# Responding to Somalia's Drought

A Summary of this Year's Work (2023)



### THE SITUATION

Much of Somalia was devastated in the past year by a suffocating drought. Five straight failed rainy seasons left countless livestock dead and oncefertile lands barren.

Millions of hungry Muslims in turn were forced to stagger for days and weeks through scrublands in search of help. Mogadishu, Baidoa and other major cities in the country were inundated with women and children begging for food.

AWDAL TOGDHEER NUGAAL **ETHIOPIA** MUDUG GALGADUUD BAKOOL HIRAAN GEDO IDDLE ABELLE BAY BANADIR NUMBER OF PEOPLE LOWER AFFECTED BY DROUGHT KENYA % OF POPULATION AFFECTED LOWER JUBA IUBA 20% - 30% 31% - 40% 41% - 50% 51% - 60% 61% - 74%

Sadly, the media and international response to their plight was muted, leaving few NGOs like Ummah Welfare Trust to help them in their distress. Ummah Welfare Trust launched an emergency appeal in response to the calamity. Alhamdulillah, over **£1 million of pounds of funds were raised** thanks to generous donors like yourselves.

The charity was able to deliver food to starving communities in the country's southern and central regions.



Families in these areas had lost everything, including family members. Your intervention saved lives, delivered hope, and garnered huge rewards for you inshaAllah.



## YOUR IMPACT

'Allah continues fulfilling the needs of a person as long as he is engaged in fulfilling the needs of his brother.' (Tabarani)

A **£1 million emergency food programme** was delivered by Ummah Welfare Trust to starving families in the Bay and Bakol regions at the beginning of this year, alhamdulillah.

Farming families in these areas had lost everything, and needed supplies to tide themselves over till the next rains.

The staples were tailored to their dietary needs, ensuring that the children survived, the mothers could breastfeed and the fathers could work again.



### 11,000 LARGE FOOD PACKS PROVIDED

Large, dry staples of food were delivered to over ten thousand families, alhamdulillah. These supplies, lasting at least 4-6 weeks, gave distressed families more time to breathe and focus on rebuilding what was left of their shattered lives.

'Save yourself from Hell-fire even by giving half a date-fruit in charity.' (Bukhari) Each family received:

- 12.5kg Sorghum
- 25kg Sugar
- 3 Litres Vegetable Oil 12.5kf Wheat Flour
- 5kg Milk Powder
- 10kg Red Beans
- 4kg Dates
- 12.5kg Sweetcorn
- ½ Carton Peanut Butter

#### These food packages were composed of items which covered the local main staples.











### YOUR ROLE & THE NEED TO DO MORE

Some of the worst droughts in Somalia's history have impacted regions that are already poor and neglected. The absent rains have made the hardships of these communities even worse.

Ultimately it is a test from of Allah for our brothers and sisters. Our test is to see if we respond to their cries. Alhamdulillah, many of you have done so, ensuring that thousands of Muslims have been able to survive this calamity.

*'Whoever relieves the hardship of a believer in this world, Allah will relieve his hardship on the Day of Resurrection' (Muslim)* 



Sadly, however, at the time of this report, tens of millions of Muslims across East Africa still remain hungry. Most of them are children.

You have helped so much, and Ummah Welfare Trust asks you to continue to do so. Donate at uwt.org and help these suffering children survive.