

Sauti Moja's Famine Response

The terrible famine in the Horn of Africa is a consequence of recurring and severe drought that is aggravated by conflict, exploitation by food speculators, and failures in governance. Large emergency relief operations are required to relieve the suffering of vulnerable pastoralists, most of whom have already lost the livestock that they rely on for survival. Sauti Moja plays a complementary role to other emergency relief agencies, **contributing to famine recovery**, as follows.

Food Relief



Local elders identified our beneficiaries as the most-vulnerable women. They had the least money, least livestock, and least outside support. In abject poverty, they were least capable of purchasing food that is rapidly escalating in price. Though we helped them with livestock that provide milk and income, these animals are no longer productive due to lack of forage.

We appreciate that the UN, Government, Red Cross, and large aid agencies that provide food aid, but it is often erratic. Sauti Moja bridges the 'food gap' by providing food during those periods when other agencies have failed to provide food to our beneficiaries.

Livestock Survival

Sauti Moja invested in food security for vulnerable widows and their families, by providing livestock to reduce the workload of women and provide food for the family. Now, we support these women to reduce losses. Initially, we provided vet meds and refresher training for disease control. As the drought has worsened, most goats moved with local herders to far away areas where there is some forage. The donkeys are kept near home, as they play a critical role in access to water, which is a long distance from home. Currently, we are purchasing supplementary hay to keep the donkeys alive through to the next rains.



Famine Recovery



Most victims of the current famine have a bleak future. Their livestock have died, and their money has been used for food. Help will last only as long as international donors retain interest. Those with access to outside resources have the greatest chance of re-stocking and becoming self-sufficient. The widows that we target have the least ability to build a sustainable future.

In anticipation of rains, we plan for rapid scale-up of our **1000 Widows Initiative**. We will help more widows achieve self-sufficiency, sooner. Where possible, we will provide camels, which are more drought-hardy.

Please, donate and help 1000 Widows recover from famine!

www.sautimoja-usa.org/Donations.html