

LF Assessment Conducted in East of Burhakaba

15-18 January 2014



LF January 2014

Background

With an estimated population of around 176, 000 people, Burhakaba District is one of the largest and most populated in Bay region, containing 26 main villages and more than 387 small rural settlements. It is located between Baidoa to the west, Wanlaweyn to the east, Dinsor to the southwest, Jalalaqsi to the northeast and Qoryoley to the south. Around 15% of the population of Burhakaba District are urban and 85% Agropastoralists and pastoralists are considered the most vulnerable, primarily due to the poor condition of much of the livestock, especially cattle, associated to continuing water shortage and failure of the past Deyr harvest.

Most of the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in Burhakaba areas are seasonally acute food insecure areas as facts by seasonal child malnutrition rates, particularly for weight for height (wasting) due to the impact of recurrent drought. Low and variable rainfall results in scarcity of arid and semi-arid vegetation and limited surface water.

Moreover, cattle and sheep, which are predominant in most pastoral households, are particularly vulnerable to recurrent drought due to their physiological setup and adaptation capacities.

Consequently, there has been a decline of livestock asserts to unsustainable levels and many pastoralists have been forced to seek alternative livelihoods including opportunistic job employments.

The commonly practiced humanitarian response to drought includes emergency food aid, water tankering, rehabilitation of existing water points in rural areas, livestock disease prevention and control measures, re-stocking of animals and human health and nutrition interventions.

Introduction

LIIBAANTA Foundation is a United Kingdom-based, international NGO dedicated exclusively to providing safe domestic water, and sanitation and hygiene education to the East Africa's poorest people. These most basic services are essential to life; without them vulnerable communities are trapped in the stranglehold of disease and poverty.

LIIBAANTA Foundation works by helping local organizations set up low-cost, sustainable projects using appropriate technology that the community itself can manage. LIIBAANTA Foundation also seeks to influence the policies of other key organizations, such as governments, to secure and protect the right of poor people to safe, affordable water and sanitation services. Building the capacity of public and private water institutions.

LIIBAANTA Foundation also works with people around the world to increase economic opportunity, sustain natural resources, and protect the environment. It matches innovative approaches in agriculture, natural resources management, clean energy, and leadership development with the unique needs of its partners

LF assessment Food security situation

LF assessed the villages of eastern part of Burhakaba these are the following:

Kurow, Barkadle, Ajin, Jameco sh Adan, Idaada, Dhaayow, Maroodiley, Gogolis, and Aaminey and Waberi section Burhakaba.

Objectives of the Assessment

The main objectives of the assessment were to oversee the general situation of food security of the area. Analyze and gaps exist. LF field team was conducted the assessment covering existing water points taking measurements dried-up water catchments and interviewing ,discussions within households.

Brief of Food Security situation

Food accessibility and availability reduced due the total crop failure, the pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of Burhakaba face complex human and natural hazards such as drought, floods, conflicts, human and livestock diseases etc. The high frequency and level of shocks makes the pastoral and agro-pastoral households more vulnerable. Disaster risks, reducing the time to recovery and prolonging asset rebuilding endeavors.





The Deyr rains were very late this year and were reported to be inadequate in much of the district. The rains were smaller in quantity and more localised than in normal years. The eastern part of Burhakaba suffers from a scarcity of clean water.

No rainfall was received. Water scarcity is the major problem, because of the dried up water catchments. There is concentration of livestock around water bonds and shallow wells. This has very much affected cattle production in terms of milk and meat.. However the purchasing power of the population is low, particularly in Burhakaba and lack of job opportunity.

Pasture grazing areas are very limited, because it's the end of the dry season. Over all security situation in the region is calm although there is still pressure in some areas in Burhakaba district.



The overall goal of Liibaanta Foundation's situation of food security assessment is to improve the health and socioeconomic well-being of communities by reducing the incidence of water- and sanitation-related diseases through sustainable safe water, sanitation, and hygiene practices through the promotion of personal hygiene and environmental practices. Increase sustainability by promoting integrated water resources management at the local level, with a focus on maintaining the quantity and quality of drinking water



Health and Nutrition

Situation of health and Nutrition of the area is critical no health posts, most of the people are reaching Burhakaba town to get health services and others reaching to Mogadishu for health check up as well as an emergency cases. If the season deteriorates it can easily get malnutrition people who have no the availability of food in their households and also have no alternative livelihood source.

The area food security intervention is limited and also no other food aid for population of eastern part of Burhakaba district.

Conclusion

The Liibaanta Foundation,s' activities in 2014 are focused on improving the lives of the most vulnerable people of Burhakaba district, by reducing the impact of natural disasters, diseases and improving the needs of the communities. Due to the recurrence of droughts in the region The general situation of Bur-Hakaba is clam only reduced interventions from aid agencies are resulting rest quantity.

Liibaanta Foundation request on the way to relevant beneficial interventions to undertake these problems is tailoring program that could get about food security security emergency intervention projects that can match the needs of the community.

Recommendations

Liibaanta Foundation priority needs recommends the following:

- The rehabilitation of existing water points such as water catchments, shallow wells and also emergency water trucking.
- To provide Agriculture inputs and asset building especially re-stocking and Conditional Cash Transfer.
- Improving health and Nutrition of the area for malnourished children, pregnant women and lactating as well as other vulnerable groups.