**

#### 1.2. Consultancy organisation and any partner names.

**PAN AFRICAN RESEARCH SERVICES LIMITED**

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#### 1.4. Period during which the evaluation was undertaken.

The evaluation period for the Global Hunger Prevention Response programme-GHPR began on 11th Sept 2022 which was the final date for submission of proposal evaluation bid, going through the consultant interviews and selection to the (12th -14th Sept 2022), inception meeting, desk review, and In Person Lessons Learned Workshop (18th-20th Oct 2022). Training of country data collection teams was conducted virtually by Evaluation Team (ET). The Kenyan team was the first to be trained on 17th November 2022 followed by the Sudan team on 24th November 2022. The Somalia team (Somaliland) was trained in person in Hargeisa on 28th November 2022. Trainings for the South Sudan, Ethiopia and Niger data collection teams were conducted by the Country Offices due to some financial and network coverage challenges in the targeted areas. Analysis of evaluation data first commenced with literature review which was also set to be done throughout the evaluation period while analysis for the primary data was done on a rolling basis as data was received from the country offices. The submission of the first draft to IRW was on 25th Jan 2023 while the presentation of the initial findings to IR Country Office (CO) teams & IRW & final report submission to IRW- March 2023.

#### 1.5. Acknowledgements.

The ET wishes to express its appreciation for guidance and support provided throughout the evaluation by the IRW Head Office team: Claire Bedwell Thomas and Deqa Saleh. In addition, special thanks go to all Islamic Relief's management and staff at the CO and Field Office (FOs), as well as to those from HQ, Regional Directors who made themselves available for interviews and for the support and cooperation offered. Thanks to all service providers, community agents, and community health workers for their input. The cooperation of officials of the respective government, at National, Federal, Regional and County levels, was also invaluable to the team, and the evaluation team wish to express their gratitude to these stakeholders for their cooperation. In addition, the team also appreciates the willingness of community leaders and affected populations to provide valuable feedback that has enriched this report.

## 1.6. Abbreviations.

Table 1: Acronyms

ASAL	Arid And Semi-Arid Lands
CAHWs	Community Animal Health Workers
CLTS	Community Lead Total Sanitation
CO	Country Office
CSG	County Steering Group
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
ERPP	Emergency Response & Preparedness Plans
FAO	Food And Agricultural Organization
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FO	Field Office
FSL	Food Security And Livelihood
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network.
FNS-REPRO	Food And Nutrition Security Resilience Programme
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GHPR	Global Hunger Prevention Response
GRFC	Global Report On Food Crises
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IPC/HC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IR	Islamic Relief
IRUSA	Islamic Relief United States Of America
IRW	Islamic Relief Worldwide
KII	Key Informant Interview
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation Accountability And Learning
MEB	Minimum Expenditure Basket
MUAC	Mid Upper Arm Circumference
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NFIs	Non Food Items
OCHA	Office For The Coordination Of Humanitarian Affairs
PFBR	Preventing Famine And Building Community Resilience
PJ	Prosopis Juliflora
SADDD	Sex Age Disability Disaggregated Data
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SDSES	Service for Social Development and Economic Solidarity Service
S/GBV	Sexual And Gender Based Violence
SLPIA	Local Department of Animal Production and Industries
SHFs	Smallholder Famers
SNNP	Southern Nations, Nationalities And People's
UN	United Nations
WASH	Water Sanitation And Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme

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## 2.0. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Introduction

The high number of people facing acute food insecurity and requiring urgent food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance in a number of countries in Africa necessitated IRW to come up with the Global Hunger Prevention and Response Programme (GHPRP). This emergency programme aimed to address the hunger situations in the selected countries, and improve the lives of the beneficiaries. The purpose of this evaluation was to assess the overall performance with reference to the outcomes and outputs as well as draw lessons for future programmes, both at an individual project level as well as at an aggregate programmatic level where possible. The programme was implemented in Africa and covered eight countries – Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Niger, Mali and Madagascar.

### Methodology

Both secondary and primary methods of data collection were used when undertaking this evaluation. Secondary research involved reviewing already existing project documents, while primary research entailed qualitative key informant interviews and focus group discussions. The evaluation team used participant-oriented approaches which focused on participant ownership of the programmes such as the structures that were put up by the different country projects in addition to documentation of key lessons learnt.

This evaluation focused on 7 out of the 8 countries where the programme was implemented and thus excluded Madagascar, who's project was being implemented by Save the Children. Primary data collection was undertaken in 6 out of the 7 countries, with Mali not covered due to insecurity challenges in the country at the time of evaluation. The evaluation used the OECD/DAC Evaluation Criteria to assess the performance of the projects; with regards to their relevance, coherence, effectiveness, impact, efficiency and sustainability. The Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) was also applied to gauge the quality of the interventions and the aspects of accountability.

### Summary of Findings

#### Relevance

The GHPR programme was aligned to beneficiaries' needs as well as the government's initiatives of assisting affected populations during disasters. This is shown by looking at the extent to which the interventions' objectives & design responded to the needs of the two groups of stakeholders and how it will continue even if the state of affairs changed. This is evidenced in the evaluation as discussed below.

In **Niger**, early interruption of rains in some areas between August and September 2021 had an adverse impact on production. This led to cereal deficit in 5 of the 8 regions and reduced fodder production, making the local population vulnerable. **Ethiopia** on the other hand continued to face severe humanitarian conditions originating from conflict, climatic shocks, disease outbreaks, desert locusts and adverse effects of the then ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, which necessitated assistance to the affected population. **Sudan** was also facing rapid-onset emergencies such as floods and conflicts in the west (Darfur) and the south (South Kordofan/Blue Nile States). These were coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to other epidemics such as cholera, measles, viral hemorrhagic fevers, among others, continued to affect these regions. The people were therefore in dire need of assistance, which IRW provided. Yei River County in **South Sudan** had been engulfed by armed clashes which led to destruction of property, human rights violations and displacement of more than 2000 households in Yei town who became Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who needed the basic amenities that IRW issued.

Drought had also worsened in **Somalia** in the months preceding the project, with more than 3.2 million people in 66 out of the country's 74 districts experiencing three consecutive below average rainy seasons, making 169,000 people to abandon their homes in search of water, food and pasture. The Arid and Semi-



Arid Lands (ASAL) regions of **Kenya** experienced four back-to-back below-average rainy seasons, leading to the longest drought in the last 40 years thus leaving at least 4.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. The Gourma Rharous and Douentza circles in **Mali** were facing drought & hunger crisis. The project therefore came in to address the immediate food needs of the most susceptible households, restoring livelihoods, protecting assets and preventing undesirable coping behaviors that contributed to food insecurity.

Based on the needs summarized above, this evaluation gathered that the GHPRP was relevant to the lives of the beneficiaries who confirmed that the interventions came at the right time and addressed their most pressing needs. The programme considered vulnerable people in the community and persons of different genders and ages. According to the Country Director Kenya, inclusion of youth, women and persons with disabilities was deliberate during the household beneficiary selection process. In Somalia they used the (SADDD) Sex Age Disability Disaggregated Data to guide the selection criteria. The project had up to 20 different activities with some specifically targeted to benefit women for example the milk value chain. The programme involved several stakeholders in the implementation of its projects including governments, technical services, suppliers and vendors, community members and programme implementation teams. In Madagascar, the programme partnered with Save the Children.

### **Coherence**

Islamic Relief Worldwide's mandates include capacity building for humanitarian, education, emergency response, health, food, water and livelihood support, among others. The GHPR Programme was aligned to a number of these core themes of IRW. The whole programme was packaged as an emergency programme meant to bring immediate assistance to affected communities. This evaluation found out that there was high level cooperation and coordination within the project in the countries and regions it was implemented. The project involved different stakeholders including government, technical services providers, community leaders, community members, among others. This improved the acceptability of the programmes.

The programme undertook capacity building and training of the humanitarian aid workers, community members, and government officers in respective countries and project locations which improved the efficacy of emergency responses. There was good reception and participation of stakeholders to these initiatives. In some countries like Ethiopia, the UN usually commissions assessments together with the government; and IR Ethiopia is usually involved in these assessments. Feedback received from the IRW East Africa Regional Office shows that the regional office, as well as country offices, worked well with the different levels of government. In Kenya for instance, the project worked with the national government as well as the county governments. In Kenya, the County Steering Groups (CSGs) were essential in deciding sectoral allocations to avoid the duplication and overconcentration of resources in a particular area of intervention, whereas other areas received limited or no resources. Islamic Relief Somalia on the other hand had other already ongoing projects in Somalia, and sometimes these projects complemented the GHPR. This complementarity nature was reported in Somalia where IR Somalia was implementing the PFBR project, and the GHPR came in to complement the already ongoing interventions.

Overall, the programme was coherent with other programmes implemented by Islamic Relief, and was also in line with government efforts in the affected regions, for example the Kenyan County and National Governments had prioritized assistance to communities affected by drought through food distribution<sup>1</sup>.

### **Effectiveness**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.jambonewsnetwork.com/head-on/humanitarian/govt-supply-relief-food-to-hungry-tana-river-residents/>; <https://www.the-star.co.ke/counties/coast/2022-10-23-relief-as-state-rolls-out-food-distribution-in-tana-river-county/>



The programme was effective in the execution of its interventions. This evaluation found that the various country projects had met most of their targets. The programme undertook cash transfer in a number of countries providing beneficiaries with cash to enable them purchase basic items like food. Interviews with beneficiaries in the project countries confirmed that all of them received the right amount of money as had been communicated. In some countries like Ethiopia, money was transferred via banks, others used cash at hand, while others received the money via mobile transfer (Kenya). The programme implemented cash programming by transferring conditional and unconditional cash to a number of vulnerable beneficiaries including 500 households in Ethiopia, 3,600 beneficiaries in Mali, 2,500 beneficiaries in Kenya, 1,400 households in Sudan, and 1000 households in Somalia. These were either through cash transfer or ‘cash for work initiative where community members would undertake some activities as assigned by the programme, and get paid at the end of the activities. All beneficiaries stated that they received the right amount of cash.

The GHPRP also undertook livelihood activities whereby projects in South Sudan and Mali distributed food packs to affected communities, reaching 1,880 acutely food insecure IDPs and host community households in South Sudan overachieving by 680, and 4,800 persons across 800 households in Mali, as per the project target. The programme also supported crop production whereby farmers in Kenya, Sudan, Somalia, South Sudan and Mali received training on good agricultural practices. In addition, the different projects supplied farm inputs including seeds and tools to farmers. In Kenya, the project trained 150 met the target (150 farmers) farmers, and assisted farmers to put up 3 food storage facilities (granaries) where they could safely store their produce after harvest, for future usage. A total of 50 farmers were trained in Sudan as per the target, and 500 in South Sudan. A total of 4,308 farmers in Somalia (met the target), benefitted from farm inputs, while 500 (target met) benefitted in South Sudan. The project in Mali rehabilitated 5 vegetable gardens thereby achieving the planned target.

The programme likewise undertook livestock intervention initiatives, aimed at protecting the livelihoods of the target populations. The different country projects in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Somalia and Mali, conducted training with the pastoralists and government officials like community animal health extension workers. In Ethiopia, the project targeted and supported 400 pastoralist households with animal health treatment services through voucher-based approaches meeting a target of reaching a 1000 HHs ; in Kenya the project reached a total of 1,023 households with 195,759 animal vaccinations (met the target -80%); in Sudan, the project distributed 3 goats for each affected family, & targeted and achieved shoat restocking to 780 households; the project in Somalia managed to meet its targeted 1,998 households who benefitted from livestock fodder distribution; & in Mali, the project distributed 3 small ruminants per household for restocking, whereby in total 600 animals were issued to 200 women beneficiaries (met the target).

In terms of health and nutrition, the project in Ethiopia, the project reached 60 government health extension workers and health workers (including IR nutrition staff) with Family MUAC training, consequently achieving the set targets. The project also reached 300 community members with nutrition messages. In Sudan, the project did food processing training whereby 50 people out of a target of 50, took part. Overall, the project in Sudan managed to improve the knowledge, attitude and practices of 1,000 households in nutrition good practices. The project in Niger distributed infant flour to 2000 at-risk children, as per the project set targets; while the project in Mali trained women volunteers in the community on malnutrition screening, reaching a total of 220 women out of the targeted 200. The Mali project also screened a total of 2,550 children to check malnutrition levels, and referred the malnourished for treatment. The project in South Sudan trained at least ten women in each community on how to prepare locally available foods including foods for the children, and the beneficiaries confirmed that they had put the learnings into practice. In other regions like Niger, the project conducted education on hygiene and food preparation demonstrations for the locally available foods.



The programme similarly undertook WASH interventions in different project locations which included construction and rehabilitation of water sources, training on good sanitation and hygiene practices. The project in Kenya met its target of constructing 4 underground tanks and rehabilitating 8 strategic boreholes to help the community address the water challenge which was affecting 1,200 households, who managed to benefit from the initiative. In South Sudan, the project undertook hygiene awareness sessions with the community members and managed to reach 11,859 beneficiaries out of the targeted 7,200 with hygiene key messages. The project in South Sudan also improved this by distributing latrine slabs to those who were sharing latrines, and building/ renovating the latrine structures that were destroyed. By the end of the project, 376 out of 350 households received hygiene tools. In Somalia, the project put up water kiosks thereby managing to reach 4,308 persons who could access the rehabilitated water facilities. In Niger, the project also installed 4 multi-purpose solar powered water supply systems supplied with a 120m borehole, with a 20 cubic meter tank to collect water before distribution; while in Mali, the project planned for and constructed 2 micro dams for water harvesting and rice production, in addition to rehabilitating 3 water ponds through cash for work initiative.

The programme likewise implemented other activities touching on other thematic areas like disaster risk reduction, climate change, peace and cohesion, protection, and vocational training for youth. These have been covered under the effectiveness section in the main report.

On monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEAL), the evaluation found that IRW has an active MEAL System in place and all countries involved in Cash Transfer, conducted post distribution monitoring (PDM) after each round of cash distribution. The programme also conducted situational analyses in a number of countries, in addition to periodic monitoring and review of the project activities. The evaluation found out that some countries (Mali/Niger) had challenges when it came to MEAL officers who had to supervise many activities that were implemented in different regions resulting in levels of monitoring not being sufficient as desired.

### **Efficiency**

The projects experienced some delays in the undertaking of activities, however, this did not affect the overall timelines for the projects. Some delays that were noted included the receipt of cash at bank which resulted in beneficiaries having to make long queues. There were also delays in getting government approvals for the programmes, for instance in South Sudan; in addition to supplier's vendors' delay to supply. The projects were efficient in the use of the budget, as many of the countries and interventions finalized their activities within the set budgets. The Mali project amounted to \$ 897,000 which was efficiently budgeted and used. This was also the case with Somalia (\$ 711,705), Niger (\$ 722,820), South Sudan (\$ 762,000), Sudan (\$ 776,000), Kenya (\$445,000), Ethiopia (\$ 440,750) – which was 96% utilized at the time of evaluation, as some activities were still being implemented.

### **Impact**

Measuring impact for short-term projects like the GHPR Programme is not usually easy since the interventions are implemented over a short period which limits effective measurement of their impact. However, this evaluation noted some developments that could be impactful in the long run. Through the cash transfer initiatives, some beneficiaries had started income generating activities which could improve their income situation in the long run. From the WASH initiatives that the project implemented, the projects reported reduced sicknesses in the project locations, reduced harassment of women and girls including GBV associated incidences since women and girls did not have to travel long distances to access water which reduced their exposure to harm. Nutrition interventions including cooking demonstrations helped improve the health of malnourished children, which will likely improve as more community members benefit from

the trainings from their fellow beneficiaries. Livestock interventions like restocking, vaccinations and fodder distribution helped the beneficiaries maintain their livelihoods and reduced use of negative coping strategies. The project likewise trained farmers and issued them with farm inputs to improve their production. This evaluation found that some of these farmers have commenced production and are knowledgeable on the different farming techniques including storage of produce, which will enable the beneficiaries to have food for longer periods compared to before.

### **Sustainability**

Though an emergency programme implemented within a short timeframe, the programme incorporated activities with promising sustainability in its design. The GHPR leadership was working closely to see how IR country Offices were working with the communities, the kind of structures that the project was setting up and to make sure that these interventions get long lasting effects to the community for example the water interventions. The water management committees were to be set up with roles of ensuring they take care of the water structures established by the programme through maintenance, training of the community members on the benefits of maintaining those structures by levying small fees that could be used to repair the structures in case of damage. These committees were to be from the community and the knowledge passed to them was to be retained in the community by training the next group of committee officials.

Another element of sustainability that the project was putting emphasis on was the community ownership of the structures such as the water kiosks, micro dams structures, solar panels for pumping water, the manual briquette maker etc.

Provision of seeds to farmers and training them was also an aspect of making sure that the community was equipped with long lasting solutions to their problems of food insecurity. The linkage between the smallholder farmers and the extension officers including the community level agricultural extension workers are able to support sustainability.

The MUAC training passed down to the mothers in the community means that the activity in itself is very sustainable in that even after the project ended in Ethiopia, mothers were still carrying out these MUAC measurements courtesy of the knowledge that was passed down to them through the training by the government health officers who were also in fact trained on the same.

In Somalia the capacity building provided to communities, the WASH-water management committee and milk value chai interventions are sustainable.

### **Recommendations**

#### **At programme level**

1. Persistent drought means that communities continue to be in need of assistance thus continued support to the community is required through additional funding.
2. Future programs should consider medium to long term project periods (3 to 5 years) as well as additional funding to enable implementation of DRR component for all the programs because all countries that were selected were experiencing some sort of disasters, e.g. drought and/or flooding
3. Digitization of the MEAL system at Islamic Relief is required in order to aid in faster decision making especially due to the emergency humanitarian interventions.
4. There should be consideration of underlying inflation rates when determining the expenditure basket and providing an allowance for increase of allocated amounts per beneficiary over the project period especially for cash transfer programming.
5. Capacity building should continue to be provided to government staff as it will enable them to be better prepared to respond to the emerging needs of the communities as well as build on sustainability.

6. The evaluation found out that there was inadequate reach of the population in the countries where the project was implemented due to the widespread devastation that communities were facing. So to enable the programme to reach more beneficiaries there was a need for additional funding to be able to reach more beneficiaries.

### **Recommendations at project/ country level**

#### **Ethiopia**

1. The fifth consecutive rainy season was failing (October – December 2022), and drought continued to affect vulnerable communities. This indicates that communities were still in dire need of assistance post the project period which would also need additional funding.
2. Multi-sectoral approach to address animal health, feed and water for livestock to protect the core breeding animals is required urgently. Additionally, supplementary feeding programmes should be designed in line with those of project activities (e.g. providing animal feeds to lactating goats/cows, who then provide milk to the family). The supplementary feeding for lactating goats/cows can have the dual impact of protecting pastoralists' children and their animals against drought-induced starvation and associated consequences including mortality and poor productivity.
3. Future nutrition interventions should adequately avail all the necessary nutrition products, routine/secondary drugs, provide logistic support, in order for the interventions to be effective in addressing malnutrition.
4. Large scale humanitarian support remains an imminent and urgent need considering food, water trucking, nutrition, health and psychosocial support. Urgent preposition and readiness for the coming extended drought and post drought consequences through staff capacity, logistic capacity and resources mobilization such as Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Non-food items (NFIs), Oral rehydration solutions (ORS), strong Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) programming with Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP) (+routine medications) and Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPC) are recommended.
5. When the animals were treated, they stopped dying in large numbers therefore if the project could supplement this with animal feed, the community would have gotten more in terms of milk and greater value when selling animals. So, the project should consider including animal feeds distribution in its future activities.

#### **Kenya**

1. The drought has worsened due to the failure of 4 consecutive rainy seasons as fears of a failed 5th season persist. The community has lost their livelihoods and vital economic assets as a result of negative coping mechanisms. This calls for design and implementation of a long-term resilience programme especially on climate smart interventions to help the community recover from the loss and adapt a more positive coping mechanisms in such climatic shocks.
2. A recommendation is also made for NDMA (Kenya) to carry out proper data collection and storage such that whenever there is an intervention, the data is readily available for use. This will reduce the time taken to conduct assessments before interventions take place.

#### **Mali**

1. Advocacy with the government on decision making should be organized to ensure that the commitment of coaching communities continues.
2. The project staff who assisted in the implementation of the project in Mali should be deployed to new/ other IR Mali projects in order to retain expertise and knowledge.



### **Somalia**

1. The project could look at scaling up the interventions to sustain the communities in the long-term over extreme food insecurity challenges.
2. The project in collaboration with the government should in future, put demarcations on sprayed regions and effectively educate the community on what regions to graze, after what periods succeeding the spray.
3. The good practices should be replicated in future programming.

### **South Sudan**

1. There is a need to increase water supply for domestic and agricultural production through construction of irrigation schemes, rehabilitation of non-functional boreholes, flashing/disinfection of contaminated boreholes within the county to cater for the community's needs.
2. There should be a follow up phase of the project focusing on resilience and economic recovery. This will enable households to reduce food insecurity and increase household income.
3. Future projects should link farmers to soil testing centers to enable them know their soil profiles and also be able to identify appropriate crops to plant in each area.

### **Niger**

1. Advocacy should be organized within the government decision making to ensure that the commitment of coaching the communities continues.
2. The project staff who assisted in the implementation of the project should be deployed to new/ other Islamic Relief Niger projects in order to retain expertise and knowledge.
3. The IR Niger Office should consider employing more personnel especially in the MEAL department to ease the burden of the MEAL officers to travel long distances in order to work on various project activities.

### **Sudan**

1. For projects like the GHPRP, a longer implementation period should be considered to ensure it meets its intended objectives and allow for measurement of impact especially in the context of fragile countries like Sudan which are facing security issues, economic challenges and political instability.
2. Sudan is one of the African countries that is severely affected by climate change resulting in phenomena such as droughts and floods crises. As such, new projects should consider research on the effects of the new phenomena associated with the climatic changes on the agriculture and livestock sectors. This can be done through building capacity and supporting research studies as part of the Global Hunger Prevention project.
3. Indigenous tools and knowledge should be utilized while encouraging the reliance and adaptation for food security and livelihoods.
4. Project to look at ways of supporting all who undergo vocational training with kits to undertake their work.
5. The project in future when working on agricultural interventions should consider working with the Ministry of Agriculture to avoid distribution of seeds that are not suited for the area such as the watermelon which were pest-ridden.
6. Future projects should tighten the procurement system including carrying out extensive due diligence on suppliers to ensure those selected have the capacity to deliver before awarding them a contract to avoid failure of delivery as was witnessed during the project implementation.

### 3.0. MAIN REPORT

#### 3.1. Introduction

The number of people affected by hunger globally rose to as many as 828 million in 2021 which was an increase by 46 million from the previous year (2020).<sup>2</sup> The report by the World Food Programme (WFP) in June 2021 cautioned that up to 41 million people in 43 countries were at a looming risk of famine. Almost 600,000 individuals in Ethiopia, Madagascar, South Sudan and Yemen and in some parts of Nigeria and Burkina Faso were also experiencing famine-like conditions. The number of people facing acute food insecurity and requiring exigent food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance was rising rapidly in 2021, and this was worsened by the conflict befalling some of the countries, climate change and economic shocks, and was exacerbated by the effects of Covid-19 pandemic.

Food insecurity continued to be a universal menace according to the global report published on Food Crisis 2022 Mid-year Update and continued to worsen. According to the recently published Global Report, up to 205 million people were expected to face acute food insecurity and to be in need of urgent assistance (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above or equivalent) in 45 countries. If additional data from the latest available analysis of 2021 is included for 8 countries and territories, this number is estimated to reach up to 222 million people in 53 countries/territories covered by the GRFC 2022. This was the highest number recorded in the seven-year history of the report. In addition, around 45 million people in 37 countries were also projected to have very little to eat that they would be severely malnourished, at risk of death or already facing starvation and death (IPC/CH Phase 4 and above). This included 970 000 people projected to face Catastrophic conditions (IPC/CH Phase 5) in 2022, if no action was taken. Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia and Yemen remained at the highest alert level, as they all had populations facing or projected to face starvation (Catastrophe, IPC Phase 5) or at risk of deterioration towards catastrophic conditions as they had already critical food insecurity (Emergency, IPC Phase 4).<sup>3</sup>

In line with an earlier analysis by the WFP and FAO, countries were selected by the review panel to be considered as part of this submission to IRUSA. Therefore, Global Hunger Prevention and Response Programme evaluation was commissioned by Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW), in line with the organization's obligation to learning and accountability to communities and partners. To guarantee that the funding was to be best utilised taking into attention of the capacity, programmes and needs required, a process was started to invite appropriate countries to develop models that defined the amount of money they required and what, how it would be utilised. A review board involving experts in disaster risk management, emergency food security and livelihoods and overall programmes assessed the applications and determined the funding and allocations per country. These countries were to be part of the WFP and FAO analysis flagged in the August to November 2021 Outlook:

The purpose of the evaluation was to assess overall performance with reference to the outcomes and outputs as well as draw lessons for future programmes, both at an individual project level as well as at combined programmatic level. The evaluation took a reflection of the OECD/DAC Evaluation Criteria to assess the performance of the projects. An assessment on the implementation of the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) was also applied to gauge the quality of the interventions and the aspects of accountability. The countries selected included: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan from Eastern Africa and Mali

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<https://www.who.int/news/item/06-07-2022-un-report--global-hunger-numbers-rose-to-as-many-as-828-million-in-2021>

<sup>3</sup> Hunger Hotspots: FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity, October 2022 to January 2023 Outlook



and Niger from West Africa. Madagascar was also selected by IRW though it is a non-IR country and engaged through Save the Children Madagascar in partnership with the TOMPY association.

The evaluation looked at the successes of the project and the programme to assess whether the interventions were relevant, coherent, effective, efficient and also assessed elements of sustainability besides evaluating the longer term impact. The following were the specific objectives that guided the evaluation:

1. Evaluate the appropriateness of the project interventions, approaches, and methodology.
2. Assess the effectiveness and relevance of the project interventions.
3. Evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness & impact of the projects in light of the overall project goal, specific objective, and results.
4. Assess the socio-economic changes/effects in the lives of targeted households as a result of project interventions and change and implementation of government policies.
5. Evaluate the potential for sustainability of project results, impact, and approach at different levels (household level, community level, and organization level).
6. Examine the effectiveness and impact of mainstreaming issues, including gender, disability, child rights and protection.
7. Examine the effectiveness and impact of the cash modalities used.
8. Identify lessons learned and good practices of the project to inform both IRW and the country teams' future response and the wider sector.

### 3.2. Methodology

PARS adopted a participatory, consultative and collaborative approach and ensured inclusion of all programme stakeholders, in carrying out the evaluation. The findings were then triangulated by using mixed methods of collecting data and putting in place strategies to substantiate & validate the data through the generation of evidence. Thus, both secondary (literature review) and primary (qualitative) methods of data collection were used when undertaking this evaluation. The evaluation team used the participant-oriented approach to focus on participant ownership of the programmes such as the structures that were put in place by the programmes, and also documentation of key lessons learnt. The evaluation was carried out in 3 major phases namely:

- Inception Phase
- Field Investigation Phase
- Synthesis and Feedback Phase.

#### 3.2.1. Inception Phase

A kick-off and inception meeting was held between Islamic Relief Worldwide and PARS Research on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The agenda of the meeting was:

- Introducing the teams that would support the evaluation process.
- Consensus on documents for desk review to be provided by IRW
- Sharing of the documents to be reviewed.
- Timelines for receipt of the inception report and evaluation tools from PARS (1st Dec 2022)
- Planning & execution of the programmes lessons learned workshop in Nairobi (18th-20th Oct 2022)

Desk review commenced at this phase and continued concurrently with the subsequent field investigation and synthesis phases. The secondary data complemented the data collected from the field; thereby enabling triangulation of findings. Key documents that were reviewed included but were not limited to:

- ✓ Project Proposal Templates.
- ✓ Project budgets.
- ✓ Country project documents.

- ✓ Monitoring reports.
- ✓ Baseline surveys.
- ✓ Needs assessment reports.
- ✓ PDM reports.
- ✓ Rightful Shareholders targeting criteria.
- ✓ MEAL Plans
- ✓ End line surveys

The deliverable for this stage was an inception report, and data collection tools which were developed by the evaluation team, and submitted to IRW for review and input. The feedback received from IRW was incorporated into the final tools, before they were submitted to the IRW-GHPR team for approval.

### 3.2.2. Lessons Learned Workshop

A 3-day lessons learnt workshop was held at The Monarch Hotel in Nairobi from the 18<sup>th</sup> of October to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The workshop was attended by different IRW teams including from the IRW headquarters office; Regional officials; different country teams including from Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Niger, Mali, Sudan, South Sudan and Madagascar. The Madagascar team was represented by Save the Children who IRW partnered with to implement the project in the country. The research consultants (PARS) were part of the workshop and designed the workshop agenda in collaboration with IRW. The workshop looked at how the different country teams had implemented their different projects, and the lessons they had learned in the process of implementation. The workshop also provided suggestions and recommendations for implementing future projects, which have been included in this evaluation report.

### 3.2.3. Field Investigation Phase

The data collection phase started upon approval of the inception report and tools by IRW and IR Country teams. As per the plan developed at inception, PARS was to visit two countries (Somalia/Somaliland; and Mali) to undertake data collection; while the IR country teams were to assist in collecting data in the remaining five countries (Ethiopia., Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, and Niger). PARS undertook data collection in Somalia/Somaliland, however, due to uncertainty and political unrest in Mali following France's announcement of its suspension of development aid to Mali,<sup>4</sup> in person field work in the country was canceled. The evaluation team thus relied on secondary data and insights presented during the lessons learnt workshop in Nairobi to inform the report on Mali.

Primary data collection in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, and Niger, were undertaken by the IR country teams; but managed by PARS remotely. PARS in addition conducted key informant interviews in these five countries remotely, while IR country teams physically conducted FGDs and some KIIs, and provided transcripts/notes to PARS evaluation team.

### Qualitative Data Collection

Qualitative approaches entailed conducting Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with IRW staff, IR regional staff, IR country office leads in the six countries, as well as state and non-state actors who had been engaged in the project implementation and other project stakeholders. Focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted with the projects' rights holders/ beneficiaries in the six countries.

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<sup>4</sup> The transitional government decided to prohibit, with immediate effect, activities carried out by NGOs operating in Mali with funding or with material or technical support from France, including in the humanitarian field.



Table 2: Samples Achieved

Category	KIIs	FGDs
IRW HQ	4	-
Sudan	10	15
Ethiopia	10	7
Kenya	8	6
Somalia	10	12
Niger	8	8
South Sudan	9	8
<b>Total Sample achieved</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>56</b>

A full breakdown of the KII and FGD participants can be found in [Persons Participating in the Review Annex](#).

#### 3.2.4. Synthesis

Qualitative data and analysis was done using content analysis which involved generating themes from the interview transcripts and available secondary data. Gridding was also done to the transcripts to compare how different respondents answered the same questions thus picking out the similarities and differences.

#### 3.2.5. Challenges/ limitations of the evaluation

- 1) Network connectivity that was experienced in most project locations made it difficult for the consultant to conduct data collection training for the research assistants in most countries except for Kenya, Somalia and Sudan. The evaluation team therefore conducted virtual trainings with the country teams in South Sudan, Niger and Ethiopia, who were involved in data collection; and issued the teams with training materials for training the data collection personnel.
- 2) Given most IR Country office teams had not set aside the budget for this evaluation, it was very challenging to organize and conduct and oversee the data collection especially for the FGDs and the KIIs that the evaluation team (ET) was not able to conduct. This in return delayed the process of report writing as the ET was not able to come to a conclusion regarding some countries that had not submitted their data. For instance, Ethiopia submitted their data very late when the office had closed for the Christmas festivals.
- 3) The evaluation activities also peaked towards the end of the year and this is the period most Country Office teams were finalizing on their activities so the staff were a bit busy. This really affected planning especially when required to attend for the KIIs or follow up for the data from the field.
- 4) The insecurity state of Mali which really affected the planning of the in-person fieldwork in the country which later all together was removed from the primary data collection and confined to only desk reviews. This has led to some gaps (primary research) that could not be filled entirely by literature reviews.
- 5) The data received from the IR Country Offices which they assisted in collecting was sometimes not adequate as some FGDs and KIIs proposed were not conducted. In addition, the data provided was a bit difficult to decode as some were hand written and scanned, and the evaluation team had to transfer the information.

### 3.3. Findings

#### 3.3.1. Relevance

Islamic Relief Worldwide’s humanitarian and development projects/programmes typically aid over 10 million vulnerable people globally every year, thus contributing directly to the UN Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>5</sup>. For the GHPR programme, IRW and Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA) who were the donors, contributed directly in addressing the following SDGs - *No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health & Well-Being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean Water & Sanitation, Climate Action, Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions*. The programme did this through helping the affected communities to better protect themselves against recurrent challenges such as hunger, drought and floods, and thus deliver lifesaving emergency aid when disaster strikes. Islamic Relief country offices where the programme was implemented, provided these vital services such as healthcare, water, sanitation and hygiene, community resilience building as well as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

The GHPR programme was aligned to government initiatives of assisting affected populations given that the primary role of Governments during a disaster (federal, regional as well as county governments), is to, first prepare the community to be able to respond to a disaster, develop, review and assess effective disaster management practices. The national government also similarly, helps local governments to prepare local disaster management plans, coordinating the activities of other agencies in the development of the state emergency operations plan (EOP) etc.

### **Niger**

In Niger, early interruption of rains in some areas between August and September 2021 had an adverse impact on production. This led to the cereal deficit that was being experienced in 5 of the 8 regions, similarly the same was true for fodder production, which suggested an early lean season in 2022. This resulted in the State of Niger appealing for aid from partners to steady communities and avoid disasters including large-scale displacement of people, malnutrition, and death due to hunger. Because of these challenges, affecting the country, IR Niger through IRUSA came in to support the communities by implementing the "Food and Nutrition Security Improvement in the Regions of Tillabéry and Dosso (FNSI) project,"<sup>6</sup> to assist in the reduction of food insecurity and poverty in the two regions. The project aimed at strengthening the capacities of communities in the villages (Toudoun Jaka, Angoul kara, Ballissa1, Balissa Tagara, Soucoucoutane, Adoua Kessa, Toudoun Baouchi, Garbey Malo Koira, Karfallé, Kaoura) that were adversely affected and with their inhabitants in need of assistance.

In addition, when the famine situation worsened in Niger, the government declared a food crisis and the need for partners and stakeholders/NGOs to help with combating the deteriorating food state. One of the outcomes of the IR Niger FNSI project was to improve food and nutritional security for households living in areas classified as IPC 3 of Dosso and Tillabery Regions.

### **Relevance to the beneficiaries**

Conforming to the regional head of West Africa, with Niger context, the significance of the project needed the provision and support of food assistance in the nourishment of the vulnerable population. The project design included some form of resilience and a little component of the DRR, the only limiting factor was that the project duration was a bit short to conduct a resilience programme adequately. Nonetheless, it was still incorporated in the project.

Regional Director West Africa also opined that the program was initiated because people in the affected communities/regions were in need of assistance, especially food aid. IR Niger MEAL officer affirmed that the program was implemented as a result of lack of food in the two zones of Tillabery and Dosso which were being faced with famine. *"This project was implemented in Niger to aid with the famine and malnutrition problem that was being experienced in the country especially the regions where the*

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<sup>5</sup> <https://islamic-relief.org/about-us/#Values>

<sup>6</sup> Food & Nutrition Security Improvement in the Regions of Tillabery & Dosso (FNSI) Project PIN: 020\_004105

*programme was implemented and was also to combat the food insecurity experienced in the area.* “IR Niger Assistant FSL officer.

According to the field coordinator officer in Niger, before the project, the field office often encountered reports of violations of women's rights. The women were marginalised and sometimes were unable to defend themselves whenever their rights were violated. Thus there was need for the programme to look at women's rights since they had indicated during a needs assessment conducted that there were cases of GBV in the villages with the most being emotional, physical and economic violence. Though the project did not report any sexual violence, the root causes of violence were mainly due to communication deficit between couples and also arising from poverty. The project undertook sensitization campaigns in the community which covered gender based violence & child protection (GBV/CP), conflict prevention, dispute resolution, solidarity, and reconciliation; & as a result of the project, these cases were reported to have reduced.

The beneficiaries deemed the project had come at the right time when there was widespread suffering of the populations due to food insecurity in the target areas. *“The project came at the time when there was the food insufficiency due to drought, so many of the population were extremely poor and also there was lack of treated water in the area.”* KII Community Leader, Ser Tech Douch.

FGD participants also conveyed the relevance of the project in addressing food insecurity as a result of poor harvest that had been encountered as a result of the prolonged drought. The project responded by reducing the impact of drought through safety nets in terms of the food provisions and cash transfers to enable purchase of food.

As a result of the cooking demonstrations in the community that were organized by the project, the community members became aware of the nutritional benefits that some of their crops had and thus they were now able to feed their children a balanced diet. Given that they came to learn the nutritional value of their local crops like the lettuce and beans that were rich in vitamins and were very beneficial to the children.

## **Ethiopia**

Ethiopia continued to face severe humanitarian conditions originating from conflict, climatic shocks, disease outbreaks, desert locusts and adverse effects of the then ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. While conflict remained the main driver of humanitarian needs in the country in 2021, there were other disasters like climatic shocks that had devastating effects on the lives and livelihood of the people in the southern and eastern parts of the Country. The recurrent drought continued to deplete the livelihood of pastoralists and agro pastoralist communities. Owing to the failure of successive rains, an aggregate of 2.27 million needed instantaneous lifesaving response in the final months of 2021, into early to mid-2022 (month of May). A further 8.1 million people were projected to be affected across Somali (3.5 million), Oromia (3.4 million), SNNP (1.1 million) and South-West (200,000 people) regions. In excess of 7 million people required food assistance, and an additional 4 million people needed water assistance. The condition was to further get worse if the supposed anticipated rainy season (October – December 2022) was to remain below-average as had been forecasted.<sup>7</sup>

Charati and Hargele, are among woredas/districts in Afder zone of Somali Region, which remain prone to frequent shocks that have had a negative impact on livelihoods, nutritional status and food security situation of its people. Afder experienced different humanitarian catastrophes that worsened the humanitarian situation. Recurrent drought in 2021 then was the most significant crisis due to below average rainfall that resulted in scarcity of water and pasture and led to extensive loss of livelihoods and displacement. According to government sources, pastoralists in the Afder zone lost more than 70% of their livestock during the last three years (2020-2022) due to drought. Consequently, affected households resorted to

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<sup>7</sup> Global Hunger Appeal Update January 2022

negative coping mechanisms such as selling their remaining livestock, cutting of trees and selling wood for fuel in the local market in search of income to feed their family members but with reduced bargaining and purchasing power. Therefore, in doing so, there emerged an unintended harmful impact that contributed to environmental degradation and climate change, which further depleted livelihoods of the Afder people<sup>8</sup>. In 2021 World Food Programme (WFP) and FAO analysis highlighted in the August to November Outlook report, flagged Ethiopia among 4 nations that were at imminent risk of famine.

### **Relevance to the beneficiaries**

KIIs with project staff of the Emergency Livelihood Support for drought affected communities in the Afder Zone confirmed that the project came at the right time since there was drought and therefore insufficient water and food which affected poor families and children. The project was designed to respond to these challenges through cash transfers which helped beneficiaries access food; animal treatment which helped in tackling animal diseases that were causing animal deaths; health and nutrition which helped in creating awareness in the community on different types of foods, how to cook the food, how mothers and caregivers could take care of the young children through training on family MUAC, and the importance of exclusive breastfeeding among others.

The general observation from both the community leader interviewed and the FGDs is that, the project was relevant in that it provided beneficiaries with cash which was distributed, and enabled beneficiaries to cater for their daily foods/livelihoods. Community members found the intervention having been implemented at the right time when people really needed the assistance. The project was relevant in that the timing in itself was favorable because it was implemented when the drought was devastating the community causing suffering due to failure of the rainy seasons the previous year. *“Yes, the project came in at the right time because most of the community member’s livestock had died due to the drought.”* FGD with beneficiary community member.

### **Sudan**

In 2021, Sudan was facing rapid-onset emergencies such as floods, conflicts in the west (Darfur) and the south (South Kordofan/Blue Nile States). These were coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to other epidemics such as cholera, measles, viral hemorrhagic fevers, among others, continued to affect these regions. The prolonged crises such as conflict-driven displacement, economic deprivation (inflation and over-reliance on unaffordable subsidies), malnutrition and failing service infrastructure trapped people and children in a perpetuating cycle of need. In 2021, each of the 18 states in Sudan had been plagued by one crisis or another and this trend was forecasted to continue into 2022. Most of the 14.5 million people in need, including almost 8 million children, remained unreached due to inadequate resources. Beginning October 2021, new uncertainties emerged despite the political agreement signed reinstating the Prime Minister on 21 November. The regional turmoil was likely to trigger further refugee crises beyond the 55,785 Ethiopian refugees and 784,860 South Sudanese refugees that were among the 1.1 million refugees already hosted in the country. Moreover, internally there were 3 million IDPs in camps that were awaiting resolution to current and past conflict, and solutions that span the peace, development and humanitarian spheres<sup>9</sup>.

There were more than 150,000 people displaced within West Kordofan state as a result of inter-communal conflict as well as an influx of refugees from South Sudan. An increase in the number of people fleeing their homes was recorded as a result of protracted conflict between Sudan and South Sudan in Abyei locality. Violence, poverty, and hunger as a result of decreasing rainfall, conflict in farmland, access to

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<sup>8</sup>Global Hunger Appeal Update January 2022

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/media/112331/file/2022-HAC-Sudan.pdf>

resources and basic social services, such as healthcare and education, protection services, and protected sources of water were insufficient. Fewer employment opportunities and the government's limited presence to provide humanitarian assistance due to economic and political crises exacerbated the situation making it more unbearable. The prolonged conflict between Massaraya and Denka Nagok, Massaraya and Hamar tribes in the state resulted in internally displaced people (IDPs) in addition to the already existing refugees in 4 refugee camps. Moreover, there were fears at the time of the increasing number of IDPs specifically during the times of rainy season and movement of nomads to the farmer's lands which was predicted to further increase the mass displacement.<sup>10</sup>

### **Relevance to the beneficiaries**

Feedback from key informants interviewed indicated that the project design was very appropriate because it was intended to assist the affected community to mitigate the effects of drought; and was implemented following consultations with the members of the targeted communities and the local authorities before administering the interventions. *"The reason as to why this project was implemented was to help the communities to combat the famine and also support their livelihoods"*. Programme manager from West Kordofan State.

Female farmer FGD participants who had received training for livestock, vegetable seeds & tools, affirmed the relevance of the project due to the food insecurity faced by the community which informed IR Sudan's intervention (Combating Famine Devastation in El-Nuhud and Ghebbaiish Localities of West Kordofan State project) under the umbrella of the GHPR.

The project was relevant to the community members by lessening the misery that the community members were facing. From majority of the Focus Group Discussion conducted with participants, the general mood was that the project was timely and therefore relevant to the beneficiaries. *"Yes, I feel so because of the suffering that was facing the community"* FGD farmers

### **South Sudan**

Yei River County in South Sudan had been engulfed by armed clashes which led to destruction of property, human rights violations and displacement of more than 2000 households in Yei town. According to the Yei Regional Relief Coordinator, an estimated number of 7,388 IDPs, mostly women and children had been left destitute taking refuge within the host community. Further assessments by Islamic Relief South Sudan were able to show that the conflicts had aggravated the housing situation in Yei and further diminished the living conditions for the IDPs, resulting in an urgent need for food and basic services including shelter NFIs.<sup>11</sup>

### **Relevance to the beneficiaries**

The construction of 5 new boreholes aimed to meet the immediate and long lasting needs of IDPs, returnees and the host community members. According to the county director, these 5 boreholes (and another 3 that were upgraded/ rehabilitated) were able to solve the acute water shortage being felt in the area and mitigate the water and hygiene related disease outbreaks. The project also gave due emphasis on ensuring that Gender, Protection and Inclusion was fully integrated into all sectors, with a special focus on enhancing the S/GBV prevention at community level, through FSL interventions in the community<sup>12</sup>.

According to FGD participants who received food packs, the food situation in the community was dire before the project. These beneficiaries confirmed that they received maize flour, beans & cooking oil which helped them through the hunger challenges. Recipients of shelter NFIs confirmed that the project combatted

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<sup>10</sup> Islamic Relief Sudan -Baseline Survey Report- April 2022

<sup>11</sup> Field Activity Report- 14/08/2022

<sup>12</sup> Final Inspection Report on Construction of Five New Community Boreholes in Yei River



the adverse effects of displacement and lack of shelter as a result of the war, by providing them with items like “Vitenge roll” (cloth rolls), carpets, pangas for cutting firewood, poles for making shelter and blankets.

According to FGD recipients of dignity kits, *“the project came when we really needed help and they provided us with bar soaps, powdered soaps, sanitary pads and undergarments and bed sheets; the soaps helped me a lot in my laundry activities”*.

In addition, beneficiaries of farm inputs said that the project came at a good time. They mentioned that through the project, they had received training on planting techniques, post harvesting handling of the produce and storage facilities which had benefited them in improving their production. The downside of this assistance especially of the beans was that the excessive rainfall experienced in the region destroyed the crops. They also said that some of the seeds received from IR South Sudan were uncondusive for the climatic conditions of the region, for example the watermelon and cowpeas seeds. Another challenge was that the assistance made some people more reliant on the relief assistance thus becoming lazy to fend for themselves.. *“The negative outcome as a result of the project was that people became used to the assistance and thus became lazy only waiting for the aid”*. FGD farm input.

The state of cohesion in the community before the project wasn’t so good and participants from the recipients of GBV & Protection Training felt that people were suffering from the war and free movement had broken down becoming an issue even the process of getting food to/from villages was very challenging. They confirmed that the situation improved after the project was implemented in the region. The project held reconciliatory meetings within the communities which helped foster harmony.

WASH beneficiaries stated that the project constructed and rehabilitated water sources which led to increased water in the community. This consequently reduced the WASH challenges that were being experienced due to increased population, and by extension helped reduce conflict as a result limited WASH resources. The 3 new additional boreholes constructed by the project reduced the distance to water sources and reduced the congestion at the water sources which sometimes culminated to conflict and violence in the community. The beneficiaries agreed that the project was relevant in reducing their suffering, and helped them meet their basic human needs of food, shelter and good health.

However, there were some concerns that were noted qualitatively (FGDs) where seeds recipient farmers asserted that some seeds (watermelon and cowpeas) provided were unviable in the regions they were distributed.

## **Somalia**

Drought had worsened in Somalia in the months preceding the project, with more than 3.2 million people in 66 out of the country’s 74 districts experiencing the cumulative impacts of three consecutive below average rainy seasons, of whom 169,000 people had abandoned their homes in search of water, food and pasture. According to FEWSNET/FSNAU, the 2021 *deyr* (October-December) rains had largely failed across most of Somalia. This led to the worst seasonal harvests on record, excess livestock losses and exceptionally high cereal prices. The situation was even projected to intensify as Somalia faced the failed rain season in early 2022. Preliminary findings from a country-wide rapid needs assessment completed on 6 December showed extreme impacts on already vulnerable populations, affected by decades of complex emergencies and natural disasters<sup>13</sup>. The main conflicts in Somaliland can be categorized as follows: Land-related conflicts – associated with border disputes due to unclear demarcation boundaries mostly due to customary land allocation systems, and land enclosure for private pasture or for fodder production; Water associated conflicts (particularly in the dry seasons) – fighting for water access from private berkads (water reservoirs) and shallow wells; Livestock related conflicts – arrival of new livestock in a new area which

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<sup>13</sup> OCHA-Somalia Drought Situation Report No.2 As of 21 December 2021

causes competition for the scarce grazing lands and water resources between the new arrivals and the natives; Ethnic & tribal conflict as a result of fight over resources, or political differences – politicians incite people to violence to sustain instability and maintain the relevance of unofficial politicians (FAO, 2021a)<sup>14</sup>. According to the ERPP 2021, 3.5 million Somalis were in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) food security conditions through 2021. It was of particular concern that children constituted over 60 per cent of those in need in Somalia, and malnutrition rates among children remained among the worst in the world. Close to 1 million children in Somalia were estimated to be acutely malnourished, including 162,000 under 5 suffering from life-threatening severe malnutrition.<sup>15</sup>

### Relevance to the beneficiaries

Owing to the above statistics, the evaluation concluded that the project was relevant and the affected people in Somaliland needed the interventions including food, cash or water to mitigate their suffering. *“Am saying it came at the right time because the project came when there was severe drought in the region, people as well as animals were suffering due to lack of food and water then the project came and provided us with money to buy foodstuffs, brought water to the villages to fight the effects of the drought.”* Female FGD Cash Transfer beneficiary.

From discussions conducted with beneficiaries, it was evident that the project was relevant to them. The beneficiaries confirmed that the project benefitted them, for instance, they indicated that the project had increased the income of the community members and provided them with a means to access food easily. The project thus improved food security in the community and reduced the rates of starvation. Beneficiaries also mentioned that the project had immensely contributed to improving the living conditions of the community members who received the assistance, and therefore were more productive compared to a year before. They cited that children were able to go to school and accessibility to the market for the local community had also improved.

Due to the difficult living conditions, community members indicated they were caught up in a vicious debt cycle. At the onset of the project, they received either unconditional cash transfer or cash for work, and were therefore able to use the amounts to offset their debts, buy food, medicine and some beneficiaries were able to start small businesses from the savings made. The evaluation finds that business startup was one the unintended positive outcomes realized by the project. The project was therefore relevant to the community, as it provided income for the community members registered to clear prosopis. The project also showed its relevance in that it opened up communities through clearing of the blocked roads, water points and farming lands where the plant had invaded. *“The project helped us to clear Prosopis which had rapidly grown all over and had covered our lands leaving our roads impassable, covered grazing and farming lands.”* FGD Cash for Work recipients.



*Image showing charcoal from the Prosopis Juliflora*

Cash for work beneficiaries were however in support of food distribution as opposed to cash transfer, since the amount received (under cash for work) was not able to fully cover their food needs, due to inflation and large families.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid

<sup>15</sup> Emergency Response & Preparedness Plans (ERPP) *A guide to Humanitarian Response v2-2021*



Beneficiaries also recounted how Islamic Relief Somalia had provided them with machines which they used to make charcoal, providing a source of income to the community through the sale of the product. As much as they were opening up the community by clearing the Prosopis, they were also earning a living from the same activity. Livestock farmers (pastoralists) who received fodder from the project also stated that the project assisted them feed their animals during the period when drought was at its peak, and animals lacked something to eat. *“The project came when the drought was killing our animals and making us lack enough food, and so we did not have means to survive this adversity then Islamic Relief came with the assistance”*. The project was relevant to building the community’s resilience to droughts and also created a better situation by assisting them with drought resistant seeds and farm inputs for farming.

Milk Vendors from Dhenta, narrated how the project had assisted them in improving their income which was erratic before. They also got to learn new knowledge on milk preparation and storage from the training and consultations with IR staff. In addition, they learnt to cooperate with one another to benefit the whole group. The project therefore supported the formation of a cooperative that assisted them in their business. They also noted the relevance of the project, in that the project funded them with tools and equipment for milk vending – they could now store their milk for longer periods in the freezers donated by IR Somalia, which protected them from losses they experienced earlier from milk going bad. *“This project came at the rightest time, this project coincided with a time of widespread drought occurred in this area and we had lost our means to earn a living, we had no drinking water for ourselves and the animals, and it was difficult for us to buy water”*, FGD Water committee.

Beneficiaries also indicated that before the project, the living conditions of the community members were not good and so they were struggling to meet their basic life needs like food and water, however with support from Islamic Relief, things changed for the better.



Water kiosk with people queuing to fetch water.

A community agent interviewed stated that the project was relevant to the community/beneficiaries through provision of water, money to buy food, fodder for their animals, and farm inputs and tools. *“The project helped the community in different ways: drilled boreholes providing the community with clean and safe water and cash, fodder, fertilizers, and tools that Islamic Relief provided to the beneficiaries all made the tangible transformation to the community's lives”*. KII Community Agent from Ceelahelay.

Key Informant Interview with a village elder in Bulahar, stated that he believed the project came when people needed it most, since the drought was very severe, there was not enough food for people to eat and also no money to buy food for their families.

## Kenya

The Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) regions of Kenya experienced four back-to-back below-average rainy seasons, leading to the longest drought in the last 40 years thus leaving at least 4.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. The October to December 2020 short rains, March to May 2021 long rains, October to December 2021 short rains, and March to May 2022 long rains had all under-performed, causing humanitarian needs to rise sharply in the ASAL counties. Early forecasts had indicated the likelihood of the October to December 2022 short rains failing, which led to a truly unprecedented situation, unseen in recent history. According to the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) update issued in June 2022, there were 4.1 million people experiencing high acute food insecurity in drought-affected areas of Kenya (IPC Phase 3 or worse), as a result of the failed rains. This surpasses the number of severely food insecure people recorded in the country during both the 2010/2011 drought (3.7 million) and 2016/2017 (3.4 million). The

sharp deterioration in the situation was reflected in more than the 46 per cent increase in people facing IPC Phase 3 or worse conditions between December 2021 (2.8 million) and June 2022 (4.1 million).<sup>16</sup>

Over the past years, Tana River and Kilifi counties had been critically affected by periodic droughts and other climatic shocks due to shortage of the rainfalls, which resulted in loss of livestock, hence affecting people's livelihoods. The drought situation in the Tana River was alarming according to the National Drought Management Authority report in July 2021. Many of ASAL counties received less than 50 percent of average rainfall with most parts of Tana River receiving less than 25 percent of average amounts of rainfall during the month of June 2021 (NDMA July, 2021). This situation had been preceded by depressed rainfall during the March-April-May long rain season. The long rains crop production forecast for 2021 in Kenya was generally depressed for most areas and this had affected the regeneration of pasture, browse and recharge of water sources across the livelihood zones.<sup>17</sup>

### **Relevance to the project beneficiaries**

The design of the project was relevant in meeting the project's main objective which was to respond to the people's need for food and water. IRK addressed challenges that were affecting the communities in the targeted areas through providing means of acquiring food and also safeguarding their livelihoods by offering animal vaccination services to the pastoralists. Beneficiary farmers mentioned that the project trained them on the modern farming practices, and provided them with seeds that were drought tolerant. They said that these initiatives undertaken by the project will go a long way to prevent them from depending too much on the food aid, since they were now able to produce food for themselves.

Beneficiary women who received food assistance mentioned that the assistance helped their households, including children who previously were not able go to school because of hunger challenges, were able to attend school. They explained that the food received played a key role in ensuring that their families did not migrate in search of food and water causing the school going children not to drop out of school. In general, the intervention answered the most relevant and immediate needs of all the groups in the community. *"Women were provided for with food for their households and this was also a benefit to the boys and girls who go to school"*. KII MEAL Coordinator Tana River.

As a result of the drought, pastoralists were opting to sell their livestock to cater for their needs and this eventually would have made them even more vulnerable if they were left without their livelihoods/assets. IR Kenya saw the need to provide the communities with alternatives so that they could move away from the negative coping mechanisms like selling their assets. The project helped to vaccinate their animals to minimize the risk of total loss due to famine and diseases. On the other hand, to intervene on the food issue, the project opted for cash transfer which was a modality arrived at from the consultation with the beneficiaries so that every household would purchase their preferred food items. *"The main reason as to why this project was implemented in Tana River was to respond to the emergency on drought and famine in the region. The people and livestock were in dire need of food, water and pasture. There was also a need to secure their lives and those of their livestock because most people in this region are pastoralists and therefore there was a need to safeguard the livestock which is their assets"*. KII IR Kenya MEAL.

### **Mali**

The project aimed to increase/improve the food security and resilience of the most vulnerable households in the Gourma Rharous and Douentza circles that were facing a protracted crisis. It was to address the immediate food needs of the most susceptible households, restoring livelihoods, protecting assets and preventing undesirable coping behaviors that contributed to food insecurity. The activities in place targeted

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<sup>16</sup> Kenya Drought Flash Appeal: October 2021-October 2022

<sup>17</sup> Drought and Famine Response Project

to reinforce community resilience and break the cycles of food insecurity, and decrease vulnerabilities to climate change, effects of environmental degradation and conflict risk.<sup>18</sup> The inhabitants of the circles of Gourma Rharous and Douentza have continued to suffer the consequences of the various crises that have hit Mali since 2012. There have been numerous multifaceted response efforts set up by international and national humanitarian organizations as a result.

The living conditions of the people remained affected despite these efforts by the organizations to revamp the situation of affected individuals. The situation was further affected by the deterioration of the political situation in Mali since June 2021. Mali's human rights situation deteriorated in 2020 amid ongoing abuses by armed Islamist groups, ethnic militias, and government security forces. A political crisis resulted in the August toppling of the government in a military coup. Armed Islamist groups' attacks on civilians, as well as soldiers and international forces, continued in northern Mali, intensified in the center, and spread into southern parts of the country. Ethnic self-defense groups formed (in response) to protect villages from attacks went on to kill hundreds of people, leading to widespread displacements and hunger<sup>19</sup>. These challenges - Multiplications of armed groups, health crisis related to the COVID 19 virus, effects of climate change, deteriorating conditions of accessing basic humanitarian needs at the level of the circles – caused massive displacements of populations from villages to the capitals of circles and some municipalities, thus necessitating need for the humanitarian assistance. It was essential to intervene in the region with the "Prevention and Response to Famine" Project so as to address the immediate food needs of the most vulnerable families, bring back their livelihoods and as a result protect assets.

According to the analysis of the Baseline Report of the Project “Prevention & Response to Famine in the Circles of Gourma Rharous & Douentza” data collected showed that 100% of respondents had been affected by a disaster. The adversities mentioned included drought, as mentioned by 57% of the respondents, followed by floods at 24%, and bushfires at 14%. In addition, 5% of the respondents mentioned other predicaments, including community conflicts, infestation by granivorous birds,<sup>20</sup> among others. These various disasters and crises have had consequences in terms of:

- ✓ Economic – as a result of decline in harvests, food insecurity, loss of animals, worsening poverty and hunger, high unemployment rates, food price inflation, rural mass migrations etc.
- ✓ Security – insecurity causes the loss of property and lives forcing displacement of families, the limitation of movement of persons and property, food insecurity/ unavailability.
- ✓ Environmental – bushfires reduce grazing land and pasture leading to loss of animals, infertile agricultural land results in crop failure.

### **Relevance to the beneficiaries**

Islamic Relief, through its prevention and response to famine in the circles of Douentza and Gourma Rharous, planned to rebuild the livestock of 200 households in the 10 villages of intervention. Where, 20 women would be selected in each of the 10 villages previously targeted<sup>21</sup> then given 3 goats per Household just to bring back and help built what had been destroyed by the famine.

#### **3.3.2. Coherence**

This evaluation noted that there was high level cooperation and coordination within the project in the countries and regions it was implemented. The projects involved different stakeholders including government, technical services providers, community leaders, community members, among others. This

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<sup>18</sup> Islamic Relief Mali Baseline Report September 2022

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2021/country-chapters/mali>

<sup>20</sup> Baseline Report of the Project -Prevention & Response to Famine in the Circles of Gourma Rharous & Douentza.

<sup>21</sup> Distribution ratio of 600 goats to 200 HHs and displaced person's proposal document

improved the acceptability of the programmes, reduced resistance and ensured there was a complementarity with what other actors were doing to address the needs.

The core themes in the GHPR Programme, took into account some of IRW's mandates of capacity building for humanitarians, education, emergency response, health, food, WASH, livelihood support, among others. These thematic areas were visible in the majority of the country projects based on the interventions undertaken in the target locations – for instance, in some countries, there were emergency response, while in others there were aspects of food and livelihood support, as well as WASH. The evaluation team first looked at the synergies between what IRW does at the global level and what was done under individual country level in GHPR.

This evaluation found that capacity building and training of the humanitarian aid workers, community members, and government officers in respective countries and project locations improved the efficacy of emergency responses. For example, when water committees are trained on water management, their skills are developed, which consequently lessens the over-reliance that would have otherwise been sought from IR staff or other NGOs.

In case of emergency response, Islamic Relief provides life-saving assistance to people around the world whenever calamity strikes. IRW is often among the first humanitarian organizations who swiftly work to assess the most urgent needs of affected communities. This is seen in the concluded programme where IRW quickly mobilized for resources to assist the affected individuals in the 8 countries; based on a WFP report which had indicated that people in these countries were facing starvation and were in dire need of food and water as a result of prolonged droughts and failure of the successive rain seasons.

Food distribution was done in South Sudan, Mali and Niger, where Islamic Relief distributes food packages in times of emergency, and runs other longer-term projects to help tackle the root causes of hunger in the regions. Through IRW's work of creating sustainable solutions for long-lasting change in communities, the programme provided drought resistant seeds for the affected communities.

In emergencies or during developmental projects, Islamic Relief has been present to help those affected/struggling to find work and earn a reliable living. Through its cash for work initiative that was undertaken in Somalia, Niger and Mali, the programme managed to create new sources of income for the affected populations. This approach helped lift communities and individuals out of poverty and empowered them to become self-reliant. For example, when the micro dams were to be constructed to increase the cultivable areas for rice producers and 240 men and women producers were identified and trained on rice production techniques and issued with seeds adapted to climate change.

### **Ethiopia**

In Ethiopia, the UN usually commissions assessments together with the government; and IR Ethiopia is usually involved in these assessments, where they inform the design of the emergency activities. An example is an assessment done on WASH clusters, whereby a report was developed and shared among all the WASH cluster groups.

In terms of health, the evaluation found that the IR Ethiopia worked with government officials like health workers in the country. The project trained the health workers who were then able to cascade the same training to the community caregivers. Under IRW their activities include, building new hospitals and health clinics, as well as providing essential medicines and equipment to existing healthcare facilities.

The Ethiopian project also worked with the local government line officers for instance, the MUAC training was provided to local health officers who then cascaded the training to the community. This was very vital as the government was capacity built in some areas where they had some deficiencies. The community

trainings equipped the skills of mothers and community members, and in doing so, they were able to reduce over reliance on the government health facilities since the majority of those trained could provide these services to the community. Additionally, the IRE project under GHPR resulted in financial savings for the government, since the project provided training to some government officials like the local health officers.

### **Kenya**

Feedback received from the IRW East Africa Regional Office shows that the regional office, as well as country offices, worked well with the different levels of government. In Kenya for instance, the project worked with the national government as well as the county governments. The County Steering Groups (CSGs) were essential in deciding sectoral allocations to avoid the duplication and overconcentration of resources in a particular area of intervention, whereas other areas received limited or no resources.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries cooperated with IR Kenya and the field office in Tana River, where the project provided vaccination to the pastoralist's livestock. This was to prevent risk of disease to the local animals when pastoralists from different regions converged in the area with their livestock in search for water and pasture. This initiative was arrived at after consultation between the ministry officials and Islamic Relief Kenya. The government officers and the project staff confirmed that there was coherence between the IR Kenya field office in Tana River and the county/national government, on how the project was implemented.

To put this coordination into perspective, the Kenyan project did not involve the county government and other stakeholders in the initial drafting of the budget lines for the different activities and procurement plans (though they were involved in other aspects of the project). This meant that the project came up with lower projections than what was needed, and as noted by the Director Tana River County Department of Water Services, getting suppliers or vendors who could undertake the intended works was a challenge because of budgeting. Additionally, when the project advertised for some jobs they were not able to get interested contractors especially for the rehabilitation of boreholes; or if they got the human resource, the job would not be up to standard, did not meet timelines or the technical skills were below par. The project would therefore, source for suppliers from neighboring counties or other places. As a result of this learning, the project team then involved the different stakeholders in budgeting and sourcing for suppliers.

The evaluation also found out that there was a challenge at the government ministry level regarding information availability due to insufficiency of previous documented data on past interventions. This therefore calls for the need for various agency to work together to share information. The programme also needs to lobby the county government to provide resource allocation for the interventions.

### **Somalia**

Islamic Relief Somalia had other already ongoing projects in Somalia, and with some of the projects complementing the GHPR. This complementarity nature was reported in Somalia where IR was implementing the PFBR project, and the GHPR came to complement the already ongoing interventions.

Islamic Relief empowered the communities through education and this was seen firsthand in this programme when they partnered with Amoud University in Somaliland to investigate the impacts of Prosopis Juliflora on food security and livelihood of the households in Fuguxo, Cee Helay and Bulahar villages. With the purpose of the study being to develop a basis for maintaining the food security situation of households in the study area.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Amoud University -PJ Assessment Report II





Islamic Relief works with communities to establish and maintain clean, reliable water sources by rehabilitating boreholes and shallow wells, construction of new boreholes and connecting villages to water through the water kiosks. In addition to rehabilitation and construction, IR also builds water tanks and trains communities on hygiene. These were among the initiatives undertaken by the Somalia project.

The project was complementary to the Somaliland government, since the design of the proposal was in line with the National Development Plan II that transitioned to Plan III which was aligned to the Strategic Pillars of the government. For example, pillar 1 is to economically support the community which the PFBR project was doing through milk vending and charcoal business support. The other is the social support pillar where the project supported the community by providing water and social services. In 2021 at the peak of the drought, the government had called upon NGOs to shift their interventions from development to emergency support of people; the PFBR project had the emergency aspect in its project design, so the project continued with the emergency assistance they were offering to the community.

### **Sudan**

Government officials interviewed were happy with the implementation of the project in West Kordofan State which they said helped fill the community need gaps which primarily is government's responsibility. The government worked jointly with IR Sudan in implementing the project thus showing the aspect of the coherence in the project implementation. According to the project staff, project activities were conducted in a manner that involved the government and those activities fitted the government's strategies. *"The implementation was done hand in hand with the government as well as with the help of the humanitarian aid commission which monitored all the activities from the beginning to the end"*. KII FSL officer.

The project in Sudan faced a challenge of protests from the community members because the project did not cover all citizens with the interventions. In addition, some beneficiaries were enrolled in more than one project intervention which led to community protests by those not covered at all by the activities. This was responded to through organizing joint meetings with IR project staff and the community, meeting with village selection and verification committee, describing the criteria that was used in selecting the beneficiaries at the villages – which is the most vulnerable household headed by women, widows, people with disability, among others. Due to budgetary constraints, the project could not cover all the beneficiaries in each village. Therefore the first priorities went to those classified as the most vulnerable and needy at the village level and were selected by the village committees.

### **South Sudan**

Since the government didn't have enough resources to attend and respond to all the people in need, IR South Sudan came in and supported the government in filling the need gaps; and the government then came in to help with coordinating the assistance through the office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission – the authority that responds to charity organizations and UN agencies. *"So, our interventions are guided and informed by the meetings and interactions we have with the clusters so that we don't duplicate our efforts and waste resources. And we work closely with the government"*. KII Country Director.

Coordination was also evident between IR and the UN and other NGOs, whereby the UN acted as a leader when working with other NGOs in the area that supports distribution of WASH NFIs.

### **Niger**

To the government this project was very invaluablely relevant, due to the problems of food insecurity and health that the population in the country were facing. The government has a responsibility of ensuring that their citizens have access to food and health services, and that no citizen should die as a result of hunger or inadequate health facilities. The project was therefore aligned to government in provision of some of these

activities<sup>2324</sup> including cash transfer, WASH, farm inputs, protection, among others; which shows coherence with the government initiatives. *“At the time of the project implementation, there was water scarcity due to insufficient rainfall in the area, so this was causing suffering to the people.”* Government KII respondent.

## **Mali**

In Mali, the project staff worked hand in hand with Social Development and Solidarity Economy Service (SDSES) to conduct supervision missions. Additionally, during beneficiary list validation missions in the General Assemblies, the project worked with mayors and village chiefs or representatives from the government. The government staff (mayor and chiefs) were involved in the beneficiary selection process. Furthermore, the project staff collaborated with health centers for the treatment of Moderate Acute Malnourished (MAM) and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) through designing and submission of prevention activities, screening and referral to the Douentza and Rharous CSRéf a collaboration protocol. The project also worked with the Local Department of Animal Production and Industries (SLPIA) of the concerned areas (Rharous and Douentza,) to verify the 200 bags of oilcake, supplied by the approved suppliers and declaring it fit for animal consumption.

### **3.3.3. Effectiveness**

The GHPR programme performed well across the countries where it was implemented, and across the thematic areas covered by the programme. The programme had a number of thematic areas, others implemented in single countries while other thematic areas were covered in multiple countries. These thematic areas included: Cash Programming; Food Security and Livelihoods; Reducing the Impact of Conflicts & Natural Disasters and Disaster Risk Reduction; Climate Change Adaptation; WASH; Empowering Communities; Gender/ Disability; Integrated Development; Rehabilitation; Protection & Inclusion Programming; Shelter; Community Peacebuilding; Health

#### **Cash programming**

**Cash** programming was implemented in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Sudan and Somalia; and involved conditional and unconditional cash transfer.

#### **Ethiopia**

In Ethiopia, multipurpose cash was issued through vouchers. Interviewed beneficiaries confirmed that they received 5,284.56 birr, per round of cash transfer, and they received 3 rounds of cash transfer in total, just as the project envisioned. Five hundred (500) households in Ethiopia benefitted from the cash transfer as per the project plans. Beneficiaries received their cash through Shabele Bank Institute, and Hellocash Institute, whereby they visited the institutions and were given the amount disbursed in cash. The respondents did not report major costs incurred to access the cash; however, some beneficiaries indicated that they lived away from the financial institutions and incurred some transport costs.

Among the challenges they reported as having encountered while accessing the cash transfer included long waiting time in queues waiting to be served; relatives, friends and neighbors not enrolled in the cash programme asking for support from beneficiaries who received the amounts; some beneficiaries also reported loss of their voucher cards and noted that the time taken to cross check and verify their details took a long time. A service provider (Shebelle Bank) also confirmed that due to lost vouchers, it took time to confirm the beneficiaries' identities (between 2-4 weeks), which was sometimes done through confirmations by communities. The service provider likewise confirmed that due to the cash transfer,

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<sup>23</sup> <https://fews.net/west-africa/niger/food-security-outlook/february-2022>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/media/129701/file/Niger-Humanitarian-SitRep-No.2-30-September-2022.pdf>





99.47% of the beneficiary HHs reduced utilization of negative coping strategies, thereby protecting their livelihoods.

Insecurity challenges were also experienced while implementing the project in Ethiopia. For instance, there was conflict between the Al-Shabaab and Somalis living in the Ethiopian project areas since they are in close proximity. This affected project implementation because people were displaced and IRW staff's movement was restricted, which delayed some activities.

The project experienced some unintended impacts for example, when cash was given to a household, the expectation was that the money caters for the households' basic necessities such as food. However, the IRE realised that recipients shared the amount with other community members who were not among those in the beneficiary list. This therefore means that the beneficiary household was not able to buy the originally intended food items that would take them through for the month.

While some beneficiaries in Ethiopia were in support of cash transfer due to the flexibility of deciding what to purchase, others preferred in kind food distribution because their markets sometimes lacked foods to purchase. Eighty percent (80%) of households in Ethiopia confirmed that their livelihood/key assets were protected as a result of the project interventions, while 100% of the affected community members reduced using negative coping strategies, compared with similar seasons of the previous years. The cash beneficiaries received from the project enabled them to acquire basic needs, thereby not needing to sell their assets like livestock to cater for such needs.

*Table 3: Percentage of Right holders selection attendees*

	Did not attend	Attended
Percentage of rights holders who attended the selection and registration of the beneficiaries at the beginning of the program.	1.6%	98.4
Percentages of individual who were satisfied with the cash and would still prefer to receive cash rather than food/goods.	84.04%	
Percentage of individual who used cash to buy cover household's basic needs	99.47%	

### **Mali**

The project in Mali met its target of organising cash for work for 3,600 community members, in 600 households. The community members were involved in rehabilitating community productive assets including construction and rehabilitation of community micro dams, and clearing the water ways. The beneficiaries used the cash to cater for their basic necessities including purchase of food and family medical expenses.

### **Kenya**

The cash programming in Kenya had originally only planned for one cycle of cash transfer. However, the project team reached out to other partners and mobilized for more funding in order to do another cycle, so as to increase the reach to the needy community members. The beneficiaries in Kenya received a transfer of Ksh. 6,000 in cash over two waves which covered 2,500 households, as per the project target. Cash was transferred via mobile money transfer (M-Pesa) because of its wide coverage, acceptability, and its ease of use. Beneficiaries confirmed that the amount they received was that promised.

The beneficiaries however noted that they had to incur withdrawal costs while withdrawing the money at M-Pesa agents, in addition to transport costs incurred by some beneficiaries to access M-Pesa agents. Another challenge encountered was where in some cases, the phone number given for the beneficiary was

different from the one registered to receive the money. In such cases, the project worked with all the stakeholders and the service provider (Safaricom) to resolve the issue.

The beneficiaries used the cash to cover basic household expenses including food, children’s school fees, hay and medication for livestock, medical expenses, and transport. Cash beneficiaries in Kenya preferred cash to in-kind food distribution because they were able to allocate the amount to cover their immediate pressing issues at home like hospital bills in case a family member was sick.

The IR Kenya project incorporated efforts to institutionalize cash and voucher assistance and capacity building as part of its implementation approach. The project carried out more capacity building for IRK staff and stakeholders, and as noted by the Kenya Programme manager, IRK also followed global policies regarding cash and voucher assistance during the project implementation. The project also collaborated more with stakeholders to improve different areas of the cash transfer initiative. *“Cash is the best because it is more dignified. The recipient also understands their need better than us. We may be thinking that food is the pressing issue at the moment for the recipient but we could be wrong, that’s why I suggest giving them cash to figure out what they need.”* KII Kenya Programme Manager.

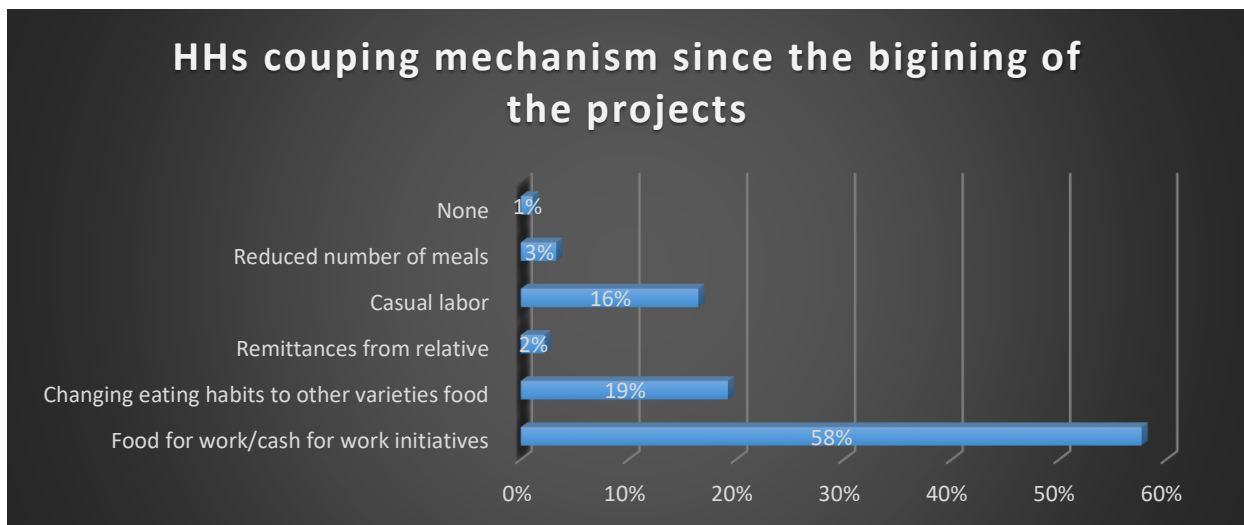


Figure 1: Effects of project on beneficiaries lives

The internal evaluation conducted at the end of the project found out that majority 58% of the respondents relied on cash for work initiative to cope up with the situation since the project had an aspect of supporting the community with cash so that to help mitigate the negative effects of the drought.

### Sudan

The cash programme in Sudan transferred 30,000 SGD in cash to the beneficiaries. The project managed to achieve its target of 1,400 households benefitting from cash transfer. Seven hundred beneficiary households in one locality, Ghebbash, received an extra round of cash transfer as those beneficiaries were supposed to receive livestock but could not due to lack of capacity of the suppliers. As drought conditions continued in the locality, project implementing team saw it appropriate to provide another round of cash to cover beneficiaries’ basic needs. Beneficiaries in Sudan used the amount to pay for school fees, to weed farms, buy food commodities, and engage in agriculture.

### Somalia

Cash transfers in Somaliland/Somalia were done through E-cash, called ZAAD, an electronic mobile money transfer platform owned by Telesom, which is an effective financial service provider in Somaliland. Each beneficiary/household received 60 Dollars every month, for 3 months. The target right holders were registered and their details verified before being submitted to the mobile financial service provider company (TELESOM) for disbursement of cash. The beneficiaries then received a notification of the money's receipt. All of the beneficiaries (100%) received their entitlement of the money and did not incur any costs associated with receipt of the money as each and every beneficiary had their own mobile phones with sim-cards, which were used to receive the amount. The money transfer procedure was noted to be simple and the service had extensive coverage of the localities of the target beneficiaries.

*“This Zaad systemic is a very effective way of sending cash to many people and transactions can easily be verified in case of an issue.”* KII with Programme Manager Somalia

Table 4: Beneficiaries selection

Who selected the beneficiary	Yes	No
Village Head	1.7%	98.3%
Village Committee	98.3%	2.7%
IRW staff	0.0%	100%
District representative	0.0%	100%
Community Based Organisation	0.0%	100%
<b>Do you know why your household was selected?</b>		
Food insecure household	87.0%	13 %
Presence of malnourished child currently at home	2.6%	97.4%
Internally displaced household	1.8%	98.2%
Households supporting physically challenged/elderly	1.9%	98.1%
Households with pregnant and lactating mother	0.8%	99.2%
Female-headed households	1.9%	98.1%
Household with orphaned children	0.7%	99.3%
Household with assets depleted by drought	38.0%	62.0%
<b>Are you satisfied with the selection process</b>	<b>100% (yes)</b>	<b>0% (No)</b>

The PDM Report affirmed that, majority rights holders/project participants-98.3% reported that they were selected by the village committees based on the predetermined project selection criteria. Further the report revealed that the bulk of households-87% were selected to participate in the project due to their households being food insecure. All the participants affirmed to have been contented with the selection process was done-100%<sup>25</sup>.

### Satisfaction of Beneficiaries on Cash Distribution Process

With regards to the satisfaction of beneficiaries on the cash distribution process, the findings of the PDM asserted that, 96.4% of the respondent of the beneficiary households confirmed that the cash distribution process was good, while, 3.6% of the respondent households stated that the cash distribution process was fair.

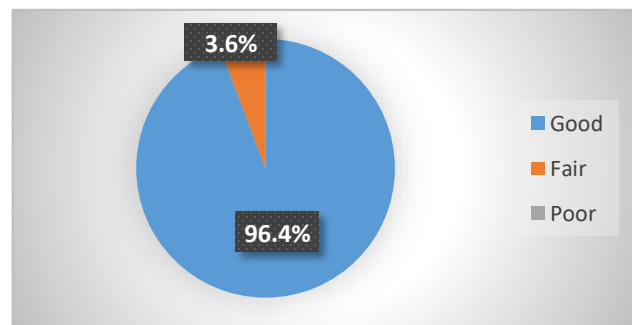


Figure 2: Beneficiary satisfaction on cash distribution

<sup>25</sup> PFBR PDM Report



A challenge which was noted was that some beneficiaries were illiterate and could not use a mobile phone properly. They therefore had to be assisted by a family member or a guardian to access the money. According to USAID<sup>26</sup>, adult literacy rate in Somalia (among population aged 15+ years, both sexes) was 5.4%, way lower than the regional average of 68.27%.

The project also implemented cash for work in Somalia to assist in Prosopis clearance. The project selected energetic people who could perform the task which included opening up closed roads and water points blocked by the thorny plant. Sections, and sizes to clear were communicated to beneficiaries, and after completion, they were paid 60 dollars by the programme at the end of month. They indicated that the amount was sufficient for a small family, but was not enough for a large family. They suggested that the programme could assess each area and beneficiaries to determine family sizes and composition; then allocate the amount proportionately by number of dependents. According to a baseline assessment conducted by the project in Somalia, the average household size Fuguxo, Cel-lahelay and Bulahar villages is about 6 people per household – most households (39.9%) have between 6-7 people, while 5.6% of the households have over ten (10) people. The beneficiaries were happy that the amount was sent to them via their mobile phones which was convenient for them. According to the PFBR project, a total of 700 households, or 4200 individuals as per the standard of 6 persons per household used to calculate household size, received UCT for a period of three months, and in relation to the CFW beneficiary, there were 300 households, of which also 1800 individuals received cash for a period of three months through cash for work. The cash transfer value was determined by the Somalia Cash Working Group recommendation of transferring 80% of the combined Minimum Expenditure Basket to the target households. The rationale was the number of days worked? The rational number of days worked by the target casual laborer was 22 days in a month, and the average unskilled labor wage per day was almost 3 USD per day, which is equivalent to cover his or her daily food basket. IR Somaliland team gave full information about the target beneficiaries, including entitlement of each house, number of working days of cash for work, and average wage per beneficiary. The project staff met with the community committee, shared the project information along with the selection criteria for project rights holders, which gave an insight into who is eligible to be part of CCT and UCT, and elaborated that cash for work beneficiaries should be strong people who can work and fulfill the required hours of work to earn their allocated wages at the end of the month. They used the amount to purchase food, cover health expenses, and pay school fees. They were however in support of food as opposed to cash transfer, since the amount received was not able to fully cover their food needs. The project met its target of reaching 1000 beneficiary households with the two cash transfer initiatives. *“The project did well to improve the lives of the beneficiaries. However, the, amount of the money received was small, and only covered a few beneficiaries in the community. Leaving other vulnerable community members out, made them be disgruntle” KII District Commissioner, Somalia.*

### Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

The GHPR Programme implemented a number of FSL interventions in the countries where the programme was implemented. Most of these FSL activities included food distribution, and agriculture production.

#### a) Food distribution

Food distribution was done through vouchers issued to the beneficiaries. These vouchers enabled beneficiaries to pay for goods that they needed. Food distribution was done in South Sudan and Mali.

#### South Sudan

Due to the prevailing hunger situation in South Sudan at the time, the project distributed food packs to affected communities. In South Sudan, the project reached 1,880 acutely food insecure IDPs and host

<sup>26</sup> <https://idea.usaid.gov/cd/somalia/education>

community households, and provided them with food parcels/packages. This number of beneficiaries reached was 57% more than the project target of 1200. The food packages consisted of locally available and consumed foodstuffs and commodities, including maize flour, sorghum, protein legumes (lentils/beans), oil, salt; and helped the community manage hunger. The food distributions increased beneficiaries' access to lifesaving emergency food assistance for the distribution period.

Table 5: Disaggregated number of direct beneficiaries

Sector of Intervention	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total	PWD
<b>FSL</b>	3,046	3,948	1,466	2,820	11,280	1,692
<b>WASH</b>	1,890	2,450	910	1,750	7,000	1,050
<b>Shelter NFIs</b>	1,782	2,310	858	1,650	6,600	990
<b>Protection</b>	2,211	2,866	1,064	2,047	8,188	1,228
<b>Total with double counting</b>	8,929	11,574	4,298	8,267	33,068	4,960
<b>Total without double counting</b>	3,046	3,948	1,466	2,820	11,280	1,692

Table 6: Outcome Indicators table

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Planned targets	Actual Achieved
1,100 IDP and host communities households have access to clean and safe water sources	# of people accessing WASH services	0	7000	7,000 people (1,890 men, 2,450 women, 910 boys and 1,750 girls) benefited from WASH services
	# of people accessing WASH NFIs.	0	6600	6,600 people (1,782 men, 2,310 women, 858 boys and 1,650 girls) benefited from access to WASH NFIs
IDP and host community members have improved Hygiene and Sanitation facilities.	# HHs receiving hygiene tools	0	370	376 constructed household pit latrines as a result of latrine digging tools distribution
	# of beneficiaries reached with hygiene key messages	0	7200	11,280 people (3,046 men, 3,948 women, 1,466 boys and 2,820 girls) reached with key hygiene messages
	# of committees formed and members trained	0	14	14 water management committees benefited from capacity building on operations and maintenance (O&M)

## Mali

The Mali project organised food voucher distribution for 4,800 persons, across 800 households, as per the project target. The project issued \$49 to the households for 3 months which was used to purchase food items including rice, pasta, millet, cooking oil, sugar, and salt, for household consumption.

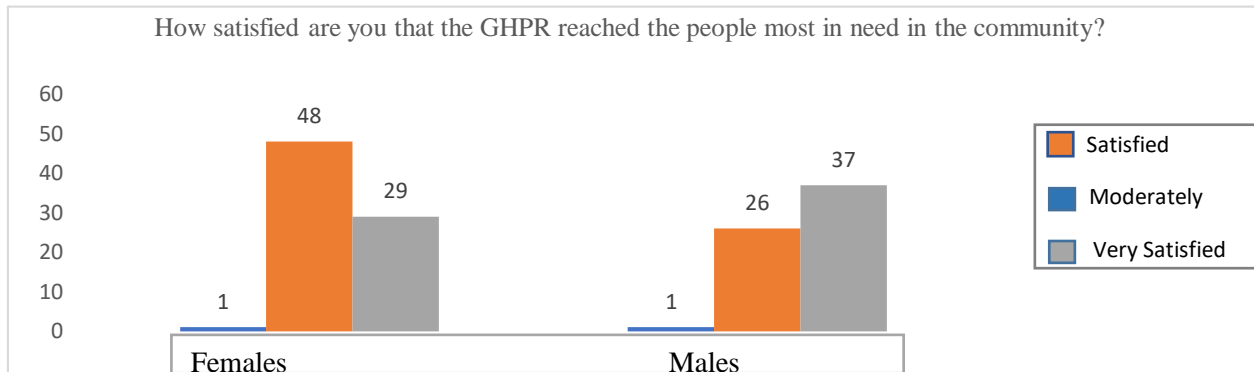


Figure 3: Satisfaction of individuals on the reachability of GHPR programme

52.81% of women and 43.66% of men affirmed to have been consulted by IR Mali agents when carrying out the needs assessment as shown in the figure above.

Looking at the analysis of household food consumption score, the PDM report showed that 69.01% of the households interviewed have an acceptable food consumption score, 17.61% had a borderline food consumption score and 13.38% had a poor consumption score as shown in the figure below:

#### b) Crop production

Crop production was supported in a number of countries where the GHPR programme was implemented.

##### Kenya

Small-scale farmers in Kenya received training from the project which covered land preparation and nursery preparation, planting, pest and disease control, harvesting, storage, and record keeping. The training involved 150 farmers, and achieved the numbers set at inception.

The farmers also received drought tolerant seeds which are able to withstand the harsh weather conditions during dry seasons. The project likewise assisted the farmers to put up 3 storage facilities (granaries) where they could safely store their produce after harvest, for future usage. This was the number of granaries the project had planned to put up. Beneficiaries felt that the high level of cooperation between the different stakeholders engaged in the project influenced the achievement of the project objectives.

The Tana River County Government provided climate and drought information to the community via bulletins at local government offices, advising farmers about imminent drought as the county is able to monitor various drought stages and advise accordingly. The county also had drought monitors that collect data on the ground for later analysis and reporting and in addition worked closely with the meteorological department who issues drought warnings through which the county was able to communicate downwards to the community.



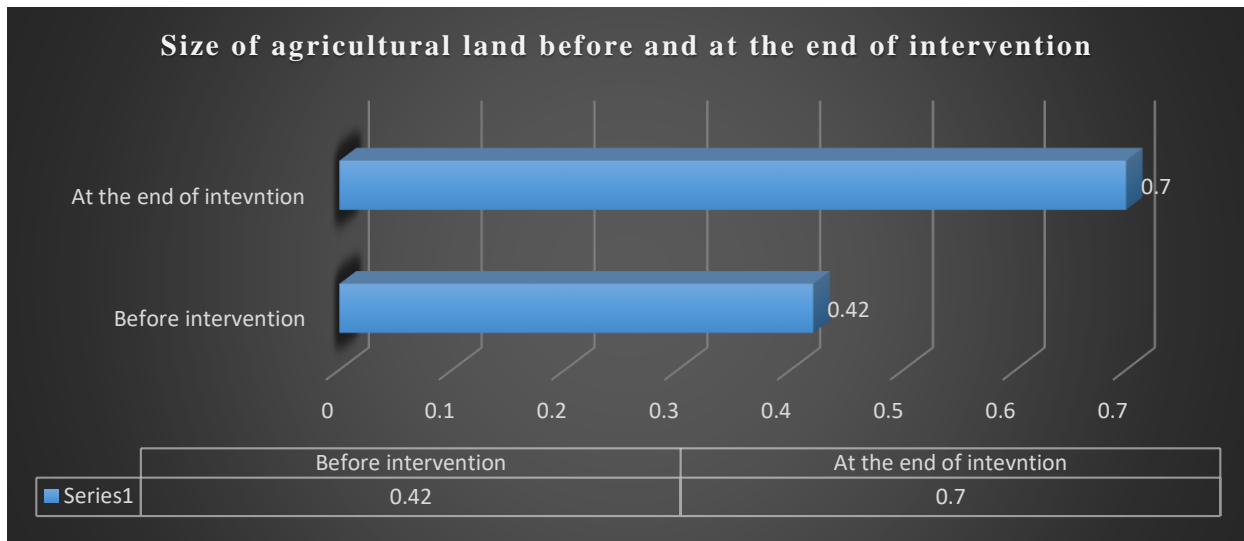


Figure 4: Size of the land put to use before and after project

The project led to positive contributions to the community since they were able to put more land under crop farming by an additional 0.28 Ha i.e. land under cultivation increased from 0.42 Ha before project to 0.7 Ha after the project intervention.

### Sudan

In Sudan, IRS collaborated with the ministry of agriculture on trainings, collection of data, and distribution of farm inputs to beneficiary community members. The farmers were trained on farm preparation and how to reduce post-harvest losses. A total of 50 farmers (38 male & 12 female farmers) took part in the trainings. The project accomplished the 4 orientation and awareness sessions with farmers and community leaders on climate change, natural resources management and famine mitigation measures. The project also supplied simple tools and seeds (watermelon seeds, ground nuts, sorghum, millet, water melon, sesame) to beneficiaries.

The project in Sudan managed to supply 1400 beneficiaries with improved agricultural inputs and services including crops seeds, reaching its set targets. The project, however, realised some unintended outcomes like sharing of seeds between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries not targeted by the project. The crops, mainly watermelon, also suffered from pests and diseases. Cash support had also helped revamp the local market due to increased trading.

### Somalia

The project in Somalia enabled 16,000 community members access seeds and agricultural inputs and improved skills, as per the set targets. Small-scale producers in Somalia benefited from a number of project initiatives including distribution of seeds and farm tools like water supply machines, climate resistant seeds, spraying pumps, and trainings which built their capacities in farming. The project in Somalia managed to meet its targeted 1,998 farming households.

The project also encouraged and brought about cooperation among the producers. Farmers who were not able to cultivate their farms due to lack of seeds and tools benefited from the support. For future programs, a recommendation towards increasing the tools distributed so that everyone would have their own instead of sharing. *“Farm toolkits which the project gave us helped us to produce more crops during the rainy season. And because of the increased harvests, I can say the project brought food security to our community.” FGD with farmers, Somalia.*



## **South Sudan**

The project in South Sudan trained farmers on different and appropriate planting techniques, post-harvest handling of produce, and storage. The trainings reached all of the targeted 500 farmers. The project distributed agricultural input kits (hoes, rakes, sorghum seeds and cow peas seeds) to 500 targeted households, which the beneficiaries used to clear and cultivate their lands. They did, however, mention that the project should look into providing them with more tools to assist them in their farming activities including slashers, machetes, axes and watering cans. Beneficiaries mentioned that they were able to replicate what they had learned into their farming activities. Beans that the beneficiaries planted were however affected by too much rainfall at the time which reduced the quality of produce. Some of the seeds (like watermelon and cowpeas) distributed were not also adapted to the prevailing climatic conditions of the area which caused them to fail. The beneficiaries advised that the project considers testing of soils to help identify appropriate crops to plant in each area.

## **Niger**

In Niger, the project put up market gardens for farmers, availed water and erected fences in some of the gardens. As at the time of the evaluation, the project had rehabilitated/ constructed 7 out of the planned 10 market gardens in the supported communities, with the final three gardens still under construction. The gardens which were placed next to the markets were to provide beneficiaries with food for consumption and sale. Among the crops cultivated in the gardens include lettuce, beans, cabbage and peanuts. A challenge that was noted was the inadequacy in the capacity of contractors which led to some contract terminations and delay in delivery of some gardens.

The project further distributed farm inputs including drought tolerant seeds to 1000 HHs as envisioned at inception.

## **Mali**

The project in Mali rehabilitated 5 vegetable gardens (out of the planned 5) with solar irrigation system, thereby meeting the planned targets. This initiative helped avail water to the gardens, enabling continuous production. In total, the project supported 250 women to engage in vegetable production in the gardens; while 240 rice farmers were supported in rice production techniques.

The project conducted 5 on-job trainings for the 250 women on vegetable production techniques, as per the project plan. Likewise, the project met its target of building the capacities of 240 rice farmers on rice production techniques.

### **c) Livestock interventions**

The programme likewise undertook livestock intervention initiatives, aimed at protecting the livelihoods of the target populations. Interventions by country are discussed below.

## **Ethiopia**

The project in Ethiopia assisted the community to identify animal diseases, animals that needed to be treated and vaccinated, and went ahead to treat/ vaccinate the animals. The project in addition trained animal treatment service providers – 10 trained per district (20 in total). The vaccination of the animals was done by the trained team but the vaccines were provided by the Ethiopian government. The project targeted and supported 400 pastoralist HHs with animal health treatment services through voucher-based approaches. Each household received voucher cards with a total value of 990.00 ETB (330 ETB per round for three rounds).

The project also organised four rounds of community awareness raising campaigns on animal treatment, reaching a total of 2000 community members and meeting the project targets. The project likewise ensured that 100% of the households could access animal health services as per the project aim.

Community animal health workers (CAHWs) interviewed in Ethiopia confirmed that the IRW staff involved in the project were quite competent and qualified to implement the project activities. They also lauded the ability of the IRW implementing team to consult with community members during the implementation. In addition, they reported that the programme was able to achieve its planned outcomes noting that as a result of the programme, the community had improved food diversification and local available foods utilized effectively. These, they explained, had helped improve nutrition of the community, including that of pregnant and lactating mothers. Mother to mother support groups established by the programme assisted in creating nutrition awareness to the larger community and this had improved their understanding of nutrition and enhanced the linkage between community members to health facilities as proved by the improved facility visits.

CAHWs also confirmed that among the factors which influenced achievement of planned outcomes was capacitating CAHWS through training and given that CAHWs work within the communities, they are able to continue with the initiatives even after completion of the project. Community participation was also acclaimed as a major factor which facilitated project achievement. Veterinary animal services officials interviewed in Ethiopia confirmed that the project was transparent and the services were delivered on time.

### **Kenya**

The beneficiaries in Kenya were trained on how to take care of their livestock, and the importance of contacting the veterinary person in case an animal was sick. The Kenya project helped vaccinate and treat livestock for the community members; reaching a total of 195,759 with vaccinations, and 1,023 households – out of which 960 were male headed households and 63 female headed households. This was an overachievement as the project had targeted to reach 1000 households with the vaccinations. The overachievement was due to the influx of animals from neighbouring counties to Tana River County in search of pasture and water. Due to interactions between the local and the just arrived livestock, the project therefore decided to vaccinate the incoming animals, in order to protect the local ones from infections.

The project also provided some beneficiaries with animal feeds. Because of the drought, most of the animals were in poor health, and some were dying. From the project interventions, animals regained health and the deaths reduced. One of the unintended positive outcomes that was realised in Kenya was that the project was able to incorporate government officials to educate the communities on livestock diseases. Using the officials proved beneficial as the community already trusts information from the government, making it easier to relay the information.

A recommendation was made for NDMA (Kenya) to carry out proper data collection and storage such that whenever there is an intervention, the data is readily available.

### **Sudan**

IR Sudan conducted 2 veterinary trainings one in El Nuhud and the other in Ghebbaish each training targeting 20 CAHWs per location totaling to 40 in the 2 locations (target met). They were also provided with tools for treatment of the distributed animals whenever they got sick, and to vaccinate procured animal to assure its fitness. Trainings were also provided to the livestock owners to ensure that the distributed animals were well monitored by their owners, to ensure the livestock sustainability.

IR Sudan coordinated closely with the ministry of animal wealth and ministry of protection during the distribution of goats to the community members. The project distributed 3 goats for each affected family, and targeted and achieved goat restocking to 780 households.

The project in Sudan held trainings with the community members on animal husbandry, and on increasing productivity including of milk – the project achieved the target of training 30 individuals. Apart from the community members, the project trained veterinary assistants on methods of raising and caring for animals, animal behaviour, animal treatment, animal medication, and how to feed animals in the right way. At the end of the training, the trainees were given veterinary tool kits with all the necessary tools to care for the animals.

### **Somalia**

As a result of the raging drought in Somalia, the livestock lacked pasture to eat; the project in Somalia therefore provided beneficiaries with fodder for their animals. The fodder, which supplemented any available natural grass pasture or fodder composed of roughages including, hay, crop residues (*Prosopis*,) and mill by-products. The fodder was to maintain the health of the animals, and prevent them from dying, thereby protecting beneficiaries' livelihoods. Fodder was distributed to households, with each household receiving 13.5 bags. Interviewed pastoralists who were also beneficiaries of this initiative confirmed that the fodder received was lifesaving to their animals, though they felt it was inadequate. The biggest challenge the project faced in fodder distribution as confirmed by a District Commissioner interviewed in Somalia was that; since the fodder was restricted to a limited number of beneficiaries, many other pastoralists not covered by the programme would come to the distribution points and tried to get the fodder forcefully. The project had to involve the community and local leadership to bring order at the distribution centres. The project in Somalia managed to meet its targeted 1,998 households who benefitted from livestock fodder.

*“As drought-hit farmers, we experienced some positive results as a result of the IR program. For instance, the fodder that the project supplied us with prevented our animals from stunting and dying.” FGD with Pastoralists, Somalia.*

In addition, the project promoted the capacity of pastoralists and agro-pastoralist through skill development and entrepreneurship. A total of 4,308 community members were reached under this initiative, thereby meeting the project target.

The project in Somalia further engaged female milk vendors in the markets. The project benefited 30 vendors by offering them trainings and providing them with different equipment for milk storage and packaging cans. The vendors mentioned that before the project they only existed as individual traders but the project had improved cooperation among themselves to enhance their businesses. The trainings covered among others; how to keep milk clean, how to tell the health of the animal that produced the milk, cleanliness of the equipment used to milk and carry the milk, identifying pure milk from adulterated milk, cheese and mozzarella preparation, among others. The project also provided the vendors with a refrigerator to cool and preserve their milk. The project also gave each of the beneficiaries' financial support amounting to 200 dollars to improve their businesses. The project also provided the vendors with a testing kit (a measure stick) to indicate the purity and safety of the milk they were buying or selling. This helped them reduce losses from purchasing bad milk and prevented them from selling bad milk to customers.

### **Mali**

In Mali, the project undertook animal restocking for community members who had lost their animals which are their source of livelihoods. Restocking involved distribution of 3 small ruminants per household, and in total 600 animals were issued to 200 women beneficiaries, as per the project target.

The project in addition conducted on-job training for 200 pastoralists on livestock monitoring, care and raising. A total of 10 sessions were held with the pastoralists as per project plan.

## Health and Nutrition

### Ethiopia

The project in Ethiopia trained 300 beneficiaries with Family MUAC cascading, including how to measure MUAC and understand what each colour code represented. The project also reached the 300 beneficiaries with Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials tailored with nutrition key messages on dietary diversity, practice and promotion. The project in training the 300 beneficiaries met its planned targets. The training was received positively by the beneficiaries who implemented the learnings by seeking help from health care centres whenever they noticed any malnourishment in their children. As a result of the training, a number of the beneficiaries understood how to take measurements by themselves, and for those who had difficulty, they would be helped by health care providers. The other training offered to them included how to hold the child especially for new/ first time mothers, and how to breastfeed the child. They were also informed on the importance of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months after birth. During training, the project ensured there were a mix of charts, pictures, writings, to accommodate the illiterate and semi-illiterate in the society.

Community health workers (CHWs) interviewed in Ethiopia confirmed that the planned health and nutrition interventions were achieved – all planned training and activities like Family MUAC orientation to community, support on supplies delivery for OTP/SC, mother to mother support group on food diversity awareness, were accomplished as per the plan adopted at project launch.

The trained CHWs in Ethiopia also confirmed that the selection process the project undertook to onboard them was satisfactory. The project team prepared training schedules which were then shared with the Woreda health office, detailing the participants required. Woreda health office head then prioritized based on need per Woreda. Woreda health office then communicated with cluster heads who thereafter recruited based on the number of health workers required, and population of the catchment area. CHWs confirmed that all trainings like IYCF, SAM & MAM and Family MUAC went well as per the laid out plans. They then cascaded the trainings on a weekly basis to the wider community. The project was able to reach 60 government health extension workers and health workers (including IR nutrition staff) with Family MUAC training, consequently achieving the set targets.

*Table 7: no of individuals CHWs trained on SAM, MAM & IYCF*

Training	IYCF	SAM	MAM
<b>Number of individuals trained</b>	72	60	50

### Sudan

In Sudan, the project involved community members in food processing training whereby 50 people out of a target of 50, took part. The trainings used locally available foods, and included trainings on how to make juice, sweets, jam, and on baking. The trained groups further trained other women in the community on how to prepare the food items. Overall, the project managed to improve the knowledge, attitude and practices of 1,000 households in nutrition good practices.

### South Sudan

The project in South Sudan trained at least ten women in each community (as per the project target) on how to prepare locally available foods including foods for the children, and followed up with the beneficiaries to make sure the learnings were being put into practice. The trained beneficiaries later went on to teach the



rest of the community members what they had learned, and through this, the communities learned how best to prepare food to retain nutrients, which helped with the malnutrition situation in the communities.

### **Niger**

In Niger, the project organized sensitization campaigns on nutrition, WASH, COVID-19, and maternal health. As per the project targets, 4 sessions were held with community members in each of the 10 communities in Niger covered by the project. The project also provided mothers of children under 5 with food like infant flour. In total, infant flour was distributed to 2000 at risk children, as per the project set targets. These mothers were further trained on good hygiene practices and preparation of enriched broth and porridge. The project in addition conducted education on hygiene and food preparation demonstrations for the locally available foods. Beneficiaries received rice, millet, salt, oil and beans for food preparation for a month. The project achieved all its desired results including: training 100 women on IYCF, EFP, and nutrition education and rehabilitation centres (FARN) facilitation; and establishing 10 FARN centres. scaling up nutrition skills to at least 10 other peers.

Beneficiaries interviewed confirmed that the trainings were adequate and helped them improve nutrition and well-being of their children. Mothers who benefitted from the trainings replicated by training fellow mothers and community members.

### **Mali**

The project in Mali trained women volunteers in the community on malnutrition screening, reaching a total of 220 women out of the targeted 200. The project added an extra 20 community nutrition volunteers in order to cover the target communities adequately and reach more community members. After the training, the women were equipped with malnutrition screening tools which they used to screen malnourished children; and referred malnourished cases for specialized care. In total, 2,550 children (6 to 59 month) were screened and 512 of them (330 MAM and 182 SAM) who were found to be malnourished referred for treatment.

The project further supported the women to conduct sensitization campaign on best nutrition practices in the community. The project together with the trained community nutrition volunteers held monthly awareness sessions with community members on best nutrition practices. The awareness sessions reached 300 people as per the project plan.

The project in addition undertook in the community to enhance nutrition knowledge and practices within the community. For instance, the project supported women to conduct culinary demonstrations of the locally available foods in the community. Regular cooking demonstration sessions were held in order to reach more women in the community, who learned about IYCF. The cooking demonstrations improved the nutrition status in the community and helped recover 590 children who were malnourished.

### **WASH**

#### **Kenya**

The project in Kenya met its target of constructing 4 underground tanks and rehabilitating 8 strategic boreholes to help the community address the water challenges. In total, the 4 underground tanks constructed are benefiting 400 HHs, while the 8 rehabilitated boreholes are benefiting 700 HHs. The project likewise supplied water purifiers, and held sensitization and demonstration of water treatment and storage to the community, benefiting a total of 1,200 HHs and enabling them have access to clean and safe water for domestic and animal use. The project in addition rehabilitated boreholes, shallow wells and water pumps for use in supply of water to different areas in the county.



To help manage the water facilities, the project formed and trained 12 Water Resource Management Committees (WRMC), as per the project target. The WRMCs are tasked with oversight and management of the water resources.

Table 8: Percentage of access to water before and after project intervention

	Before the intervention	After the intervention
Accessed water from underground water tanks	24.2%	25.2%
Distance to water: the project increased the number of people accessing water within a distance of less than 500 meters	10.6%	32.1%
Increased no. of people who now take less than 15 minutes to access water.	9.1%	30.6%
People who access water through from rain water collection	**0% - due to drought	33.3%
Percentages of people treating their water before use	44.8%	79.7%

**\*\* The 33.3% of people who accessed water through from rain water collection was as a result of presence of rain during end line evaluation period.**

### Somalia

Water remains one of the major challenges in Somalia, and the project areas within the Somaliland during times of drought, causing most boreholes and water facilities to dry up. The WASH component in Somalia aimed to enhance access to permanent and clean water sources through rehabilitation of existing water schemes. IR Somalia targeted strategic boreholes and kiosk rehabilitation through connection of a water supply system, so that both community and their livestock could access sufficient and clean water locally, without having to travel long distances. The project managed to rehabilitate 4 strategic boreholes and 4 Berkads in Bulahar and Ceelhaley, which are projected to last a long time as this was one of the long-lasting components of the project. The boreholes were also solar-powered which reduced any electricity costs that could have been incurred. As per project plan, two strategic water kiosks were also constructed in the community (Bulahar) for animal and household consumption, in addition to providing water to a neighbouring mosque and hospital. The project planned and managed to reach 4,308 persons who could access the rehabilitated water facilities. Before the project, it was difficult for the community to get clean and sufficient water for themselves and their livestock, and people had to travel long distances in search of water, without surety to get the commodity.

### South Sudan

In South Sudan, the project undertook hygiene awareness sessions with the community members and managed to reach 11,859 beneficiaries out of the targeted 7,200 with hygiene key messages. The extra number of community members reached was due to good meeting attendance by the community during the awareness sessions, which shows a desire to learn. Community members interviewed confirmed that they had few latrines and toilets before the project which were not enough for the users. The project improved this by distributing latrine slabs to those who were sharing latrines, and building/ renovating the latrine structures that were destroyed. By the end of the project, 376 out of 350 households received hygiene tools.

Additionally, before the project the communities had few water sources, but the project increased water sources by drilling 5 new boreholes which targeted health facilities, schools and IDP areas, and rehabilitated 3 existing boreholes. As at the time of the evaluation, water supply was sufficient in the project locations. The project rehabilitated the borehole and placed an additional tank with a capacity of 12,000 litres. The



project also constructed 3 water points, each having 5 taps which had reduced the amount of time queuing to fetch water, and reduced the conflicts that occurred due to fight over water. The project also fitted some borehole with a solar pump to draw the water. These initiatives helped reduce water scarcity, and helped reduce the distance to water sources. The project met its target which was to enable 7000 people benefit from WASH services ((1,890 men, 2,450 women, 910 boys and 1,750 girls); while 6600 people also benefitted from accessing WASH NFIs (1,782 men, 2,310 women, 858 boys and 1,650 girls).

The project in South Sudan formed and trained 14 water management committees on operations and maintenance of the water facilities.

On sanitation, the project provided beneficiaries with latrine slabs, and renovated destroyed latrines and toilets in the project locations. IR South Sudan provided the communities with tools for digging and constructing latrines. The beneficiaries then used these tools to dig their own latrines which increased the level of latrine coverage in the community. The project also sensitized the community on other hygiene practices like handwashing.

### **Niger**

In Niger, the project organized sensitization campaigns on WASH, with 4 sessions held in each of 10 communities, as per the project plan (target). The project also installed 4 multi-purpose solar powered water supply systems supplied with a 120m borehole, with a 20 cubic meter tank to collect water before distribution. The systems have provided water to communities, animals and market gardens which have increased the availability of nutritious food items in target area.

### **Mali**

As per the project target, the project in Mali constructed 10 drinking water points and similarly, the project rehabilitated 3 water ponds through cash for work initiatives; thereby meeting the project target. The natural ponds were protected to ensure containment of future floods.

## **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)**

### **Niger**

The project set-up Village Level DRR Committees which was inclusive and consisted of men, women, boys, girls, and people with disabilities. The project met its target of revamping 10 Early Warning Systems (EWS) which were consequently engaged in DRR planning. The project in addition organized participatory DRR, opportunity and challenges mapping in targeted communities to prepare a DRR plan; whereby the intended 10 sessions of DRR plans development took place, which led to the development of 10 Participatory Community Disaster Risk Reduction Plans (CDRRP). A total of 10 key DRR activities were identified and budget realigned to support affected communities through asset creation, cash transfer, and food for work initiatives.

### **Mali**

In Mali, the project trained village committees on Disaster Risk Reduction planning; which enabled the commencement of 10 DRR initiatives in the communities, as per project target. The project also supported the formulation of Community Disaster Risk Reduction, preparedness and contingency plans, where 10 contingency plans were developed as project had envisioned.

## **Climate change**

### **Niger**

The project sensitized 1000 farmers on climate smart agriculture in order to enable them adapt to the changing climatic conditions, as per project target. The project achieved its targeted objectives of



establishing 8 cooperative societies in the project areas; and conducting 2 sessions of climate change awareness sessions with the community members.

### **Mali**

The Mali project provided farmers with rice seeds adapted to climate change. The DKA-1 variety of early maturing seeds (75days) were provided to 240 rice farmers, just as per the project targets. The project further distributed farm inputs including drought tolerant seeds (including vegetable seeds), and market gardening equipment, to 1000 HHs as targeted by the project. The project in addition did reforestation of 400 trees in each of the five vegetable gardens, as per project target. Climate change adapted trees were used including Citrus, Lemon and Prosopis.

### **Protection, Peace and Cohesion**

#### **South Sudan**

South Sudan had also undergone conflict and violence which the project also sought to address. These resulted in insecurity in the project locations and affected movements and livelihoods. To help address these challenges, the project in South Sudan conducted eight awareness sessions on protection within the community, thus achieving its set target. A total of 8,188 people (2,211 men, 2,866 women, 1,064 boys and 2,047 girls) were reached with key messages on GBV, gender equality and protection; which was above the set target of 7,200 people. The females in the community were in addition trained on different aspects with regards to menstrual hygiene. The project further distributed bar soaps, powdered soaps, sanitary pads, undergarments and bed sheets, to the females. The project managed to issue dignity kits to 1100 women and girls, thereby meeting the project's set targets. The project reported that 98% of people felt safe as a result of the awareness sessions, and putting up of protection committees, against a target of 90%.

*“Initially, girls were harassed and were always exposed to the risk of sexual violence whenever they used bushy roads to collect firewood, or while going to the market. The project helped clear the roads and sensitized the community on protection. They are now able to move freely without fear of sexual harassment, unlike before.” KII Gender officer, South Sudan.*

#### **Niger**

As envisioned in the project targets, the project set-up inclusive community protection committees in each of the ten villages to address any arising issues with regards to protection, including on gender based violence and child protection (GBV/CP), conflict prevention, dispute resolution, solidarity, and reconciliation. The community protection committee members (which included religious and traditional leaders, women leaders, youth representatives and representatives of persons living with disability) underwent 10 training sessions on protection, as per the project design. To enhance committee members' knowledge, the project provided additional coaching visits to the community protection committees, which meant to closely monitor the functionality of the committees; identify the main difficulties and coach the members on handling different situations that may arise. As per the project plan. 2 coaching visits were undertaken with the committees.

#### **Mali**

The project used the Channel of Hope (CoH) approach to disseminate protection information in the target area, and disseminated IEC on protection and social cohesion. These activities also involved faith leaders in the communities. A total of 20 IEC materials were used, as per project target.

The project further formed inclusive crisis management committees at village level, and linked them with the municipality authorities. Ten village committees were established, and trained on crisis management, and disaster risk reduction planning; thus meeting the project target.



Hazard mapping was also conducted which involved participatory hazard, vulnerability and capacity analysis (HVCA) of targeted villages. The mapping helped the project identify hot spots and prioritise action plans. The project further provided support to crisis management committees at village level to develop and use (Early Warning System) EWS. The EWS helped disseminate climate information in communities

### **South Sudan**

The project in South Sudan held awareness sessions on social cohesion, GBV and protection, with the communities in Yei - including IDPs and host communities which led to a decrease in GBV incidences in the community. The awareness sessions had targeted 6,000 community members, but managed to reach 8,188 people (2,211 men, 2,866 women, 1,064 boys and 2,047 girls) with key messages on GBV, gender equality and protection. The overachievement was attributed to more people participating in the awareness sessions than earlier foreseen. This also showed enthusiasm among community members to learn issues touching on protection.

### **Somalia**

The project in Somalia included initiatives promoting social cohesion and integration. Interviewed respondents confirmed that through the initiatives, they had experienced peace among neighbors in the community.

### **Technical and Vocational training**

The intervention in **Sudan** provided vocational training for youth on different courses such as welding, general electricity, motor mechanic, leather products, bakery and sweets making. The project signed an MoU with the service provider to offer vocational training for the community members. After the training, the beneficiaries were able to initiate income generating activities in their localities. Beneficiaries mentioned that the project did not issue them with kits after their training. Their view was that provision of these kits was essential to enable them continue with their crafts as they were unable to acquire the kits individually. A total of 2 vocational trainings were done with 60 youth (30 per session), thereby achieving the set target.

### **Locust Control**

#### **Somalia**

The project in Somalia supported the Ministry of Agriculture to control the locust infestation. Islamic relief Somalia/ Somaliland hired vehicles and covered the costs of daily expenses and accommodation for the ministry staff involved in desert locust control (spray operations). The project also distributed spraying pumps to beneficiaries to use for spraying insecticides to control the locusts.

The locust infestation was an urgent matter for both the government and the community members, as it was affecting both livestock and crop production. The locusts fed on available plants thereby reducing plant cover. In spite of the challenge, the government lacked sufficient budget to allocate for fighting locusts. The project therefore partnered with the government and the citizens to fight the infestation. Through their efforts, they managed to contain the locusts.

### **Internally Displaced Persons (NFIs)**

#### **South Sudan**

The project in South Sudan helped IDPs with basic equipment including shelters, carpets, tanks/ water containers, soaps, clothes, sanitary towels, food, 'kanga', blankets, and cash, among others. A total of 1,100 households benefited from Shelter NFIs, as per the project plan.

## MEAL

### Ethiopia

The project in Ethiopia conducted a number of assessments before and during the project implementation period. These included a needs assessment, monthly reviews/ monitoring, internal reviews, quarterly reviews and a mid-term review. *“Yes, we have a MEAL system in place which is working well and just need some improvements. It is a project requirement to do post distribution monitoring, and have the MEAL person in our office. We conducted PDM for all the activities. This helped us look at the various components of the project such as the relevance, timelines, and satisfaction to the beneficiaries. We then compile and analyse and produce reports and recommend actions to be taken.”* KII Head of programmes, Ethiopia

Regarding whether there was a complaint and feedback mechanism put in place by the programme where they could take their grievances, community health workers in Ethiopia confirmed that there was a project focal person whom they could report to; in addition to a phone number issued by the focal person through which they could also raise any complaints. The project also organised public gatherings where community members could provide feedback on the project activities.

The Ethiopia project had MEAL systems and processes, and a MEAL officer who ensured that all the activities were implemented according to plan. The Program Manager and other staff would also visit the project locations to check on the progress of the project and get feedback from the community members. IRE also conducted PDM for cash and voucher based animal health service activity undertaken. The project manager in Ethiopia however noted that the MEAL system was not digitized, and was at the time of the project and evaluation, a word document. A suggestion was therefore made to digitize the system such that it could be linked to all the staff to enable them track their progress.

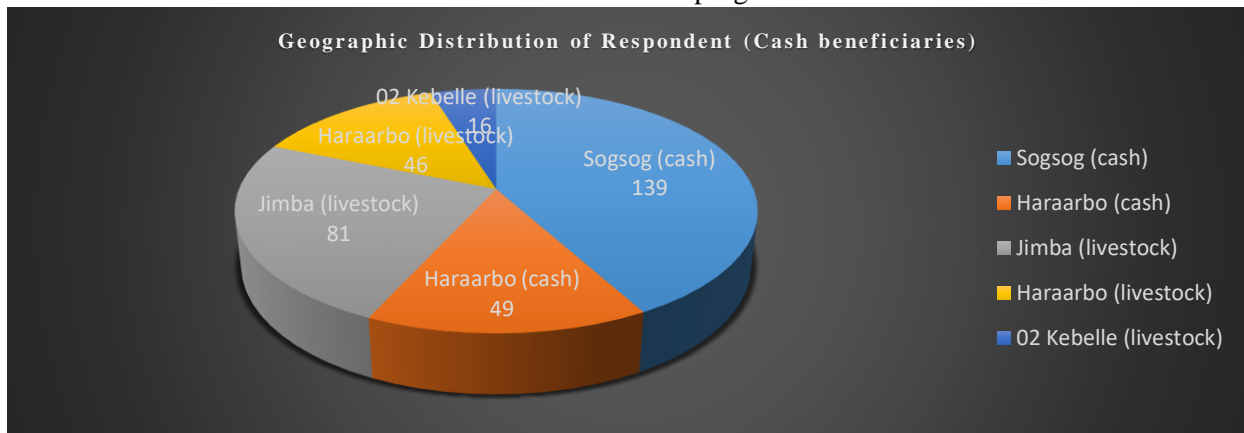


Figure 5: Geographic distribution of cash and livestock beneficiaries in Ethiopia

From the above figure, 90% of rights holders were satisfied with the information that was provided by Islamic Relief Ethiopia where as 10% were dissatisfied. The PDM report also revealed that, 82% and 69% of livestock and cash intervention beneficiaries’ respondent gave priorities to the disabled, pregnant, and women with infants<sup>27</sup>.

Table 9: Community members targeted for multipurpose cash transfers in Hargelle & Chereti Woredas

Activities	Woreda		Total
	Hargelle	Chereti	

<sup>27</sup> Islamic Relief Ethiopia- Global Famine Project: Cash and Livestock Resilience and Rehabilitation-Post Distribution Monitoring Report



	Sogsog	Hyre	Jimba	Haraarbo	Gerara	Dinto	02 Kebelle	
Support target community members with multipurpose cash	125	125		80	80	90		500
Voucher-based livestock treatment			200	50			150	400

### Kenya

The project in Kenya likewise ensured PDM after each round of cash transfer, situational analysis was also conducted during mass livestock vaccination campaign, while daily monitoring was done for the construction of water sources and underground tanks. The beneficiaries and community members could approach and lodge complaints to Tana River County officials, in addition to hot-line numbers which were provided by the project for easier communication.

### Somalia

IR Somalia had a strong MEAL system and team led by a Coordinator based in Mogadishu and a MEAL officer based in Hargeisa, who monitored the project activities and conducted evaluations of the project activities to check if they were on track, and produce M&E reports and share with senior IR management. Some activities (cross-sectional) called for between 2-3 visits a month to see progress, and any encountered challenges. PDM reports were also done after distribution of cash/ other items. Beneficiaries in Somalia confirmed that the project staff gave them a phone number which they would call to lodge a complaint or issue feedback to IR Somalia. The project put up stickers showing complaint and feedback mechanisms (including the hotline number), and the stickers were also put in mother tongue to accommodate everybody in the community. The beneficiaries also mentioned that they had lodged a complaint whereby they wanted IR Somalia to increase the number of beneficiaries, but they were informed that the beneficiaries had already been planned and budgeted for, and therefore no one else could be accommodated. They accepted the response but were not satisfied with the decision.

### Niger

The project staff in Niger confirmed that the project had a MEAL system, however the system was not fully effective because the MEAL staff was a shared staff between at least three or four projects, which meant that that they were not fully dedicated to the project due to engagements in other projects. It was suggested that it would be beneficial if each project had their own MEAL personnel.

### Sudan

The MEAL process in Sudan involved setting up performance indicators against results. The indicators had set targets that were to be achieved, & a list of data sources for verifying the information. The system also showed the frequency of data collection to verify the results, & the responsible person for collecting the data.

### South Sudan

In South Sudan, all projects have a beneficiary matrix, so the Central Equatoria Emergency and Resilience (CEER) project also had the MEAL systems in place with indicators that were clearly set, defined and with beneficiary trackers. The systems in IR SS also had a logical framework and a monitoring system. For instance, the MEAL officer ensured that distributions were done. Similarly, they conducted post distribution monitoring and collected information on monthly basis, compiled monthly reporters that were submitted to the country office for reviews before being sent to the regional office, in Nairobi which also does its reviews before the regional desk coordinators also forwards to respective donors.

## Mali

The system in Mali under the global famine prevention and Response Programme involved (IR Mali Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator " as well as MEAL officers in Douentza team carrying out monitoring missions with the aim of verifying the process as well as the smooth running of activities in accordance with humanitarian standards and providing support required during the distribution. This MEAL support/advise ensured that it corrected any deficits and also monitored certain key aspects of distribution activities. This unit also provided a verification survey process targeting beneficiaries in relation to the set out criteria is organized by the MEAL unit/system at IR Mali Country Office. Furthermore, the MEAL unit prepares reports based on the conducted PDMs.

### 3.3.4. Efficiency

Generally, most projects across the different countries and regions were implemented efficiently within the planned timelines and allocated budgets. There were however delays experienced in delivering some activities in some countries due to a number of reasons, as highlighted in the below thematic areas.

In terms of finance utilization, most of the budgets were utilized as per the project plans. The Mali project amounted to \$ 897,000 which was efficiently budgeted and used. This was also the case with Somalia (\$ 711,705), Niger (\$ 722,820), South Sudan (\$ 762,000), Sudan (\$ 776,000), Kenya (\$445,000), Ethiopia (\$ 440,750) – which was 96% utilized at the time of evaluation, as some activities were still being implemented.

#### Cash transfer

The IRW Head of Programmes in Ethiopia mentioned that their project experienced some delays due to internal processes like the procurement system which took time; as well as some external factors like insecurity in some regions in Ethiopia which hindered movement and affected schedule of project activities.

Most of the interviewed beneficiaries in Ethiopia did not report delays in receiving the cash. However, some beneficiaries (2 out of 30 {6.67%} beneficiaries interviewed in the 3 cash recipients FGDs) experienced delays in the delivery of assistance during the first, and second round of distribution. This delay also affected beneficiaries in that some were pastoralists and had traveled long distances to the financial institutions to receive the amount on the said day. They therefore had a challenge in terms of accommodation while waiting for the cash, while others were forced to head back to their animals and return after some days to check. Timely delivery was however improved for the final round of transfer. Similarly, the cash recipients confirmed that the project managed to complete the three disbursements it had planned. A service provider (Shebele Bank) suggested an increase in the amount of direct beneficiary support, since market inflation meant that the amount could not purchase the basket earlier envisioned. According to Trading Economics<sup>28</sup>, inflation rate in Ethiopia averaged above 30% in 2022, leading to shortages of food items like teff, which is a staple food for most Ethiopians, whose price went up by at least 50% in 2022.

Cash transfer in Kenya did not experience delays, as the activities were implemented as scheduled. The project partnered with the County Government of Tana River County, through the county steering group, through which resource allocation was done. This ensured that affected communities and community members were considered by the project interventions.

#### Small-scale farmers

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<sup>28</sup>Trading Economics - Ethiopia Inflation Rate <https://tradingeconomics.com/ethiopia/inflation-cpi>



Small-scale farmers in Kenya noted delays in the supply of seeds, construction of storage facilities/granaries, and construction of water sources, due to supplier challenges. The project however informed them about the delays and notified them of the developments. Beneficiaries applauded the equitable share of resources done by the project.

In South Sudan, poor road network caused delays in delivery of the much needed inputs. The inputs however managed to reach the beneficiaries and the activities were implemented.

Poor social cohesion and lack of appropriate land tenure security in some communities in Niger delayed the establishment of market gardens in at least two villages, which could not be achieved within the project period. However, the initiatives were ongoing at the time of the evaluation.

Training of farmers in Sudan was done on time, but distribution of seedlings experienced delays while sourcing for the items.

### Health and Nutrition

Community Health Workers (CHW) in Ethiopia only identified a slight delay encountered during the signing of MoU with the regional office, but after this was achieved, all planned activities were implemented on time. This was as a result of good planning of activities and constant monitoring to ensure all went on as planned.

### Livestock

The initial agent who was contracted to distribute goats in Ghebbaish locality (Sudan) failed to supply the agreed number of goats, due to limited capacity. This led to the changing of suppliers; however, the second supplier also failed to provide the goats that met the health specifications. Given that the project deadline was getting closer, this activity was changed to cash for these beneficiaries, as they were still experiencing drought conditions and cash would help cover their basic needs. Conflict and political instability in some regions where the project was implemented also caused delays in activity implementation since some areas could not be accessed. These however did not affect the overall project timelines.

CAHWs in Ethiopia felt that the project's efficiency was as a result of involvement and participation of all stakeholders.

#### 3.3.5. Impact

At programme level, the evaluation can conclude that the Global Hunger Prevention and Response Programme managed to achieve its goal of ensuring vulnerable populations got food to eat during their lean periods. In addition, the programme managed to restore and safeguard livelihoods of affected populations.

#### Impact at project levels

**Somalia:** The project implemented in Somalia managed to improve food security and resilience of the drought affected communities through access to food and income. In total, the project attained its target of ensuring 16,330 vulnerable community members were reached and covered.

**Kenya:** The Kenyan project increased household food security for the targeted 2,500 households; who, as a result of the project, could access food during the drought period.

**Ethiopia:** In Ethiopia, the project managed to contribute towards improved resilience of drought to the affected community members. As a result of the project interventions, 85% of the target HHs responded that their livestock assets were protected from death due to disease. Overall, 99.47% of the target HHs reported reduced use of negative coping mechanism as compared to the previous similar period.

**South Sudan:** The project in South Sudan managed to; reduce suffering among the vulnerable IDP population in Yei from the immediate impact of displacement, reduce starvation from hunger and improve general living conditions to reduce incidences of disease outbreak, restore livelihoods and enhance coping mechanism to build resilience. In total, the project benefitted 11,280 community members, more than the originally intended 7,200. This overachievement was due to influx of refugees who similarly needed assistance and were assisted, and more people taking part in the awareness raising sessions than originally foreseen and also due to budget saving realized during procurement of food packs.

**Sudan:** In Sudan, the project improved the lives of affected populations through livelihood opportunities, and reduced acute food insecurity for extremely vulnerable persons in West Kordofan State in El Nuhud and Ghebbaish localities. In total, the project managed to reach 1,760 beneficiary households, more than the project target of 1,400 households. This overachievement was as a result of 360 HHs due to addition of the said HHs as result of top-up.

**Niger:** The Niger project improved food and nutritional security for households living in communes under IPC Phase 3 of Dosso and Tillaberi Regions. At baseline, only 19% of the target HHs had acceptable Food Consumption Score (FCS). The project had targeted 80% of the households to have acceptable FCS at the end of the project and managed to achieve this for 85% of the households. The overachievement was mainly due to the use of food vouchers.

**Mali:** The Mali project increased access to life-saving food for 8400 people in 10 villages in the Circles of Gourma Rharous and Douentza (communes under IPC Phase 3). At baseline, 0% of households were able to meet the minimum expenditure basket; however, at the end of the project, 100% of the households could meet the minimum expenditure basket, which was in line with the project targets.

#### Impact at thematic levels

##### Cash transfer

##### Ethiopia

Cash beneficiaries in Ethiopia reported a number of positive changes they observed as a result of the programme interventions. Because of the cash received from the programme, they were able to cater for basic needs like food, children's school fees, and water. It was noted that families subsequently improved their daily consumption of food at home. *"I would say cash transfer was the best intervention. It is multipurpose and gave a chance for the community beneficiaries to get what they want. For me it's a lifesaving intervention."* KII Head of Programmes Ethiopia.

The project in Ethiopia in addition experienced unintended impacts for example, when cash was given to a household, the expectation of the project was that the money should cater for the households' basic necessities such as food. However, IRE realised that beneficiaries shared the amount received with other community members who were not among the beneficiary list. This therefore meant they had less to spend leading to reduced levels of food basket and also indicated a gap in the reach of beneficiaries in dire need of assistance.

##### Kenya

Because of the raging drought, a number of families in Tana River County in Kenya were facing hunger challenges, but as a result of the project's cash transfer intervention, they were able to afford food to eat.

##### Sudan

Through IR Sudan, the living situation of the beneficiaries in Sudan's project areas improved, the food gap was filled through cash and production, seeds were also provided to the farmers which reduced their expenses in sourcing for seeds, and reduced usage of low-quality seeds.

An unintended positive income noted in the evaluation was whereby some beneficiaries who received cash disbursement like in Kenya, made savings and started small businesses from the amount saved. Through this, they were able to earn additional income.

### **Somalia**

Beneficiaries in Somalia confirmed that the cash they received enabled them to secure their food security and meet their basic needs. The amount assisted them in repaying the loans, buying food, clothes, educating children. From the support received, they did not go hungry, and children could attend school consistently. In order to create ownership of project activities introduced, there is a need for sensitization campaigns to promote self-reliance in the long run.

### **Health and Nutrition**

#### **Ethiopia**

Project beneficiaries in Ethiopia reported enhanced use of locally available foods to improve nutrition because of the project interventions. For instance, the community was also able to use milk and milk products, they also embraced preparation of porridge, where they mix different locally available foods like maize, rice, sugar, oil etc. to come up with a nutritious porridge. In addition, health facility enrolments increased as self-referral improved from the community after the project undertook mass awareness raising activities.

CHW interviewed in Ethiopia confirmed that as a result of the project interventions, the community had improved its understanding of the different food groups available locally, and their nutritional values. They also noted that it was easy to trace and identify malnourished children from communities having received MUAC training. In addition, CHWs indicated that self-referral increased to the health facilities, and mother to mother support groups were strengthened.

CHWs felt that food diversity awareness and demonstration; and MUAC teaching approach (which had the simplest way of signal indication) brought about greater changes.

#### **Sudan**

Women in Sudan who undertook food processing training increased their incomes by preparing and selling the processed foods including sweets and pastries.

#### **Somalia**

According to the FSL officer in Somalia, the programme witnessed improvement in the nutritional status of the community members, community members were able to produce their own food, and buy nutritious foods for their children/ families.

#### **Niger**

In Niger, beneficiary mothers confirmed that the infant foods that the project supplied them with assisted in improving the health of their malnourished children, who recovered quickly.

### **Livestock**

#### **Ethiopia**

CAHWs in Ethiopia stated that the project was intended for emergency lifesaving support only, but noted that there was still need for such support as the community was still vulnerable because the original challenges still existed. CAHWs noted that animal vaccination and treatment brought about greater changes to the lives of the community members in that it prevented animal deaths, which meant that the community members remained with their livestock which they got milk from, and could sell milk/animal, to get money for some purposes. This ensured safeguarding of their livelihoods. *“Before the interventions, animals were*



*dying in large numbers, but after receiving treatment, the deaths went down. So the community is at least able to get some milk from their animals for consumption and for sale. The project should however consider including animal feeds distribution in its list of activities in future.”* KII Community Development worker, Ethiopia.

### **Kenya**

An unintended positive outcome in Kenya was that the project managed to reach more beneficiaries than had been anticipated. For instance, the vaccination of the livestock was done for both the programme participants and non-participants, in order not to endanger vaccinated animals from the unvaccinated ones. An unintended negative outcome was that due to prolonged drought, and the large herds of animals kept, the project could not sustain the animals with feed for a longer period of time. Some pastoralists were therefore forced to migrate to other regions in search of pasture, which meant difficulty in reaching them for other interventions like animal vaccinations and treatments. *“There are less livestock deaths due to the intervention of veterinary officers.”* KII Tana River County Drought Coordinator

### **Somalia**

Pastoralists in Somalia received fodder for their animals which prevented the animals from dying. This meant that they escaped losses due to animal deaths or negative coping strategies, and could therefore maintain their livelihoods. Milk vendors trained and issued with milk storage equipment reported increased sales due to skills gained, and reduced losses since they had storage facilities issued by the project. The improved handling and storage of milk also improved hygiene and safety levels of the milk. The milk vendors applauded the refrigerator donated by the project to use in cooling their milk, saying it was easier and appropriate to use than their previous traditional methods like boiling milk, which could not preserve it for longer periods. However, they complained about the associated high power costs. After the project ended, the milk vendors have been able to successfully form a cooperative which has continued to improve their production and business.

## **WASH**

### **Kenya**

Water sources constructed by the project assisted in supplying water for the community. The County Director of Water Services noted that because of the project initiatives, water was easily accessible to a wide range of people in the community. According to the Kenya Programme Manager, as a result of the water interventions in the communities, more children were going to school as they did not have to travel long distances looking for water.

### **Somalia**

As a result of the project rehabilitating 4 strategic boreholes and 4 Berkads, community members confirmed that they were able to access clean and safe water for use. The WASH component in Somalia in addition had some unintended outcomes. Firstly, some of the community members piped water from the water kiosks to their homestead; which according to the programme manager in Somaliland, was not anticipated by the project. The project also rehabilitated a borehole which was not in the original budget – the project had made savings elsewhere, and had some extra unutilized budget which was used to rehabilitate the borehole to serve the people and animals.

### **South Sudan**

Having additional boreholes (put up by the project) in South Sudan helped reduce congestion which could sometimes lead to violence against and among women and children.

According to a project officer in South Sudan, data received from the health facility in the project area showed that the status of the hygiene and sanitation within the community had improved, as a result of the project's WASH interventions. From the data, the number of diarrheal cases had decreased, and number of patients seeking medical attention from the health facilities had also decreased also. He said this improvement was due to the awareness raising the project had done in the community.

According to a project officer in South Sudan, the construction and upgrading of the water sources increased the number of beneficiaries served, in that initially, the available facilities could only serve 500 community members, whereas after the project interventions, this number rose to more than 3750 by the end of the project.

### Small-scale farmers

#### **Kenya**

Construction of granaries in Kenya helped small scale farmers safely store their produce for use in future. The granaries reduced food losses experienced as a result of bad weather, pests, and allowed the farmers to easily plan with their produce.

#### **Sudan**

In Sudan, some farmers were able to harvest and store some of their crops for use in the following season. This was due to increased harvests that were released which were attributed to training of farmers by the IRS. The project assisted to improve the income of individuals and educated farmers on modern farming methods and pest control, which improved knowledge of farmers, and productivity. An unintended outcome in Sudan was that some beneficiaries of seeds shared their seeds with their fellow community members who were not beneficiaries.

#### **Somalia**

Beneficiary farmers in Somalia who had been trained by the programme and supplied with farm inputs had produced crops, which they consumed and sold them to improve their income status.

#### **South Sudan**

Five hundred beneficiaries (IDPs and host communities) reported improved productivity from the project initiatives in South Sudan. This was after farmers were trained on improved agronomic practices, and supplied with agricultural input kits (seeds and tools).

### Locust Control

#### **Somalia**

A District Commissioner in Somalia, interviewed in the evaluation noted a negative outcome which was attributed to the control of locusts. He informed the evaluation team that the insecticides used to fight the locusts, poisoned livestock that fed on sprayed plants. The project in collaboration with the government should in future, put demarcations on sprayed regions and effectively educate the community on what regions to graze, after periods succeeding the spray.

#### 3.3.6. Sustainability

Sustainability was very evident right from the proposal development stage where the applying country needed to ensure that sustainability aspect was to be part of the project design. The GHPR leadership was working closely to see how IR country Offices were working with the communities, the kind of structures that the project was setting up and to make sure that these interventions produced long lasting effects to the community for example the water interventions. The water management committees were to be set up with roles of ensuring they took care of the water structures established by the programme through maintenance,

training of the community members on the benefits of maintaining those structures by levying minimal fees that could be used to repair the structures in case of damage. These committees were from the community and the knowledge passed to them was to be retained in the community by training the next group of committee officials. A community committee official interviewed in Ethiopia though feared that the project may not have long lasting effects since it was an emergency support and that drought still existed, which meant that the community still needed support. However, the capacity building offered to the community especially on MUAC, different types of foods etc.; this is knowledge will last many years provided they are retrained. The project also had an exit strategy in place and that is handing over these activities to the community and the government, which to some extent was achieved since there was great involvement of the government and community members.

Another element of sustainability that the project was putting emphasis on was the community ownership of the structures such as the water kiosks, micro dams structures, solar panels for pumping water, the manual briquette maker etc., which aimed at the communities taking care of these structures thus protecting against vandalism and outright destruction. The case of the manual briquette maker imported from China in Somaliland needed minimal cost to maintain it, so it was expected to serve the community members for many years generating them income through the sale of the charcoal.

Provision of seeds to farmers and training them was also an aspect of making sure that the community was equipped with long lasting solutions to their problems of food insecurity. These seeds which are drought tolerant are likely to produce food should conditions be favorable (average rainfall) thus making the community self-sufficient as opposed to when the communities are handed food through relief assistance. The knowledge imparted on them is also likely to remain in the community when passed down to the next group of farmers in the community with farming aspirations. This was seen in South Sudan though some members during FGDs had raised the concern that some of the seeds provided couldn't do well in the in the regions they were distributed.

The MUAC training passed down to the mothers in the community means that the activity in itself is very sustainable in that even after the project ended in Ethiopia, mothers are still carrying out these MUAC measurements courtesy of the knowledge that was passed down to them through the training by the government health officers who were also in fact trained on the same. Similarly, the cooking demonstrations in Niger that were to equip the community members with knowledge of preparing nutritious meals for pregnant mothers and young children will also run in the community.

The boreholes that were rehabilitated supplied the water to the community beyond the project life cycle and in some instances the pumps that were installed were longer-lasting. In an interview with WASH engineer IR Somaliland FO, he mentioned that the imported water pump from Dubai was expected to work for more than 10 years.

The micro dams constructed in Mali had been filled up by the rain and they were to provide water for irrigation for the communities beyond the 12 months of the project life. This in return will enable the community to grow food all year and given they were to be provided seeds of their choosing to grow as well as rice, this will have formed an aspect of securing the food sources for that particular community.

All the structures created by the project under the GHPR programme, eventually had to be handed over to the government as the next custodian together with the community. For example, a government official interviewed in Kenya confirmed that the structures the project put up were handed over to the government and community. This is also an important facet of making sure that the interventions remain lifelong through the government taking care of the structures in case of damages. The GHPR programme was significant in this aspect in that all the projects that were being implemented in the 7 countries, were designed in a manner

that would enable government at some point to eventually manage the structures together with the community once the project had ended.

The linkage between the smallholder farmers and the extension officers including the community level agricultural extension workers in South Sudan had a huge impact. That means that the volunteers who were involved during this training and the distribution process can still provide advice and retrain the communities during the cultivation period even after end of the project.

In Niger, the formation of RRC committee to help in the aspect of climate change was an exit plan for the project where these individuals were trained to continue helping the community during the drought period. The concept of market gardening was also viewed as a good sustainability plan where women could continue producing vegetables even after the project winds up.

In Sudan, the beneficiaries who received livestock restocking, had them vaccinated and they were also given advice on how to care for the animals in protecting them from any diseases. The farmers who received the agricultural inputs also were given advice on how to better their farming practices.

The IR Kenya project trained farmers on the recovery activity farming practices which was presumed to go a long way to prevent the communities from depending too much on the food aid and other assistance and this was done through provision of seeds that are drought tolerant thus enabling them produce food even during dry seasons.

### 3.4. Conclusions

Africa has had food crisis for several decades<sup>29</sup> Food crisis in Africa has mainly been linked to challenges in food production and availability. According to the UN<sup>30</sup>, there are several factors that have been identified as constraints to food production in Africa. These include recurring drought & adverse weather conditions, land degradation, mismanagement of available water resources, pests and diseases, inappropriate food production and storage practices, inadequate food processing technologies, civil conflicts and wars, poor economic policies to support food production, as well as the low economic and social status of women, who constitute the majority of food producers.

These factors have resulted in a steadily declining food security, which in turn has led to a doubling numbers of those undernourished in Africa, from 100 million in the late 1960s to 200 million in 1995. It is projected that the region will be unable to feed 60 per cent of its population by 2025<sup>31</sup>.

As of 2020, more than one-third of the continent's population was undernourished, while one in five people -- 21% of the population - were facing hunger in Africa<sup>32</sup>. This meant that 282 million people were experiencing hunger in Africa, more than double the proportion of any other region in the world.

This evaluation found out that the GHPRP as an emergency programme helped solve the immediate hunger needs of affected populations in the eight countries in Africa through activities like cash transfer and food distribution; and in addition sought to also protect the livelihoods of beneficiaries through livestock support programmes, capacity building to producers, provision of production equipment and inputs, initiation of WASH services; and liaison with government officials, and creation of village project committees to

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<sup>29</sup> <https://www.caritas.org.au/global-issues/famine-in-africa-the-causes-history-and-how-you-can-help/>

<sup>30</sup> Feeding the Hungry in Africa: Not All Is Lost (United Nations) - <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/feeding-hungry-africa-not-all-lost>

<sup>31</sup> Nana-Sinkam S.C., Land and Environmental Degradation and Desertification in Africa (Addis Ababa: UNECA/FAO Publication, 1995)

<sup>32</sup> FAO, Food, Security and Nutrition (Rome: FAO World Food Summit, 1996)



improve sustainability of the programme initiatives. These initiatives have assisted the beneficiaries to meet their food needs to some extent.

However, the food crisis situation in Sub-Saharan Africa is only getting worse. According to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)<sup>33</sup>, Sub-Saharan Africa is currently experiencing one of the most alarming food crises in decades - immense in both its severity and geographic scope. It is estimated that roughly 146 million people are currently suffering from acute food insecurity and require urgent humanitarian assistance. This means that though the GHPRP managed to solve some bit of these challenges in 2022, the problems have persisted, and even multiplied in some instances, which would need continued humanitarian assistance.

The unfavourable climatic conditions like drought/ failed rains and floods, are also getting worse as a result of climate change that is affecting the world. Should the conditions continue agricultural production will continue to deteriorate which will further affect peoples' livelihoods and incomes. More humanitarian assistance is, and will therefore still be needed to assist affected populations.

Though an emergency programme implemented within one year, the GHPRP was indeed relevant and timely to the right holders. However, based on the food and hunger challenges that still exist in Sub-Saharan Africa (including the countries and areas covered by the GHPRP programme), most stakeholders indicated that more support was still needed, and that in order to realise sustainable impacts, such programmes should be implemented over a longer period (than the one year).

Even though the programme was able to reach and support tens of thousands of beneficiaries across the countries of implementation, this evaluation also found out that these beneficiaries only represented a proportion of the needy community members; as the other needy people could not be part of the beneficiary list due to budget constraints. IRW could therefore consider engaging more donors and stakeholders including the different governments to deliberate on best approaches to provide support to cover majority of the affected populations, whose numbers are rising every other time.

### 3.5. Lessons Learnt & Recommendations

The lessons learnt at project level focused on what worked or didn't work well, why and how to maximize or minimize the effects.

#### ETHIOPIA

##### **Lessons learnt from Ethiopia's Emergency Programme**

The key lessons learnt from implementation in Ethiopia included:

1. Multi-sectoral approach works well for addressing emergencies and drought. The project involved multi-sectoral interventions consisting of cash, livestock, health, capacity building for the nutrition sector. Beneficiary households benefited from cash, animal health and nutrition outreach so as to help them cope with the effects of the drought. The need to prioritize and give attention to multi-sector approach for emergency drought interventions was identified as a way to maximize programme benefits.
2. Future project interventions should consider the situation of the implementation area as well as the preference of the communities while designing the project intervention. It was noted in Ethiopia that households (HHs) located close to the market areas/towns had the choice to use multipurpose cash transferred to purchase a variety of basic items since they were available in the markets; whereas, the HHs further away had limited choice on what to use the money due to lack of markets and unavailability

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<sup>33</sup> <https://www.ifrc.org/emergency/africa-hunger-crisis>



of wide range of products to select from. The multipurpose cash was given to target communities as a way to offer support in the wake of drought.

3. The project should continue to strengthen stakeholder participation (including community engagement) when designing future project and implementation. The participation of stakeholders was noted to have been low in the early stages of implementation but adjustments during implementation led to increased engagement and thus ownership with time.
4. The project budget was noted to be limited as compared to the actual need on the ground. It was difficult to select beneficiaries due to the fact that almost all vulnerable groups had lost all their livelihoods base (livestock) as a result of the ongoing drought. The number of project beneficiaries as compared to the number of people affected by the drought was comparatively small. It is therefore recommended that future interventions increase the resource base, and increase number of rights holders targeted.
5. Future interventions should work on the linkages for children/mothers who are identified as SAM/MAM (Severe Acute Malnutrition/ Moderate and Acute Malnutrition) during treatment campaigns in the Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition programme, and support the system in availing those products. Islamic Relief Ethiopia had been implementing the soft component of the nutrition activities with the absence of the main nutrition products. The absence of adequate nutrition products, routine/secondary drugs, logistic support and Therapeutic Supplementary Feeding Programme in the referral center however affected the treatment of the SAM and MAM cases.

### **Challenges**

Several challenges were encountered in the implementation of programme activities;

1. There was insecurity in the Afder zone due to Al-Shabaab insurgents in July and August 2022, and activities in the target woredas had to be halted. To mitigate this, there was close monitoring of the security situation, timely communication with key stakeholders inclusive of the donor while some activities were implemented in the back office etc. The project also worked closely with the government and other partners so as to increase information sharing and collaboration.
2. There was a notable increase in the prices of food and non-food items in Ethiopia. Fuel and HH basic goods prices were affected by inflation therefore increasing the project expenditure. The cash support provided for target households was inadequate to meet their basic need. The cash support had been calculated based on minimum expenditure basket – MEB to be Ethiopian Birr ETB 5,280 at project design stage but had increased to ETB 7,500 during the project period due to inflation.
3. There were inadequate social services such as banking services at Chereti Woreda. As a result, cash transfer beneficiaries had to travel to Hargelle to access banking services.
4. There have been frequent and multiple stresses and shocks which devastate the pastoralists' socio-economic assets and increase the vulnerability and food insecurity of the population. Due to current drought in the country, there has been a frequent follow up of the situation very closely. In addition, the field office (FO) and country office (CO) project team and management team has been coordinating fundraising efforts to mitigate the impact of the recurring drought.
5. Due to the large number of needy community members who were not beneficiaries of the cash transfer initiative, reported to have accompanied beneficiaries to the bank, where they also asked to receive the cash. It was challenging explaining to the non-beneficiaries that they could not receive the cash.

### **Recommendations at project level**

1. The fifth consecutive rainy season were failing (October – December 2022), as drought continued to affect vulnerable communities. There is therefore a need to continue providing lifesaving support hence additional funding is required.
2. Multi-sectoral approach to address animal health, feed and water for livestock to protect the core breeding animals is required urgently. Additionally, supplementary feeding programmes should be

designed in line with those of project activities (e.g. providing animal feeds to lactating goats/cows, who then provide milk to the family). The supplementary feeding for lactating goats/cows can have dual impact of protecting pastoralists’ children and their animals against drought-induced starvation and associated consequences including mortality and poor productivity.

3. Future nutrition interventions should adequately avail all the necessary nutrition products, routine/secondary drugs, provide logistic support, in order for the interventions to be effective in addressing malnutrition.
4. Large scale humanitarian support remains an imminent and urgent need considering food, water trucking, nutrition, health and psychosocial support. Urgent preposition and readiness for the coming extended drought and post drought consequences through staff capacity, logistic capacity and resources mobilization such as Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Non-food items (NFIs), Oral rehydration solutions (ORS), strong Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) programming with Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP) (+routine medications) and Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPC) are recommended.
5. Digitalization of the MEAL systems in Ethiopia so as to assist staff in easier tracking of the of the project activities.
6. There should be consideration of underlying inflation rates when determining the expenditure basket and providing an allowance for the increase over the project period.
7. When the animals were treated, they stopped dying in large numbers therefore if the project could supplement this with animal feed, the community would have gotten more in terms of milk and greater value when selling animals. So, the project should consider including animal feeds distribution in its future activities.



*Mass animal vaccination*



*Community awareness raising on animal health*



*IYCF & SAM training to HW/HEW*



*Mother to mother support group discussion*

## KENYA

### Lessons learnt in Kenya

The lessons learnt in the course of the project were as follows;

1. The success of the project was largely attributed to working with line departments such as department of special programmes, veterinary department, department of agriculture among others. This ensured alignment with the government projects, and tapping on available expertise.
2. The coordination among partners was instrumental in targeting of the beneficiaries. This helped ensure that the most in need people were reached, and that there was no duplication of beneficiaries.
3. During the project implementation, some negative coping mechanisms such as disposal of vital economic assets especially in the pastoral communities and selling of HHs equipment were observed. Due to lack of alternative income, community members engaged in negative coping strategies to cater for their basic needs like food. The lesson is need for continuous monitoring to enable timely assistance to communities that would reduce such detrimental strategies.
4. Targeting fewer beneficiaries through multiple cycles of assistance could be more impactful as compared to targeting many beneficiaries using fewer cycles. It was suggested that there was a need to target a limited number of beneficiaries and extend the impact especially on the Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCT).
5. Engaging and capacity building community members in various aspects of the project initiatives elicited ownership of the projects by community members, which can point to sustainability. The project also engaged and trained WRMCs as a phasing out strategy.
6. The idea of combining response and resilience activities was a good idea since it not only helped in alleviating people's suffering, but also contributed to their recovery.
7. Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCT) as a response tool was well received by the community. It was viewed as dignifying and gave them multiple options from their needs list.
8. Protection as an integrated project component was timely given the increase of GBV cases as a result of extended drought, post COVID effects, among others. This helped to reduce the GBV cases.

### **Challenges**

The project experienced the following challenges;

1. The worsening drought condition as another rainy season (November – December 2022) failed meant that the communities were suffering due to lack of water, food insecurity and vital asset protection.
2. The project was a pioneer programme in Tana River IRK Field Office hence implementation challenges especially on sourcing for suppliers was experienced. This was however mitigated in the long run whereby the project involved its county government stakeholders to seek for the suppliers.

### **Recommendations**

1. The drought has worsened due to the failure of 4 consecutive rainy seasons as fears of a failed 5th season persist. The community has lost their livelihoods and vital economic assets as a result of negative coping mechanisms. This calls for design and implementation of a long-term resilience programme especially on climate smart interventions to help the community recover from the loss and adapt a more positive coping mechanisms in such climatic shocks.
2. A recommendation was made for NDMA (Kenya) to carry out proper data collection and storage such that whenever there is an intervention, the data is readily available for use. This will reduce the time taken to conduct assessments before interventions take place.





*Disease surveillance and animal vaccination*



*Community engagement*



*IRK team engaging with county government team*



*Community members during CTs beneficiary list verification*

## MALI

### Lessons learnt in Mali

The key lessons learnt from project implementation in Mali included:

1. Targeting using Household Economy Analysis (HEA) coupled with food vouchers system enabled: the involvement of entire communities in participative targeting and distribution, assistance to reach the actual project targets; reduced waiting time for rights holders when collecting their food items and prevention of theft, fraud and deviation from the project plan.
2. The effect of food price inflation was limited a result of a framework agreement with suppliers. The project engaged local suppliers and signed contracts which ensured stability in supply and prices.
3. The combination of long terms solutions (gardens, micro-dam, livestock) with short term assistance was effective in reducing the risk of food insecurity in the future.

### Challenges

1. HEA in itself is a good participatory approach but was found to be time consuming due to iterative processes and triangulation.
2. The vandalism of a communication network by non-state armed people in Rharous (Malitel and Orange) disrupted the coordination with communities, the field team and national office. This has in turn impacted operational budget as long distance since more than 600 km of travel is needed to keep the national office updated on project delivery.
3. The persistent insecurity in the project intervention area has made the implementation stressful.
4. The project duration was too short to deliver fully on coaching communities, particularly on the exploitation of established assets. Government services were strongly involved in the project implementation so that they could pursue the coaching after Islamic Relief's exit.
5. ECOWAS sanction on Mali exacerbated the inflation of prices of food items and construction materials. This mostly affected activities where there was no prior framework agreement with suppliers, or where the beneficiaries did the purchases themselves.

### Recommendations

3. Advocacy with the government on decision making should be organized to ensure that the commitment of coaching communities continues.

- The project staff who assisted in the implementation of the project in Mali should be deployed to new/ other IR Mali projects in order to retain expertise and knowledge.



*Rights holders supervising voucher use in IDP camp of Koubena*



*Cooking demonstration in Mougui*



*Livestock deworming and distribution in Douentza*



*Cash for work in Koubena*

## SOMALIA

### Lessons learnt in Somalia

Below are some of the key lessons learnt from project implementation in Somalia:

#### On the Milk Value Chain intervention

- The PFBR project clearly revealed that an integrated approach of women cooperative group activities through entrepreneurship business skills training promoted adoption of scientific practices by sensitization and improving the knowledge level of women cooperative groups.
- The programme has achieved the expected target and has convincingly demonstrated the importance of supplementary milk business and marketing. There is an increase in income generation through improved milk business. Further, the project has observed decrease in milk losses due to the distribution and availability of cooling machines and other necessary kits for milk vendors.
- The project initiative was also found to be unique since it witnessed the convergence of multiple stakeholders to achieve a common objective of improving milk productivity and hence, this experience of convergence can be applied at a larger scale.
- The project team also made efforts to motivate the beneficiaries, to strengthen their scientific knowledge and to make them adopt milk business and cooling chain practices in the cooperatives. Although women cooperatives were informed about the objective of the activity, they required regular follow-up visits and field-level advisory support from the project teams.
- The future of women's cooperative groups clearly depends on their capacities to manage themselves and shape their own development pathways. This includes the capacity to identify human resource requirements and assign roles; the capacity to set rules and to enforce them; and the capacity to develop effective operational procedures based on their local context.

#### On building the Water Infrastructure Intervention



1. Community engagement is critical prior to the start of any project; thus, the project team mobilized the appropriate project right owners before implementation of the activities, which made the activities successful. Community perspectives and ideas were very crucial especially if they had other methods or alternative ways of doing things for sustainability.
2. Community capacity trainings transformed community perceptions and attitudes towards creation of ownership to the project results.

### **On turning invasive *Prosopis juliflora* into valuable charcoal briquette production**

1. Geographical areas covered by *Prosopis* are predominantly inhabited by pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities who have exhibited conflict in search of pasture. The spread of *Prosopis* has only heightened this need as grazing land increasingly diminishes. Training communities on managing this aggressive plant enabled them to rediscover the value of crop residues that initially went to waste.
2. The approach of controlling *Prosopis* spread through effective utilization to make charcoal briquettes and livestock feed from its pods demonstrated capacity of communities to adapt. With appropriate plant management practices, communities can be more resilient, improve livelihood alternatives and be self-reliant.

### **On locust control**

1. A government official noted that the insecticides used to fight the locusts, poisoned livestock that fed on sprayed plants.

### **Challenges**

1. The devastating drought in the whole of Somalia which really caused widespread suffering among the community members.
2. At some point the office had less staff in the MEAL department which was a challenge at the time but this was mitigated through recruitment of a new MEAL officer.
3. Provision of fodder to pastoralist for only one month yet drought continued to affect the agro pastoralists.

### **Recommendations**

1. The project could look at scaling up the interventions to sustain the communities in the long-term over extreme food insecurity challenges.
2. The project in collaboration with the government should in future, put demarcations on sprayed regions & effectively educate the community on what regions to graze, after what periods succeeding the spray.
3. The good practices should be replicated in future programming.



*Distribution of dairy equipment to women groups*



*Constructed water point*



*Training of water management committee*



*Technical training of milk venders on production of white Cheese and Mozzarella Cheese in Borama*

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Lessons learnt in South Sudan

The key lessons learnt from implementation in South Sudan included:

1. Involvement of different community structures to participate in the decision making process e.g. during needs assessment, during implementation stage such as; borehole siting/ groundwater Exploration, and provision of feedbacks not only improves program quality but also enables stakeholders to have clarity of the project's deliverables.
2. The establishment of local WASH structures and building their capacities including provision of in-kind supports (O&M tool kits) in order for them to take full ownership of the various WASH investments in their respective communities.
3. Continuous HHs hygiene and sanitation awareness through application of Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach has enabled communities adopt very fast towards establishing their own HH latrines including other sanitary components.
4. Seasoned based programing mitigated the risk of project failure thus helped in the achievement of all the project deliverables.
5. GBV and protection mainstreaming activities in project components, such as GBV awareness sessions and PSEA training led to increased knowledge on gender equality, GBV prevention and response services, children's rights and rights of PWDs.

### Challenges

1. The heavy rainfall (April-November 2022) negatively affected the crop and vegetable yield of some crops, especially watermelon and beans, to some extent.
2. Insecurity in some project sites affected the timely intervention of some activities like GBV awareness and borehole rehabilitation.
3. There was an overarching demand for services by the rights holders but there were limited resources to serve their needs e.g. there was a continuous influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Yei due to frequent insecurity cases which caused an overstretch of the limited resources available to the rights holders.
4. The lack of emergency NFIs (shelter & kit supply, WASH, dignity kits) and borehole spare parts made it difficult to respond to emergencies like IDP influxes.
5. Inflation and constant fluctuation of market prices affected purchase of some project inputs especially agricultural inputs.
6. Poor road network caused delay in delivery of much needed inputs such as agricultural inputs in the field during the project implementation.

7. Lack of community centers and women and girls’ friendly spaces made it quite challenging to properly conduct women and girls related activities thus there is need to consider them in future interventions to ensure safety of women and girls.

### Recommendations

1. There is a need to increase water supply for domestic and agricultural production through construction of irrigation schemes, rehabilitation of non-functional boreholes, flashing/disinfection of contaminated boreholes within the county to cater for the community’s needs.
2. There should be a follow up phase of the project focusing on resilience and economic recovery. This will enable households to reduce food insecurity and increase household income.
3. The beneficiaries advised the project to test the soils and identify appropriate seeds/ crops to plant in each area.
4. Future projects should link farmers to soil testing centers to enable them either know their soil profiles and also be able to identify appropriate crops to plant in each area.



*Practical training session on improved agronomic practices done*      *Newly drilled borehole*



*Solar powered Hai Tarawa elevated tank tower by project*      *Rights holders with project distributed WASH NFIs*

## NIGER

### Lessons learnt in Niger

Below are some of the key lessons learnt from the project implemented in Niger:

1. In Niger, there is a resilience task force that has a vertical structure from the prime minister, regional government, local government, to the communal level. However, there is less coordination and cooperation among the offices which affects disaster risk reduction (DRR) programme implementations. This affects the community structures, while in some communities the structures have ceased to exist. There is need to link the government DRR offices and conduct advocacies to improve the functionality of the office.
2. To make nutrition in homes sustainable, it will be important to avoid food support but allocate more time for mobilization and sensitization of commuters in order to create the conditions for real

community management of malnutrition. The cessation of support may lead to the cessation of community activities to combat malnutrition.

3. Rapid needs assessments do not always reflect the problems, real needs, and socio-cultural realities of the participant communities, as the assessment is usually rushed. This led to differences in community needs more so on activities touching on infrastructure whereby the project found that different communities with the same vulnerabilities had different views for instance in the construction of micro dams – some supported the initiative, while others opposed. This in some instances led to change in activity location particularly for some infrastructures components.
4. The project duration (12 months) was too short to deliver fully on coaching the communities particularly in the exploitation of assets that were established, however, government services were strongly involved in the project implementation so that they can pursue the coaching after IR exit.

### **Challenges**

1. Voucher operation was a challenge. Most local traders/suppliers are not in compliance with tax regulation and others do not have the ability or capacity to meet demand or experience. Moreover, they lack the capacity to supply large quantities or wait for payment through check or bank transfer as most cannot do without cash and carry.
2. The vulnerability-based HEA survey criteria that was used for the selection of villages indicates that the target communities are generally scattered. This complicates implementation, affects operational costs, and does not promote spill-over effects for rapid replication of the best practices in neighborhoods.
3. Poor social cohesion and lack of appropriate land tenure security in some communities have delayed the establishment of market gardens in at least two villages.
4. Most of the enterprises and contractors lack technical and financial capacity by contractors which resulted them in not delivering services as per the agreements. This led to contract termination and recurrent withdrawal of contractors particularly in the District of Ouallam where the process of completion of three gardens has significantly suffered from turnover of suppliers.
5. Aged vehicles and poor road conditions particularly in the rainy season, combined with persistent insecurity in the intervention area made the implementation difficult.
6. The starting of DDR activities was delayed by budgeting issues where some activities were planned but not budgeted.

### **Recommendations**

1. Advocacy should be organized within the government decision making to ensure that the commitment of coaching the communities continues.
2. The project staff who assisted in the implementation of the project should be deployed to new/ other Islamic Relief Niger projects in order to retain expertise and knowledge.
3. The IR Niger Office to employ more personnel especially in MEAL department to ease the burden of the MEAL officers to travel long distances to in order to work on various project activities.





*Malnutrition awareness raising by community nutrition volunteers*

*Garden rehabilitation*



*Malnutrition screening in Douthi District*

*Food distribution*

## SUDAN

### Lessons learnt in Sudan

1. Best practices from previous projects were integrated into the project implementation strategy which led to the following achievable results:
  - The involvement of government line Ministries, local authorities and local leaders contributed positively to the success of intervention.
  - The community based approach used in the beneficiary selection and verification allowed for the involvement of all the community members in target identification and prioritization.
  - The application of women empowerment approach ensured their participation in different project activities; through different implementation stages including designing, implementation & follow up.
  - The project was implemented through and in coordination with the community structures such as village development group, women group in order to ensure their active participation in the project and to encourage the sense of project ownership. This has in turn promoted the project sustainability.
2. **Agricultural support services:** the implemented approach for the agricultural support services started by building the capacity of the farmers on the agricultural practices followed by distribution of improved seeds of two cash and staple crops (Cash: Sesame and groundnut, staple Sorghum, Millet) also water melon seeds were distributed. This ensured farmers gained knowledge and skills on the exact agriculture practices.
3. **Cash Disbursement:** the unconditional cash disbursement to 1,230 HH was conducted during the period of the food gap in August and September, when the farmers have spent their money on the preparation of the agriculture land (weeding and cleaning), ploughing and the fertilizers and the seeds plantation. The cash disbursement was therefore done at the right time which was the peak of the food gap with the money being used for the daily food basket.
4. **Food Processing Training:** As part of the women empowerment approach, the project expanded the knowledge and skills of women on food processing in order to enable them increase their awareness on the daily diet diversity using the existing local resources that were accessible and available at their hand. This encouraged a change in the dietary habits from low to highly nutritious foods therefore



resulting in improved family health through reduced disease infections. This in turn led to more savings on money contributing to the wellbeing of the family.

5. The youth received vocational training on welding and general electricity and leather making. They have gained new skills and knowledge which will enable them to get new job opportunities and sources of income. After the training, the project issued them with kits to enable them commence their work. The project also organized a small fair production where the graduates showcased their skills.
6. Inflation led to increase in goat prices which made the contractors fail to provide the number of goats as earlier agreed, leading to delayed implementation of some activities.
7. Involvement of the community in the project led to community buy-in, which can work to ensure sustainability.

### **Challenges**

1. The initial agent who was contracted to distribute goats in Ghebbaish locality failed to supply the agreed number of goats which led to the change of suppliers. The second supplier similarly failed to provide the services, which forced the project implementing team to substitute goat distribution with cash transfer to the beneficiaries.
2. In Ghebbaish locality, the watermelon was infected by pests which damaged the whole crop in the cultivated area in the locality, including the area targeted by the project.
3. The farmers practice mixed cultivation of different crops per acre due to the limited agricultural land for farmers. This leads to the transmission of diseases and insects between crops. In addition, the different needs and treatment between the crops in terms of water, soil and agricultural treatments affects the production and productivity of crops.
4. The spread of plant diseases and insects in the crops affected the crop production. There is limited government support in plant protection services which may affect the achievement of food security.
5. Tribal conflict, political instability and economic deterioration (inflation and currency devaluation and fuel scarcity) had negative impact on the project implementation. Conflict and political instability caused delays in project implementation since some areas could not be accessed. The economic challenges affected commodity prices.
6. Some beneficiaries interviewed in FGDs mentioned that the project did not issue them with kits after their training. They said this was essential to enable them continue with their crafts, because otherwise due to the poverty levels, they were not able to acquire the kits by themselves.

### **Recommendations**

1. For projects like the Global Hunger Prevention and response program, a longer implementation period should be considered to ensure it meets its needs and to measure its impact especially in the context of fragile countries like Sudan which are facing security issues, economic challenges and political instability.
2. Sudan is one of the African countries that is severely affected by climate change resulting in phenomena such as droughts and floods crises. As such, new projects should consider research on the effects of the new phenomena associated with the climatic changes on the agriculture and livestock sectors. This can be done through building the capacity and supporting the research studies as part of the global hunger prevention project.
3. Indigenous tools and knowledge should be utilized while encouraging the reliance and adaptation for food security and livelihoods.

4. Project to look at ways of supporting all who undergo vocational training with kits to undertake their work.
5. The project in future when working on agricultural interventions should consider working with the Ministry of Agriculture to avoid distribution of seeds that are not suited for the area such as the watermelon which were pest-ridden.
6. Project Staff to do an extensive due diligence on supplier and selecting credible before awarding them a contract to avoid failures of these suppliers to deliver as agreed.



*Seedling distribution in Nuhud*



*Seeds distribution in Abu Himiera*



*Cash disbursement*



*Vocational Training for youth (Welding)*

## 4.0. ANNEXES

### 4.1. Terms of reference for the review



Tender-document-f  
or-the-evaluation-o

### 4.2. Indicator tracking table



GHPRP Evaluation -  
Indicator Performance

### 4.3. Profile of the review team members

#### 4.3.1. Team Lead Profile:

Table 10: Team leader Summary profile

<b>Summary of Experience</b>			
<p>Over 20 years' experience managing and coordinating research and M&amp;E assignments including baseline studies, mid and end term evaluations in the African region; as a team coordinator/research manager, and technical gender and child protection specialist. Specific areas of expertise, experience and interest: Youth empowerment, Child Protection; gender equality and empowerment of women (including gender mainstreaming); democracy &amp; governance; health; conflict resolution; food security and resilience; livelihood development and humanitarian response in emergency settings.</p> <p>Susan is also experienced in the application &amp; utilization of qualitative data collection and analysis techniques such as longitudinal case stories and studies; to illustrate most significant change (MSC) of programme interventions; and document achievements, challenges, best practices and lessons learned.</p>			
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
University of Nairobi	Masters in Gender & Development Studies	2002	2006
University of Nairobi	Bachelor's degree in Psychology	1995	1998
Indian Institute of Labour Studies	Diploma in Industrial Psychology	1997	1998
<b>Certifications:</b>			
- Certificate in Project Planning and Management			
- Certification in HIV/TB/AIDS/MALARIA management: Eight			
- Projects Regional Institute for Rural Development (2008)			
<b>Membership in professional societies:</b>			
- Evaluation Society of Kenya			
- African Women Development Network (FEMNET)			
- Market and Social Research Association (MSRA)			

### 4.3.2. Deputy Team Leader Profile

#### Summary of Experience

Table 11: Deputy team leader summary profile

<p>Jane has over 15 years’ experience managing and coordinating M&amp;E assignments including baseline studies, mid and end term evaluations in the African region; as a team coordinator/research manager, and technical livelihood specialist. Specific areas of expertise, experience and interest: Youth empowerment, empowerment of women, democracy &amp; governance; conflict resolution; food security and resilience; livelihood development and humanitarian response in emergency settings. Jane is skilled in the application &amp; utilization of both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis techniques</p>	
Education	DEGREE/CERTIFICATE
	MBA
	National Diploma in Business Management
	BA Economics
	Diploma in Marketing
Membership in professional societies:	➤ ESOMAR
	➤ Evaluation Society of Kenya
	➤ African Women Development Network (FEMNET)

### 4.3.3. Qualitative Analyst Profile

Table 12: Qualitative Analyst Profile

<h4>Summary of Experience</h4> <p>Wycliffe has worked in the research industry for over 5 years. He has immense understanding of both quantitative and qualitative Research of projects both in the private and NGO sectors. He has extensive knowledge in design and management of baseline, midterm and end term evaluations as well as data analysis and report writing. He has worked as a research consultant on projects with a focus on FSL, women empowerment, agricultural, GBV, WASH, health, and livelihood at local and international level.</p>	
Education-Kenyatta University, Kenya	School, college and/or University Attended
	Bachelor of Commerce, Management Science 2015
Membership	MSRA (Market and Social Research Associations)
	Evaluation Society of Kenya
Trainings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction to social research training by MSRA (The Marketing and Social Research Association)</li> <li>● Qualitative analysis- NVIVO</li> </ul>

### 4.3.4. Project Coordinator

Table 13: Project Coordinator Profile

<p>Elijah has worked in the research industry for over 6 years, working on both market and social research projects over the time. He possesses vast experience in Monitoring and Evaluation of research projects</p>
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<p>both in the private and NGO sectors. Elijah has extensive knowledge in design and management of formative study, baseline, midterm and end term evaluations as well as data analysis and report writing. He is particularly qualified in applying qualitative, participatory and ethnographic research methodologies in conducting formative studies, baseline, midterm and end term studies of projects and programs and using the results to inform policy and programming. He has field experience in various countries South Sudan, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Burundi, Malawi, Uganda including remote areas of Kenya and other countries. He has worked as a research partner and consultant on projects with a focus on WASH, health, and livelihood at local and international level. Makau is excellent in both written and spoken English.</p>	
<b>Membership:</b>	Evaluation Society of Kenya MSRA (Market and Social Research Associations)
<b>Education</b>	2019- Certificate in Monitoring and Evaluation 2014- Bsc. Degree in Project Planning & Management 2011- Computer Programming And Computing, SPSS

#### 4.3.5. Deputy Project Coordinator

Table 14: Deputy Project Coordinator Profile

<p>Elvis has operated in the research industry for slightly over 3 years, specializing in social research projects. He well equipped with experience in both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies. He has broad knowledge in design and management of baseline, midterm and end term evaluations as well as data analysis and report writing and mainly experienced in applying qualitative, research methodologies in conducting formative studies, baseline, midterm and end term studies of projects and programs and using the results to inform policy and programming. He has field experience in various countries Somalia, Kenya, and Uganda. Elvis has worked as a research consultant on projects with a focus on food security, livelihood, WASH, GBV</p>	
<b>Membership:</b>	MSRA (Market and Social Research Associations) Evaluation Society of Kenya
<b>Education</b>	YEAR - Degree/Certificate 2014 - BSc. Degree in Project Planning & Management
<b>Certification</b>	MSRA training on Research Ethics

#### 4.4. Review schedule

Table 15: Review Schedule

Date	Activity Description	Responsibility
11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022	Final date for submission of bid proposal	Consultant
12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022	Proposals review, short-listing and follow up enquiries completed	IRW
15 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> Sept 2022	Consultant interviews & final selection	IRW
28 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022	Contract Signing	PARS/IRW
30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022	Inception meeting	IRW/PARS
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct-14 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2023	Evaluation/Desk Review	Consultant
18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2022	In Person Lessons Learned Workshop (3 days)	Consultant/IRW



23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2023	Analysis of evaluation data, & submission of the first draft to IR CO teams & IRW for comments	Consultant
	Initial Presentation of Findings	Consultant
	IR CO teams & IRW responses to draft report	IR CO teams & IRW
	Final report submitted to IR CO teams & IRW	Consultant

#### 4.5. Persons participating in the review

##### **IRW & Regional**

1. Deqa Saleh-GHPR Project Manager IRW
2. Noor Ismail-Regional Coordinator West Africa
3. Ibro - Regional Coordinator West Africa
4. Jama Hanshi & Mohamed Omar- Regional Coordinators East Africa

##### **Somalia**

5. Mohamed Mohamoud Awil- Programmes Manager
6. Mohamed Aded Ali - MEAL Coordinator
7. Ali Mohamoud-MORWD
8. Abdiaziz Mohamed- head of extension Research Unit at Faculty of Agricultural Amoud Research  
Dr. Oso Senior Academic Consultant Amoud Research
9. Ahmed Gas- WASH Engineer IR Somaliland
10. Mohamed Aded Ali IR Somalia MEAL Coordinator
11. Ali Yusuf Farah- Senior FSL Officer
12. Hibo Jama Hussein-Community Agent
13. Nur Daud Abdi-Milk Vendor head
14. Abdirahman Mohamed Hasan-District Commissionaire

##### **South Sudan**

15. Mustapha - Country Director
16. Munirul Islam- Head of Programmes South Sudan
17. MEAL Coordinator & MEAL Officer
18. Mabe Moses-RRC Coordinator-Yei River County
19. Michael Juma Cosmas- Kondoko Boma Chief-Yei River County
20. Obulejo Richard Terence- WASH Coordinator
21. Habiba Abdalla-Gender Officer
22. Mr. Saterlino Elio Ohrage-Project Officer
23. Dudu Emelia Kenyi-Deputy Director for Afri Forest and Environment –Yei River County

##### **Sudan**

24. Mugahid Shuaib Mohamed-Program Manager
25. Mr. Ali Abd El Rahman El Bushra-FSL Officer
26. Bank of Khartoum in El Nuhud
27. Community Mobilizer
28. MOA and Forest Department
29. Seed supplier

- 30. Service Provider for the Vocational Training
- 31. Service Provider Animal Husbandry
- 32. Service Provider Farmer Extension Training
- 33. Service Provider Food Processing Training

**Kenya**

- 34. Hassan- Country Director
- 35. Francis Macharia- MEAL coordinator Kenya
- 36. Abdi Rashid Yusuf - Programme Manager
- 37. Abdi Musa -Tana River County Drought Coordinator
- 38. Abdiqalaq Salat-Drought and Emergency Officer
- 39. Engineer Mumbi - Director- Tana River County Department of Water
- 40. Abdirashid Yusuf-Program manager
- 41. Mr. Samuel Baya - Director of Agriculture

**Ethiopia**

- 42. Kedir Musema Hameza - Head of Programmes
- 43. Mohammed Sheik Bashir- Community development worker at Hargelle
- 44. Mohammed Ali- Community development worker at Hargelle
- 45. Abdi Hassan- senior livelihood officer
- 46. Bashir Ahmed -Senior Health Nutrition officer
- 47. Aman Abdo - Program manager
- 48. Community Health Workers
- 49. Ministry of Health
- 50. Veterinary animal Service Provider
- 51. Technical Service Providers Shebele Bank

**Niger**

- 52. Alirou Adamou - Program Coordinator
- 53. Nana Aichatou Garba - Point Focal-Nutrition/HD Douchi
- 54. Abdoulaye Babakodo Ismael - Coordinator Staff
- 55. Mr. Moussa Abdoulaye - Assistant FSL
- 56. Mr. Issaka Boureima-Meal Officer
- 57. Moctar Issa - Assistant WASH
- 58. Mahamane Omar Sinny - Field Coordinator
- 59. Community Leaders (Niger) Ser Tech Douchi

4.6. Field data used during the review

- Key Informant Interviews
- Focus Group Discussions

4.7. Additional key overview tables, graphs, charts created used to support analysis & inform findings.

Table 16: Detailed KIIs and FGDs

	KIIs	FGDs
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<b>Ethiopia</b>	1) Head of Program	1) cash recipients-3
	2) Programme manager	2) CAHWS-2
	3) Programme staff-2	3) Village Committee- 2
	4) Community development workers-2.	
	5) Shebele bank,	
	6) Veterinary animal services-2,	
	7) CAHWS-2,	
	8) Community Health Workers-2,	
	9) Ministry of Health-2,	
	10) Woreda administration-2.	
<b>Somaliland</b>	1) Programme Manager	1) Cash recipients-3
	2) MEAL coordinator	2) Cash for work participants -2
	3) Senior FSL officer,	3) Water management committee-1
	4) WASH-engineer	4) Milk vendor participants- 1
	5) Technical service Providers-MORWD	5) Livestock fodder recipients-2
	6) Amoud University Research team	6) farmers who received seed - 2
	7) Local Authority-DC (Bulahar)	7) village committee-1
	8) Village leader – Bulahar	
	9) Community agent in Ceehaley	
	10) Milk vendors head in Dhenta.	
<b>Sudan</b>	1. Programme manager W. Kordofan region	1) Farmers who received seeds-2
	2. Food Security Livelihood Officer	2) Livestock, tools and training-6
	1) Community Mobilizer,	3) Women involved in food processing- 3
	2) MOA and Forest Department	4) Feedback & complaint committee-2
	3) Bank of Khartoum	5) Cash recipients - 2
	4) Seed Supplier	
	5) Animal supplier	
	6) Service provider-vocational training	
	7) Service provider food processing	
8) Service provider farmer extension training and service provider animal husbandry.		
<b>South Sudan</b>	1) Country Director	1) Food pack recipients - 1
	2) Head of Programmes	2) Farm inputs recipients-1
	3) WASH Coordinator	3) Water management committee-1
	4) Project Officer	4) WASH beneficiaries-1
	5) Gender Officer	5) Shelter NFI recipients-1
	6) Boma & Payam Chiefs	6) Recipients of dignity kits-1
	7) (Ag. Commissioner for WASH	7) Protection awareness (GBV)-1
	8) Ag. Commissioner Agriculture	8) Food pack recipients - 1
<b>Niger</b>	Program manager	1) Cash for work recipients-2
	Field coordinator	2) Mothers of children under 5 who received food-2
	MEAL officer	3) Market gardening participants-2
	Assistant-FSL officer.	4) Nutrition training & sensitisation sessions - 2
	Community Leaders-2 Ser Tech Douchi,	

	Government Service Technique, Government Service Tech Ouallam	
<b>Kenya</b>	1) Country Director	1) Cash recipients-3
	2) Program manager	2) SHFs farmers who received training, vaccination, seeds & farm storage-3
	3) MEAL Coordinator	
	4) Technical Service	
	5) Director of Agriculture Tana River County	
	6) Tana River County Drought Coordinator	
	7) Drought and Emergency Officer	
	8) Director- Tana River County Department of Water.	
	9) Senior chief Dayate,	
	10) Chewele,	
	11) Jamuhuri	
	12) assistant chief Gafuru.	

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