Humanitarian funding analysis: Somalia (including Somaliland) drought

1. Key points

- According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)’s Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors have committed/contributed US$156.4 million of humanitarian assistance to Somalia since the start of 2016. In 2015, a total of US$608.6 million was committed/contributed.

- The three largest donors in 2016 so far are the United Kingdom (UK; US$39.0 million), the EU Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO; US$32.4 million) and Germany (US$16.4 million).

- There has been no Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) funding to Somalia so far in 2016. There is a country-based pooled fund for Somalia (the Common Humanitarian Fund/CHF) but so far no contributions are reported from this year.

- The UN-coordinated Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan for 2016 has requested US$885 million from donors. The appeal is currently 11% covered at US$97 million. A further US$59.3 million was committed or contributed outside of the appeal.

2. Recent humanitarian funding to Sudan

Donors have committed or contributed US$156.4 million of humanitarian funding to Somalia so far in 2016. The UK was the largest donor, having committed or contributed US$39.0 million, followed by ECHO (US$32.4 million) and Germany (US$16.4 million). These three donors combined contributed 56% of total funding in 2016.

In 2015, a total of US$608.6 million was reported as committed or contributed to Somalia. The US was the largest donor, giving over a third of the total (US$217.1 million). The UK (US$69.4 million) and EU (European Union) Institutions (US$59.4 million) were the second and third largest donors in this year.

There is an additional US$2.6 million in outstanding pledges reported to Somalia in 2016 from the US, Germany, Sweden and Canada, all of which is for the coordination and support services sector.

3. Recent funding to droughts in Somalia

According to FTS, US$0.3 million is identifiable as specifically allocated in response to drought so far in 2016. This was committed/contributed from Sweden for drought-affected households in Western Somaliland. It is likely though that additional funds are available that are not earmarked or described as specifically directed to the flood response in the project descriptions on FTS.

Furthermore, there is limited geographic breakdown available in funding reported to the FTS for crises in Somalia so far in 2016. A word description search for ‘Puntland’ on project title found projects totalling US$4.6 million in 2016, all of which were channelled through the International Organisation for Migration and have a multi-regional geographic focus which includes both Somaliland and Puntland.
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In 2016, FTS data includes a total of 6 activities containing the word ‘resilience’ in either project title or description, amounting to US$56.0 million in commitments/contributions.

4. Pooled funding as part of the response

i. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

So far in 2016, there have been no CERF allocations to Somalia. However, in 2015, Somalia was the fourth largest CERF recipient with allocations of US$25.3 million – 5.4% of global CERF allocations. Of this total, most (US$20 million) was funded through the CERFs Underfunded Emergencies Window. Of the total CERF allocations in 2015 17% (US$4.4 million) was directed to the food sector.

ii. Common Humanitarian Fund

There is an active Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) in Somalia, but so far in 2016, no allocations are recorded in FTS. In 2015, the Somalia CHF received funding from donors totalling US$47.3 million with allocations totalling US$32.4 million throughout the year.

5. Funding to sectors

Over half of humanitarian funding to Somalia so far in 2016 was allocated to sector not yet specified (55%; US$86.1 million). The food sector received 21% of all funding (US$33.6 million), while coordination and support services received 7% (US$11.5 million).

Water and sanitation, and Agriculture each received relatively low levels of commitments/contributions – US$2.9 million each.

Figure 3: Humanitarian funding to Somalia by sector, 2016

Source: Development Initiatives based on UN OCHA FTS data.

Notes: If funding is given in an unearmarked manner and not yet allocated by the recipient agency to a particular project and sector, the FTS shows the funding under the heading ‘sector not yet specified’. ‘Other’ includes: Protection/Human rights/Rule of law, Shelter and non-food items and Mine action.
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6. Funding channels

UN agencies have received a total of US$91.5 million in international humanitarian assistance committed/contributed to Somalia so far in 2016, making up 58% of total funding. The World Food Programme (WFP) was the largest recipient UN agency and has received just under two thirds (65% or US$59.6 million) of total committed/contributed to UN agencies; United Nation’s Children Fund (UNICEF) received US$10.7 million and was the second largest UN agency.

The International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (RCRC) received US$11.5 million (7% of total), while US$7.6 million was reported as channelled directly through NGOs in 2016 (5% of total); Save the Children received US$3.4 million and was the largest recipient NGO. The Danish Refugee Council was the second largest NGO recipient and received US$2 million.

UN agencies, NGOs and/or Red Cross (details not yet provided) as recorded under the ‘Other’ appealing agency type received US$31.8 million.

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1 Note there is some reported funding where the recipient agency details have not yet been provided. These are likely to be subject of retrospective amends later in the year. This is coded as other in Figure 4.

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7. Appeals and response plans

The UN-coordinated Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan for 2016 has requested **US$885 million** from donors, more than half of which is for food security requirements. The appeal has three objectives, covering response, resilience and protection. The appeal is currently 11% covered at **US$97 million**. A further US$59.3 million has been committed or contributed outside of the appeal.

Somalia has had an appeal every year for the past 16 years. In 2015, the UN-coordinated Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan requested a total of US$863 million, the appeal was 44% covered (US$377.5 million). This was the lowest level of funding to a Somali UN-coordinated appeal to date, despite falling requirements from 2012 to 2015. An additional US$230.9 million was committed or contributed outside the appeal.
Humanitarian funding trends to Somalia (historic)

Humanitarian funding to Somalia has decreased year on year between 2011 and 2015. In 2011, levels stood at US$1350.3 million; more than double levels in 2015 (US$608.6 million).

It is therefore possible that development assistance has been directed to preparedness for and resilience to the present drought.

Data is correct at time of writing and subject to change. For up-to-date figures on the humanitarian response to Somalia and other crises see UN OCHA FTS: fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx?page=home

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Following the 2011 drought and famine in Somalia, donors and agencies committed to a resilience approach to the recurrent crises in the country and wider region. This has resulted in a number of initiatives that bring together development and humanitarian financing to build resilience to the impact of drought, including:

- The EU’s ‘Supporting Horn of Africa Resilience’ initiative, which brings together humanitarian assistance from ECHO and development assistance from DEVCO.
- The EU’s National Indicative Programme 2014–2020, which allocated €286 million for Somalia covering state building and peace building, education, and food security and building resilience. The resilience component received €86 million of the total amount allocated.
- The Somalia Joint Resilience Strategy, an initiative of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, UNICEF and the World Food Programme that seeks to align the three agencies’ responses to resilience in Somalia.

Other information

Figure 5: Humanitarian funding to Somalia, 2011–2016

Source: Development Initiatives based on UN OCHA FTS data. Data downloaded on 21 March 2016.