

Horn of Africa DROUGHT



CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR

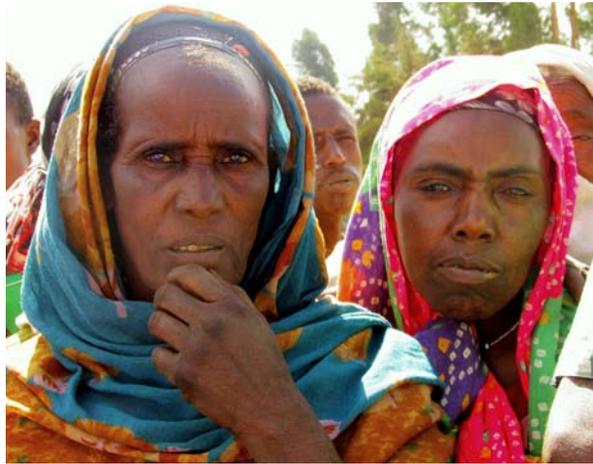
**Development
and Peace**

Progress Report

August 2011 - June 2012

A complex crisis

Last summer, growing food insecurity in the Horn of Africa turned into a large-scale humanitarian disaster when the much-anticipated rainy season failed, and a prolonged drought became further entrenched in the region. This left an estimated 10 million people vulnerable to hunger. The situation was particularly devastating for Somalis, who were isolated from aid due to conflict in their country.



By the time the international community took notice, the situation had become critical, with thousands of

people walking enormous distances to try to reach aid before it was too late.

In mid-July 2011, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE launched an appeal to Canadians to contribute towards humanitarian aid projects in the region. Canadians responded with great generosity and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE raised \$7 million.

This generosity has allowed the organization to develop a long-term program that has several phases that address not only immediate needs, but that support sustainable development projects, which will allow communities to become more resilient to future droughts.

Our response

As the Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis, our first point of contact for this emergency was with local Caritas members and other Caritas organizations present on the ground who had long been working with communities in the region to improve food security.

In early summer 2011, as the situation worsened, the entire Caritas network was placed on alert and began to coordinate efforts to see how operations could be taken up a notch to match the scope of the crisis.

Project proposals for aid came from Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia and Eritrea. DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE supported several of these as part of the first phase of its response, which is scheduled to end in June 2012.

However, a complex, slow-onset crisis like this one cannot be solved by purely humanitarian approaches (massive food aid, water delivery, etc.). Rather, sustainable development approaches need to be incorpora-

ted so there are greater and longer-lasting impacts.

In addition, the strength of the Caritas network is geared more towards this type of long-term response. All of our partners have asked us to support medium-term programs rather than inject large amounts of money over a short period of time. With this in mind, we are in the process of developing the second phase of our response.

This second phase will be focused on issues of food security, community resilience (disaster risk reduction) and conflict resolution (peace mitigation). We will continue to work with our Caritas partners in the region and seek out other partnerships with organizations who can reach vulnerable communities, particularly in Somalia where conflict and insecurity hinder aid operations. We are also supporting Caritas Internationalis in discreet advocacy efforts on the conflict in Somalia so that aid can reach communities more securely.

To date, nearly 30% of funds received by DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE have been spent on this phase. For this phase, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE collaborated with local Caritas members on the ground and received \$1 million from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)'s International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA) program for a project in Eritrea.

Country	Title	Beneficiaries	Allocated amount
Eritrea	Nutrition project for children and nursing mothers	23,000 people	\$1,250,000 (includes \$1 million from CIDA's AHI program)
Kenya	Response to food insecurity and drought in Kenya	180,000 people	\$350,000
Kenya	Water, sanitation and hygiene project for Somalian refugees in the Kambioos camp	48,000 people	\$250,000
Somalia	Food and water aid for families in rural Somalia	20,000 people	\$140,000
Somaliland	Emergency aid for internally displaced people in Somaliland	15,000 people	\$100,000
Ethiopia	Response to the drought in Ethiopia (cash for work, nutrition for babies and nursing mothers, small dams and relaunch of agricultural activities)	65,000 people	\$250,000
Total		351,000 people	\$2,340,000



Women waiting at a food distribution point in Ethiopia



Construction of an earth dam in Kenya

With the first phase of our response coming to an end, we will begin to support new projects. Here are some of the projects under consideration:

Ethiopia

- A Disaster Risk Reduction program with the National Secretariat of the Catholic Church (Caritas Ethiopia).
- Food security and conflict resolution programs targeting nomads and farmers with the diocese (Vicariates) of Harar.
- Recovery programs with communities supported during the emergency phase in the diocese (Eparchy) of Adigrat.
- Support for medical assistance and consulting services for urban refugees in Addis Ababa with Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS).

Kenya

- Support for various JRS programs with urban refugees (emergency assistance, aid to education) and with refugees in the Kakuma refugee camp.
- A food security program with Caritas Kenya.
- Conflict resolution initiatives.

Somalia

- Recovery and food security programs; improving access to water; and livestock re-stocking programs.

Djibouti

- A Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) program in rural areas with Catholic Relief Services.
- An education program for urban refugees with Caritas Djibouti.

The issues in the region remain challenging. It is now estimated that 13.3 million people are suffering from food insecurity, and each country as its own socio-political context to consider when planning projects, such as upcoming elections in Kenya and problems of internal conflict and governance in Somalia. Consequences arising from the displacement of populations and the difficulties of reaching isolated and marginalized groups also bring their own issues in developing effective interventions.

These challenges, however, only serve to reinforce the need to link humanitarian assistance with sustainable development so that the root causes that led to this crisis are also addressed. This will continue to be the main focus of our ongoing programming in the region.

Story from the Field

Kalama Gashaw, 50, stands proudly next to a goat she has just purchased at a local market. In her hands, she also cradles a new scythe and spade for farming her land. This small goat represents a source of life for Kalama. Like many in Ethiopia affected by drought, she has lost most of her livestock, a vital part of her family's livelihood.

"I have sent some of my children to live with family members because I can't support them," said Kalama, who has eight children. "There is maize in the field but without any fruit."

By simply having an additional goat, Kalama will be in a better position to face this difficult situation. She can breed the goat and sell the offspring.

Kalama was able to purchase the goat thanks to a live-



stock re-stocking program organized by the Harar Secretariat of Caritas Ethiopia with support from DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. Vouchers were distributed to those identified as most vulnerable, which they could then exchange for livestock.

The advantage of a program like this one, is that it gives people the freedom and power to choose their own livestock and negotiate the price. It also injects money into the local economy, as the vendors trade in the vouchers for cash once the market is over.

The Harar Secretariat distributed 1,500 vouchers to people in the region and also organized free veterinary clinics where people could bring their livestock to be vaccinated and receive medical attention.