

RESULTS SUMMARY

Rapid Response to Acute Drought Affected Communities in Somalia

Author: PlanBørnenfonden (2023)

[Find project on OpenAid](#) 

PROJECT

<i>Title:</i>	Rapid Response to Acute Drought Affected Communities in Somalia
<i>Partner:</i>	Taakulo Somali Community Organization (TASCO)
<i>Country:</i>	Somalia
<i>Period:</i>	2022 - 2024

CHANGE

In 2023, this programme significantly addressed the acute and chronic challenges faced by drought-affected communities in Somalia's Togdheer and Bay regions. The local partner Taakulo covered basic needs of the crisis-hit communities, combined with strengthening the community's resilience to future droughts through more sustainable water sources. This approach highlights the critical role of local leadership in effective humanitarian response and showcases a successful model for integrating emergency response with long-term climate resilience.

CONTEXT

In Somalia, recurring severe droughts and conflicts, now coupled with recurring floodings, have caused a chronic humanitarian crisis, with substantial impacts on agriculture and livestock, crucial for the livelihoods of the local populations. The crisis has driven many families into displacement, seeking more sustainable living conditions. This situation necessitated a dual approach focusing on immediate relief and long-term resilience to ensure immediate lifesaving as well as sustainable solutions to water scarcity.

CONTRIBUTION

In partnership with Plan, Taakulo has since 2019 worked with vulnerable Somali communities affected by conflict and climate shocks to meet their acute needs and strengthen their resilience before the next crisis hits. Building on this partnership, Plan supports Taakulo's work across the triple nexus reducing immediate hardships and vulnerabilities through emergency water trucking and cash transfers. They also strengthen community resilience by ensuring sustainable, safe, accessible water sources for human consumption, livestock, and agriculture during droughts.

IMAGES



Taakulo team coordinating emergency water trucking



Beneficiary registration for multi-purpose cash

[See next page for more details](#) →

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES

The project mitigated the immediate drought impacts and build resilience to future droughts via: 1) emergency water trucking for 500 households and cash assistance for 2,583 to address basic needs; and 2) establishment of 2 rainwater catchment systems managed and maintained by new water committees, enhancing water supply and access for 900 households and surrounding communities. To strengthening local leadership, the partner Taakulo received 80% of the total budget, led implementation and was integral in programme management, including programme design, budgeting, etc. Taakulo ensured tailoring of all interventions to community needs and to spark local ownership, including community-led beneficiary selection. Taakulo was also instrumental in adapting the program to respond to contextual changes, e.g. cash distributions for flooding victims.

LESSONS

Combining life-saving water trucking and cash assistance with climate-adapted rainwater catchment systems has proven effective in providing immediate relief and contributing to long-term community resilience. Immediate relief ensured vulnerable households' basic needs were met, while rainwater catchment systems benefited communities when rainy seasons returned. Community engagement enhanced the program's success, ensuring activities were well-coordinated and culturally resonant, increasing trust and participation. Scaling up climate adaptations in future programs is essential. This could include more rainwater catchment systems and other resilience components like improved food security and economic resilience. Thus, in 2024, backyard farming with climate-adapted crops and business grants were added to strengthen the community against future climate shocks.

EVIDENCE

This response proved to be effective and necessary, not only addressing immediate survival needs but also fostering a foundation for sustained community resilience. Post-distribution monitoring affirmed the need and relevance of the response the cash distributed to vulnerable families were used to address their basic needs, such as food (84%), water, medicine, re-paying debts and other essentials, which was bought locally, thereby also supporting the local markets and surrounding communities. Monitoring visits and focus group interviews also supported that there were people only surviving because the water trucking came just in time before their last water was running out. Similarly, monitoring visits and focus group interviews affirmed that without the established rainwater catchment systems the local communities would not have been able to benefit from the rainy seasons in 2023.

DOMAINS

Development strategy priorities:		Insert strategy priority
	Changes in the lives of people facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability	Yes
	Changes in laws, policies and practices that affect people’s rights	No
	Changes in the capacity of organisations and communities to support rights	Yes
	Changes in partnerships and collaborations that support people’s rights	Yes
	Changes in participation of groups facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability	No
	Changes in local leadership of development and humanitarian work	Yes

GUIDANCE NOTE

This format consists of two overall sections: on page one, the results summary communicates results to an external audience using a brief summary of what has been achieved; while page two provides an opportunity to explain the background and evidence behind the claims made as part of the summary.

Page 1: Results summary

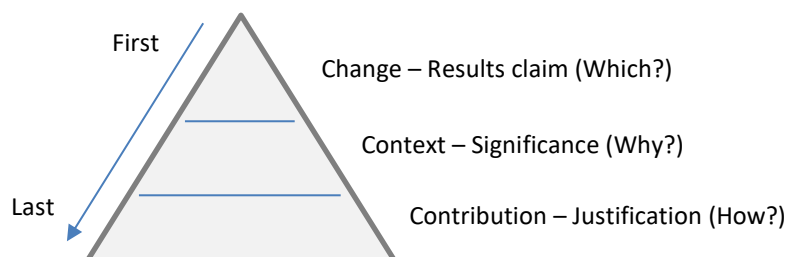
The results summary should outline of the overall change. This should be phrased in a clear and concise manner, focusing on the benefits for target groups or communities, and preferably start out by stating the overall key message as a one-line statement. It is thus important to prioritise what the key message should be and not attempt to describe every possible change that may have occurred.

Note that case studies should not describe all of the activities carried out during the implementation. Instead, it should focus on one or two key messages to be highlighted – which may also span several projects – and only outline activities to backup contributions to the highlighted change.

This can be illustrated as a “reverse funnel.” First, the “change” section introduces the overall results claim, which answers the “which.” Note that this is done before any details have been provided. Second, the “context” section outlines the problem being addressed by the project and the significance of the change. For example, by explaining “why” it benefits target groups or communities.

Finally, and lastly, the “contribution” section should provide examples to justify for “how” the intervention contributed to realising change. Note that this should focus on the plausible linkage between the change and intervention rather than describing details from activities. It is often useful to think of this as a reverse theory-of-change, i.e. “After we did X, then Y occurred, because of Z.”

Figure 1:
Reverse funnel for communication



Page 2: Additional information

The second page should provide background and evidence for project’s contribution to change. It can also address technical issues that do not fit in the results summary. The section consists of the following sections:

- **Activities:** Whereas the “contribution” section on page one provides a brief summary of the project contributions to change, the “activities” section allows for more detail on the project design, organisation and underlying activities in support of the contributions made.
- **Lessons:** Describes lessons learned through the implementation. These should relate to the results claim or alternatively the project(s) as a whole. Please consider (1) novelty – i.e. whether the change represents something new – and (2) the potential to scale and/or build on lessons going ahead.
- **Evidence:** A narrative comparison between results claims and the underlying evidence. It should answer “X led to Y, because of Z,” although it does not need to be phrased this way. It is useful to include references to a few selected documents for further details. Please see guidelines for more.
- **Domains and development strategy:** Describes contributions to defined domains and the Danish development strategy. Please consider limiting the number of domains to a few selected ones.