

WFP Video News Release

Somalia

One year on from declaration of famine

TRT 02:46

17 July 2012

00:00-00:05 Kabasa camp, Dolow, Somalia shot 7 July 2012

Kabasa IDP camp is in Dolow, a small town in the southern region of Gedo. Over the past year Kabasa has become home to thousands of people, mainly women and children. Some flocked to it months ago and others are still arriving. Fleeing drought and the increasing conflict in the south, most lost their crops and livestock to a combination of the elements and the actions of armed men.

Aerial of the camp

00:05-00:34 Shot 7 July 2012

Various of the camp

Internally displaced, Olea Mohammed cooking

00:34-00:55 SOT Olea Mohammed Shot 7 July 2012

57 year old Olea Mohammed lost everything to the drought, so she left Hudur (Southern Somalia) with seven children.

Olea has been in Kabasa camp for over six months. She received rations from the World Food Programme: a family ration during the lean season, and her younger children have been enrolled in the Blanket Supplementary Feeding programme that is providing fortified food to supplement their diet.

“My children were in a bad condition, there was nothing to eat and there were no animals. The people who were moving -- some of them died on the way, some were lucky to get here. Only God who knows the problems that I went through and how I came here.”

00:55-01:42 Fiqi Adan, Somaliland Shot December 2011

To relieve hunger and encourage continued enrolment in primary school, WFP provides school meals or snacks to children. In Somaliland, Puntland and the Central regions, we encourage the attendance of girls in particular, by providing a take-home family ration of vegetable oil. School meals are a vital social safety net for vulnerable households, especially in times of crisis.

WFP School Meals

School children eating. School children in the class.

01:42-02:07 WFP Food for Work rubbish collection project in Galkayo Shot October 2011

Through Food for Assets (FFA) WFP provides food rations to support self-help initiatives that restore infrastructure and the natural environment, as well as create new assets.

Men and women collecting rubbish and loading it on a truck.

02:07-02:21 Mombasa port, Kenya Shot June 2012
Loading WFP food onto the WFP Time charter vessel, the Caroline Scan, docked in Mombasa and heading for Mogadishu.

02:21-02:46 Mogadishu, Somalia Shot August 2011
WFP has been providing emergency relief to IDPs and vulnerable residents at 23 hot meal centres in Mogadishu. These centres provide cooked food on a daily basis and have reached tens of thousands of people each day during the last year.
Women and children queuing at WFP hot meals distribution

Background

During the past year, WFP has reached some 1.5 million people with over 80,000 metric tons of food.

WFP Somalia aims to address basic food needs, strengthen coping mechanisms and support the efforts to achieve food security of vulnerable Somalis.

WFP's programmes range from relief, which is provided during emergencies, to activities designed to build up the resilience of households against future shocks, such as droughts and floods. We are using a more targeted approach to relief assistance for people and communities in crisis, including social safety nets and livelihood support projects, some of which are provided on a seasonal basis when needs are greatest, such as between harvests.

WFP is also concentrating on nutritional programming. The nutrition strategy in Somalia focuses on treatment of both chronic and acute malnutrition during the current emergency, as well as implementing activities that concentrate on preventing people from becoming malnourished. In highly food insecure areas, WFP is now providing family rations to mothers and malnourished children who are part of our supplementary feeding programmes. Combined, WFP's nutrition-related programmes -- supplementary feeding and the family rations -- currently represent 75 per cent of our work in Somalia. Programmes included under nutrition are Blanket and targeted Supplementary Feeding and Mother and Child Health Nutrition Programme.

Through Food for Assets (FFA) WFP provides food rations to support self-help initiatives that restore infrastructure and the natural environment, as well as create new assets. The improvements enable communities to recover from past shocks, such as droughts, and will also increase their ability to cope successfully during future disasters, without having to resort to harmful strategies such as selling all their assets and livestock. Activities can include creating or repairing water catchments, dams, shallow wells, feeder roads to markets, irrigation canals and using soil and water conservation measures to fight soil erosion and restore degraded land. WFP's interventions are tailored to the local livelihood systems and specific activities are selected by each community according to their own needs.