

Local Humanitarian Accountability Framework (HAF) Somaliland Program June 2009

1. DRCs mandate and background in Somaliland

DRCs mandate is protection and promotion of durable solutions to refugees and displacement problems on the basis of humanitarian principles and human rights. More specific our mandate is:

- Providing refugees, internally displaced people and other affected groups in war and conflict with assistance according to their rights. This assistance can consist of relief and other humanitarian aid, rehabilitation and support to return home as well as contributions to the promotion of durable solutions.
- Contributing to capacity building and co- operation between local and national authorities as well as other relevant organizations. This work aims at strengthening advocacy and promoting solutions to problems related to situations of conflict particular with a view to improving the protection and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons.

DRC has been working in Somaliland since 1997 and is part of a regional assistance framework covering the Horn of Africa. DRC Somaliland works with the aim to support a sustainable return and integration of refugees and IDPs in all the six regions of Awdal, Togdheer, Sanaaq, Sool, Sahel and Galbeed in Somaliland and do interventions within the following three project components: 1) Emergency, 2) Integrated Livelihoods and 3) Advocacy, Protection and Peace Building.

Emergency:

- Interventions typically provide support to short term psychical construction or rehabilitation of latrines, water points and schools etc. We also work with income generating activities such as revolving funds and beekeeping and respond to emergencies regarding drought, floods and distribution of NFIs.

Integrated livelihoods:

- Interventions focus on the development of economic and institutional capacities in selected districts and to find durable solutions for returnees, IDPs and host communities. The activities encompass physical rehabilitation of berkedes, construction of latrines, community empowerment trainings, irrigated agricultural projects, provisions of revolving funds and access to social services e.g. schools, MCH.

Advocacy, protection and peace building:

- Interventions support local capacities in advocacy for basic human rights and peace by working with clans, traditional- and religious leaders in the areas of traditional law and conflict resolution. The focus is foremost on the rights of vulnerable or displaced people. The activities cover revision of customary laws by elders, peace building, human rights campaigns, community based policing and community based protection.

2. DRCs Somalilands objectives, partners and stakeholders

Objectives

- In situations of emergency and humanitarian crisis, immediate suffering alleviated and basic rights protected
- Strengthening of livelihoods and provision of social services
- Local protection and conflict resolution practices improved

Partners and stakeholders

DRC Somaliland currently works with the following partners and stakeholders:

- IDPs, refugees, returnees and host communities
- Non state actors e.g LNGOs, clan structures, traditional and religious leaders
- Local authorities at state, district and community levels
- Donors (Danida, Sida, FAO, UNHCR, AET, FCA, ECHO and the World Bank)

3. DRC Somaliland's relation to beneficiaries and stakeholders

Information to beneficiaries and stakeholders

DRC provides information about our objectives and projects to beneficiaries and other stakeholders through a variety of media and in the languages Somali and English. This includes radio transmissions, posters, photo exhibitions, pamphlets, community mobilizations and meetings conducted both by DRC staff and partner organizations. Furthermore there is an ongoing dialogue between beneficiaries, other relevant stakeholders and DRC staff concerning project interventions and progress including cluster group meetings.

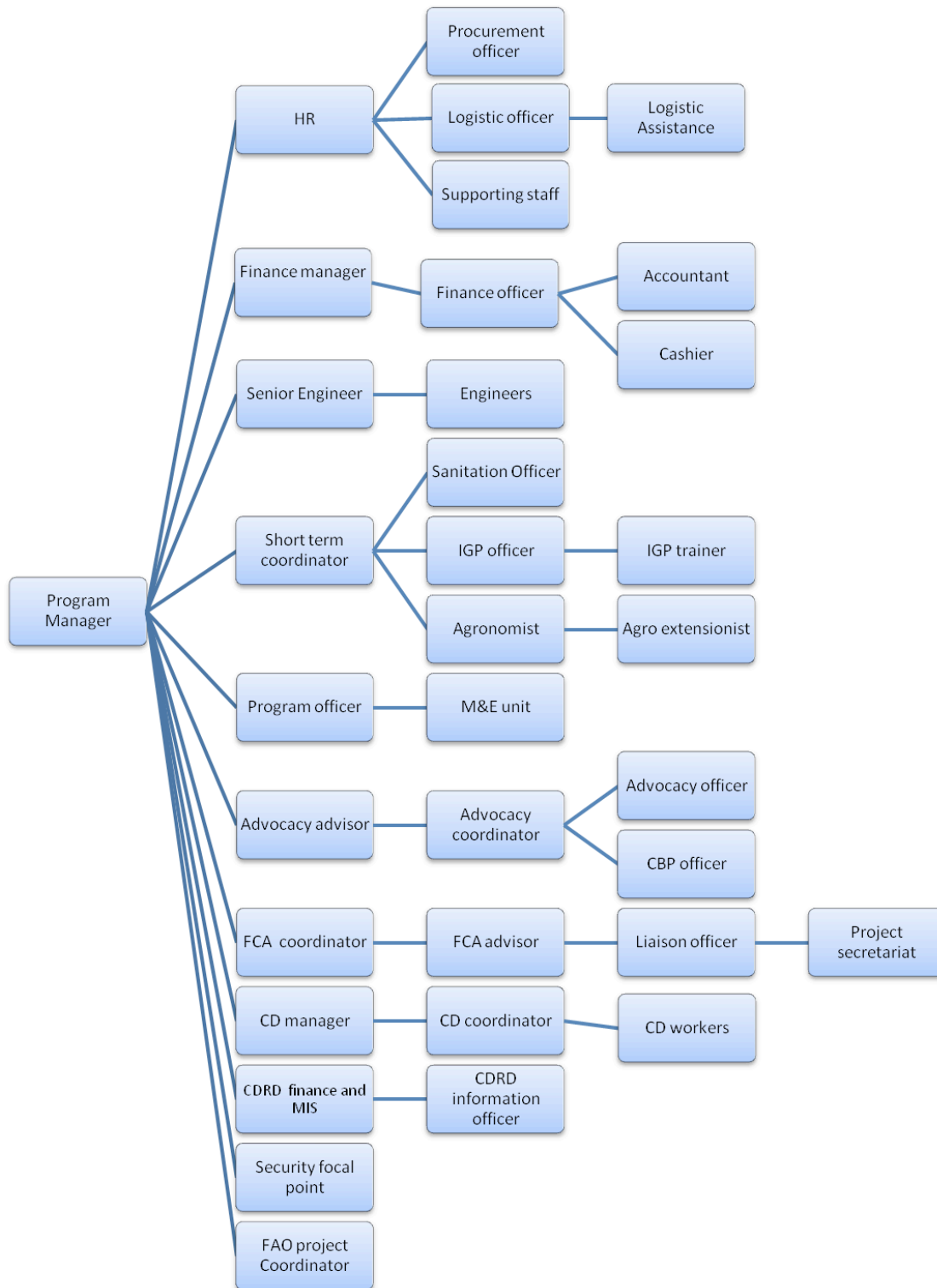
Participation of beneficiaries in project implementation

DRC strives to engage beneficiaries in planning, implementation, monitoring and participatory evaluation of projects depending on the nature of the project. DRC has taken on the CDRD (community driven recovery development) methodology for our livelihoods projects, which especially ensures a community approach where communities take responsibility for their own development and participate in the planning and decision making of interventions to further the sustainability of interventions.

Complaints Response Mechanism (CRM)

DRC has set up a CRM on the basis of staff and beneficiaries' consultations for beneficiaries and other stakeholders to complain and seek redress regarding DRC projects or interventions. The beneficiaries can submit complaints via phone, letter, field staff or electronically. All complaints are filed in a database. Complaints are investigated confidentially, where after decisions and remedial actions are timely informed to the complainant. The complainant has the right to appeal. DRC strives to refer complaints, which are not within the scope of DRC's CRM to other relevant organizations.

4. DRC Somaliland Organogram



5. List of current projects, objectives and donors

Project title	Protection and integrated livelihood for conflict affected populations
Objective(s)	- In situations of emergencies and humanitarian crisis, immediate suffering alleviated and basic rights protected - Strengthening of livelihood and provision of social services - Improvement of protection and conflict resolution
Focus area	Emergency, livelihood, advocacy and protection
Beneficiaries	Returnees, IDPs and vulnerable host communities
Implementing partner(s)	Horn Peace (LNGO)
Donor(s)	Danida
Authorities involved	Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Resettlement

Project title	Irrigation in Durdur watershed
Objective	Strengthen and diversify livelihoods at household level
Focus area	Livelihoods, agriculture
Beneficiaries	Inhabitants of the Durdur watershed, Awdal region
Implementing partner(s)	Coopi
Donor(s)	FAO/EC
Authorities involved	Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of water and mineral resources

Project title	Community policing, livelihood and safety enhancement
Objective	Contribute to improved security, enhance mutual trust and cooperation between communities and police force
Focus area	Security
Beneficiaries	IDPs, returnees, refugees, migrants and host communities
Implementing partner(s)	Saferworld UK, Haqsoor (LNGO)
Donor(s)	SIDA
Authorities involved	The Somaliland police force

Project title	Somalia Religious and traditional leaders peace initiative
Objective	To significantly reduce the levels of active conflict in Somali regions and facilitate accelerated efforts toward reconstruction.
Focus area	Conflict resolution and peace
Beneficiaries	Religious leaders, traditional leaders, government representatives on peace and reconciliation
Implementing partner(s)	International Horn University
Donor(s)	FCA / The finish ministry of foreign affairs
Authorities involved	Government representatives on peace and reconciliation

Project title	Community based livelihood support to returnees and receiving communities
Objective	Promote small business and increase income earnings Increase women's capacity in business management and book keeping
Focus area	Income generating activities
Beneficiaries	Returnees, host communities
Implementing partner(s)	
Donor(s)	UNHCR
Authorities involved	

Project title	Community driven recovery and development project
Objective	To contribute to improve communities livelihoods in Somaliland and Puntland
Focus area	Livelihood
Beneficiaries	Somaliland population/IDPs
Implementing partner(s)	UNICEF,
Donor(s)	World bank
Authorities involved	Local government at district level

Project title	Somali integrated secondary educational development
Objective	Capacity building of the educational system
Focus area	Education; construction of schools
Beneficiaries	Somaliland population
Implementing partner(s)	LNGOs
Donor(s)	AET/EC
Authorities involved	The Ministry of Education

Project title	Strengthening of the secondary and teacher training
Objective	Capacity building of the educational system
Focus area	Education; construction of schools
Beneficiaries	The Somaliland population
Implementing partner(s)	LNGOs
Donor(s)	AET/EC
Authorities involved	The Ministry of Education

6. Accountability improvement framework (AIF)

Action point	Improvement	Monitoring
<i>Benchmark 1</i> Roll out of the DRC handbook	Staff training and workshops	
<i>Benchmark 2</i> Review of information strategy	Compile the different information strategies to one information policy	Dissemination of policy and adherence to it
<i>Benchmark 3</i> Strengthen the documentation of procedures for beneficiary participation	Formalize documentation on the beneficiary participation of project implementation	Review processes of participation / assessment of beneficiary participation
<i>Benchmark 4</i> All DRC staff understand the HAP principles and the requirements of the HAP benchmarks	Staff workshop on HAP Incorporate HAP in job descriptions and introduce staff to the requirements	Include adherence to HAP in staff appraisals Develop follow up plans on HAP activities for staff
<i>Benchmark 4</i> Strengthening of staff competencies	Identify staff training needs and develop training plans	Attendance of trainings and evaluation of trainings
<i>Benchmark 4</i> Implementation of staff appraisal system	Implement staff appraisal system annually	Annual review
<i>Benchmark 5</i> CRM strengthened and set up in more than the three pilot areas of Boroma, Durdur and Odweine	Training of staff Information to communities/partner organizations about the CRM Publicly available info. on CRM procedures in Somali	Evaluation of the use, safe/easy access to and understanding of CRM procedures by beneficiaries bi annually Review of internal procedures and database set up bi annually
<i>Benchmark 6</i> Include HAP status in relation to projects in quarterly reports	Include HAP in template for quarterly report	Review of reports
<i>Benchmark 6</i> Support implementing partners in strengthening their accountability	Integrate HAP principles in MOUs Train partner staff if necessary	Review of MOUs