WFP SOMALIA
SEASONAL PROGRAMMING ANALYSIS

LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMMING: SEASONAL CALENDARS, INTERVENTIONS MENUS AND COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS

Through seasonal programming workshops with communities, local authorities and other partners, WFP has developed a menu of appropriate, seasonally differentiated, activities for all districts in Somalia. The calendars below are from Burao and Odweyne districts in Somaliland but WFP applies the same livelihood programming principles throughout Somalia using specific calendars for the different areas.

While referring to the broader intervention menus, community action plans are also developed by each targeted community. The community action plans provide baseline data, an analysis of needs and appropriate interventions and a three-year prioritized plan, with multiple activities proposed for each community. The plans are shared with partners in order to generate complementary activities.

SEASONAL CALENDAR (TYPICAL YEAR) - BURAO AND ODWEINE DISTRICTS

	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Rainy seasons		Gu - main rains					Deyr - short rains					
Dry seasons				Hagaa - dry season						Jilaal - long dry season		
Pastoralists												
Most difficult/best months	Most difficult months			Start of best months							Difficult months	
Food stresses	Peak hunger gap					Peak					Start of hunger gap	
Seasonal movements		Movements 15-20 km from homestead, either with the whole family members (2/3) or men/young adults only (1/3)										
Farmer/pastoralist conflict		All year but mainly during movements (e.g. land closing, new settlements on pastoral lands, etc.)										
Animal diseases		Diseases linked to wetter season							Higher disease transfers occur at concentrated waterpoints			
Camel reproduction		Conceive/birth anytime during rainy seasons					Conceive/birth anytime during rainy seasons					
Sheep & goats reproduction		Peak - sheep & goats birthing			Peak - only goats reproduce twice a year; sheep kidding in Deyr will be from conception during the previous Deyr							
Camel milk & dairy sales	Highest production & sales - lowest prices			Low production & sales - higher prices			Highest production & sales - lowest prices			Low production & sales - higher prices		
Sheep/goat milk & dairy sales		Peak during rainy seasons					Peak during rainy seasons					
Camel sales				Peak for the Hadj, 4/5 years male camels for export, highest prices					Highest sales (incl productive female) - low quality & low prices			
Sheep & goats sales				Highest sales, low prices (local market)	High sales for Hadj, male, prices high					High sales, quality low, prices low		
HH expenditure patterns									Peak (food, water, but also clothing, etc) when people come to town			
Agro-Pastoralists												
Most difficult/best months (W)	Less work, milk prod., water is avail.			Hunger period+chasing birds and other tasks			Some cereals in stock, water not far			Water scarcity+assist land preparation+other tasks		
Most difficult/best months (M)					Best period					Good period		
Food stresses	Hunger gap increases (slight easing with Gu and milk production) and becomes acute before the harvests											Start
Sorghum (qty) duration					3 months own consumption+sales				2 months own consumption+sales			
Maize (qty) duration					2 months own consumption+sales				2 months own consumption+sales			
Fodder (residues)									Stored and used during Jilal and Haga as livestock fodder			
Sorghum/Maize production	Planting (men/women)		Weeding m/w	Chase birds	Harvest (m)	Land prep	Planting	Weeding	Bird ch. Harvest			Land preparation (men)
Cash crop: Watermelon			Harvest in July (mainly men)		Watermelon sales							Planting, by men mainly
Cash crop: Tomatoes etc	Land prep	Planting	Harvest.									

MENU OF LIVELIHOOD INTERVENTIONS (TYPICAL YEAR) - BURAO AND ODWEINE DISTRICTS

	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
		Gu - main rains					Deyr - short rains					
				Hagaa - dry season						Jilaal - long dry season		
PASTORALISTS	**Support HH's to make investments** (or support **HH Recovery** if following a failed Deyr & severe Jilaal) Can be labour-based: (women & men) Transfer modality preferences: Cash (women & men)			**Protecting livelihoods & safeguarding investments** Can be labour-based: (women & men) Transfer modality preferences: Food (women) / Cash (men)			**Strengthen HH's capacity to prepare for coming hardships** (or support **HH Recovery** if following a failed Gu) Can be labour-based: (women & men) Transfer modality preferences: Cash (women & men)			**Protecting lives & livelihoods & safeguarding development gains** Can be labour-based: (women & men) Transfer modality preferences: Vouchers (women & men) / Cash (men)		
Soil conservation	Tree planting			Soil bunds Gabions Check dams Feeder roads						Soil bunds Gabions Check dams Feeder roads		
Water harvesting				Nursery establishment Berkad construction/rehabilitation Shallow well construction/maintenance Roadside/run-on run-off systems						Nursery establishment Berkad construction/rehabilitation Shallow well construction/maintenance Roadside/run-on run-off systems		
AGRO-PASTORALISTS	**Protecting lives & livelihoods & safeguarding development gains** Can be labour-based: (women & men) Transfer modality preferences: Vouchers (women & men) / Cash (men) **NB: Difficult period for women in June/July** (labour-based projects can be an issue for women)						**Support HH's to make investments** (or support **HH Recovery** if following a failed Gu) Can be labour-based: (women & men) Transfer modality preferences: Cash (women & men)			**Strengthen HH's capacity to prepare for coming hardships** Can be labour-based: (women & men) Transfer modality preferences: Vouchers & Cash (women & men)		**Protecting lives & livelihoods & safeguarding development gains**
Soil conservation	Tree planting			Soil bunds Gabions Check dams Feeder roads						Soil bunds Gabions Check dams Feeder roads		
Water harvesting				Nursery establishment Berkad construction/rehabilitation Shallow well construction/maintenance Roadside/run-on run-off systems						Nursery establishment Berkad construction/rehabilitation Shallow well construction/maintenance Roadside/run-on run-off systems		
Agriculture				Bush clearance Canal rehabilitation						Bush clearance Canal rehabilitation		

PASTORALISTS

Pastoralists are found throughout all rural areas of Somalia, but predominate in the arid lands of Northern and Central Somalia, as well as along the Ethiopian and Kenyan borders. For pastoralists the rainy seasons represent better times of the year, as water and pasture are more available, hence improving livestock body conditions and milk production. Milk availability improves particularly in the periods of goat/sheep lambing (October/November) and camel kidding (June). Below-average rainfall can result in reduced water and pasture availability, which can lead to abnormal livestock migration. During the dry seasons, pasturelands are depleted and people begin to move in search of water and grazing land for their livestock. The peak time for water shortages in pastoral areas is the end of the Jilaal dry season (mid-February to late March).

AGRO-PASTORALISTS

Agro-pastoralists are mainly in inter-riverine regions of Bay, Bakool, western Hiran and eastern Gedo in Southern Somalia, but also found in certain areas of the Northern regions. Agro-pastoralist communities largely depend on the seasonal performance of the rains. Harvests come in once the rainy seasons have passed and conditions are dryer, usually in August (Gu harvest) and January (Deyr harvest). The production amounts will determine when their stocks will deplete and, hence, when their lean season starts. The peak hunger season in cropping areas is towards the end of the Gu rains (May/June).

Beneficiaries of voucher for asset program in Berbera, March 2013
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Participants in canal rehabilitation project in Somaliland, March 2013
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SEASONAL CALENDAR OF BASIC SERVICE PROGRAMMES

Basic Service Programmes			Gu - main rains		Hagaa - dry season			Deyr - short rains			Jilaal - long dry season		
	Months	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
All Livelihoods		High malnutrition spike cont. - increase preventative and treatment nutrition programme outreach/ coverage.	Key Migration period for pastoralists - mobile service provision as well as services at key transit points. Increased incentives needed for school attendance (pastoralists).			School Break	Delivery of school supplies and in-service/refresher trainings for teachers	Migration period for pastoralists - mobile service provision as well as services at key transit points. Increased incentives needed for school attendance (pastoralists).				Acute malnutrition spikes - increase preventative and treatment nutrition programme outreach, coverage. Preventative programmes to begin prior to the peak.	
		Water scarcity cont. - Possible need for water trucking in bad years.	Prioritize school incentives for agro-pastoralists to offset demands for agriculture related work			Mild seasonal acute malnutrition spikes (severity depends on Gu) - increase preventative and treatment nutrition programme outreach/coverage. Preventative programmes to begin prior to the peak.		Community DRR training/planning sessions for pastoralists	Prioritize school incentives for agro-pastoralists to offset demands for agriculture related work		Water scarcity - high workload (girls) and expenditure (HH) - Prioritize water vouchers, Possible need for water trucking in bad years.	
		Adult education/skills trainings for pastoralists (least busy season)			Adult education/skills trainings for urban poor/IDPs (least busy season) and in August for agro-pastoralists			Adult education/skills trainings for pastoralists (least busy season)				Adult education/skills trainings for agro-pastoralists (least busy season)	
								AWD and other disease outbreaks - Increase efforts focused on behaviour change communication				Training of pastoralist elders on conflict resolution and/or rangeland management	
			Morbidity increases (AWD mid April to mid June to July) - Increase efforts focused on behaviour change communication. Possible need for mosquito net and other NFI distributions.			Post Gu Harvest Period, Land Preparation and Planting for Deyr rains with high HH labour demands - efforts to increase utilization of services and/or better outreach required. Increased incentives for school attendance following failed harvests (agro-pastoralists).				HH labour demands for tending to fields and harvest (Dec/Jan) - efforts to increase utilization of services and/or better outreach required.		Mosquito Net distribution and stocking of drugs before rains. Increased incentives for school attendance following failed harvests (agro-pastoralists).

Water catchment rehabilitation project implemented as part of the Joint Resilience Strategy, Dolow, April 2013
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Community consultation in Dolow, October 2012
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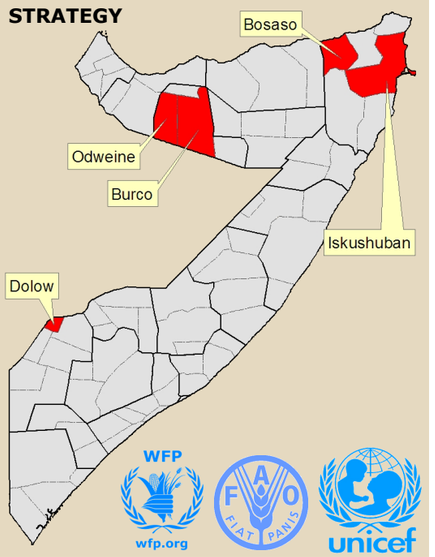
JOINT RESILIENCE STRATEGY

As part of the Joint Resilience Strategy for Somalia adopted in 2012, FAO, UNICEF and WFP identified three complementary building blocks to promote resilience in Somalia. One of these key components – *The strengthening of the productive sectors* – is being addressed through WFP's livelihoods activities.

In April 2013, WFP started implementing livelihoods activities, including water catchment rehabilitation and canal irrigation, in targeted villages in **Dolow district**, one of the geographical focus areas targeted under the Joint Resilience Strategy. The activities were selected through jointly developed community action plans completed in 25 villages in Dolow. FAO and UNICEF are planning to soon start complementary activities in these villages. Throughout 2013-2015 WFP's livelihoods activities will support the implementation of the Joint Resilience Strategy as it is expanded to other parts of Somalia, including **Somaliland (Burao and Odweine)** and **Puntland (Bossaso and Iskushuban)**.

FOCUS DISTRICTS FOR RESILIENCE STRATEGY