



World Food  
Programme

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Alimentaire  
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برنامج  
الأغذية  
العالمي

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The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

04 October 2007

WFP Video News Release:  
Somalia Crises  
Shot: Sept 26, 2007-10-04  
TRT: 2:42  
(no access Canada)

Shotlist:

00-00:47

Kala Goye camp near the southern Somali town of Jowhar:

Heavily armed police of the Transitional Federal Government patrol a distribution of maize and corn-soya blend from the WFP to 400 people displaced due to fighting from Mogadishu.

00:47-01:10

SOT Peter Goossens-Country Director WFP Somalia

"This is a population that is slowly inching towards this line below which they just can't cope anymore...a result of this accumulation of all the problems there are. If it isn't the drought, it is the floods. If it isn't the floods, it is war. If it isn't war, it is, you name it, hyperinflation - whatever the problem of the day is."

01:10-01:46

Kala Goye camp near the southern Somali town of Jowhar: GV's people living in camp

01:46-02:03

Kala Goye camp: GV's security, scuffle

02:03-02:35

SOT Peter Goossens-Country Director WFP Somalia:

"Ultimately, the Somalis have to agree with each other to stop this, and without that basic agreement and the will to come to such an agreement, there clearly is not a solution for the Somali problems. That is really the key problem. All the other problems, eventually, you can resolve, but you can only resolve those in a stable environment, and Somalia is just not a stable environment."

02:35-02:42

Kala Goye camp: GV's security

02:42 ENDS

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Storyline:

The number of people WFP aims to feed in Somalia increased from 850,000 last year to 1 million largely due to the exodus from Mogadishu and now stands at 1.2 million because of drought that has led to the worst cereal harvest in 13 years. If the short rains fail, the number will grow again. WFP urgently needs US\$20 million and without new contributions its food will start running out in October.

Most of the 400 men, women and children at Kala Goye camp near the southern Somali town of Jowhar fled from Mogadishu and are living in tiny huts built from twigs and saplings covered with thin cloth for shade.

Heavily armed police of the Transitional Federal Government patrol a distribution of maize and corn-soya blend from the WFP. They are needed to keep would-be looters in check and stop arguments over bags of maize.

The initial forecasts for the short rains are drier-than-normal for the coming months. It was poor long rains from April to July that dealt the latest of a series of blows to Jowhar and the surrounding regions of Middle and Lower Shabelle, traditionally farming regions that were the ‘breadbasket’ of Somalia, producing enough food to feed themselves and export.

The poor harvest hit Middle and Lower Shabelle just as they struggled with an influx of more than 80,000 people fleeing fighting in Mogadishu. On top of this, they are also suffering from hyper-inflation, increased transport costs, a disruption of trade and imports because of insecurity, declining access to basic health services and dwindling job opportunities. The price of imported rice has risen more than 80 percent so far this year.

With malnutrition in the Jowhar area now rising above emergency levels, WFP is distributing one-month rations to nearly 100,000 people in Middle Shabelle – both farming families who can’t produce enough to feed themselves and the displaced in the camps and surrounding villages.

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