**THE danish emergency relief fund**

**Alert note**

**Guide to submission of alerts**

NB: Only Danish organisations with local presence either through partner organisations or own organisation in the affected areas can raise an alert.

Please read the Danish Emergency Relief Fund’s Funding Guidelines before submitting an alert (the Funding Guidelines are available here: [www.cisu.dk/derf](http://www.cisu.dk/derf))

**Instructions:**

An alert is raised and submitted through the online platform *Vores CISU*. When submitting an alert

1. basic information must be submitted online.
2. an Alert Note (this document) must be attached.

In the Alert Note, you must fill either of the three sections:

* section B for rapid onset humanitarian crisis, or
* section C for slow onset humanitarian crisis, or
* section D for spike in a protracted humanitarian crisis.

Please note that the alert note must be completed with as much information as possible. CISU will need comprehensive information in order to assess the alert. The information provided has to be verifiable.

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| *Formalities regarding the alert text (section b, c or d):** *NUMBER OF PAGES: The text must not take up more than 1,5 pages (Arial, font size 11, line spacing 1.0, margins: top 3 cm, bottom 3 cm, right 2 cm and left 2 cm). Alerts exceeding this length will be rejected.*
* *LANGUAGE: The text can only be submitted to CISU in English.*
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**Section A: Basic information**

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| Organisation: | *IAS-Denmark* |
| Title of alert: | Drought Emergency in Somaliland |
| Type of crisis: | * *slow onset humanitarian crisis (please fill out section C)*
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Do only fill one of the following three sections, B, C, or D. You may delete the two which do not apply.

**Section C: Slow onset humanitarian crisis**

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| c.1 Where is the crisis? *Describe the areas affected*The crisis is unfolding in Somaliland, a self-declared autonomous region of Somalia, specifically across the Awdal, Salal, Saahil, and Sanaag regions in north west Somalia (Somaliland). These areas are predominantly rural and pastoralist and are currently experiencing extreme drought conditions. The Awdal region is reported as the worst-affected, with severe shortages of water and pasture and high rates of livestock deaths.c.2 What is the nature of the crisis? *Please describe the type of crisis (e.g. climate change disasters, environmental degradation, desertification or other slow onset crisis) and describe potential local social and political implications (e.g. for specific target groups).*This is a climate-induced slow-onset humanitarian crisis, driven by prolonged drought and worsening environmental degradation. The drought has caused the failure of water sources, depletion of pasture, and massive livestock deaths, affecting livelihoods and food security.Social and political implications include:- Displacement of pastoralist households in search of water and aid- Marginalization of vulnerable groups (women, children, elderly)- Increased pressure on already overstretched public services- Risk of tension over scarce water resources between communitiesThe government of Somaliland has declared a national drought emergency (30 July 2025), forming a Drought Response Committee to coordinate aid. The declaration calls for urgent support from the international community and Somaliland diaspora.c.3 What information do you have about the situation? What is the source of that information? *Please provide available information on**affected populations including specific vulnerable groups and access to these* *urgent emergency and/or protection needs* *other actors responding and coordinating (including government, community structures, the UN, INGOs)**Please insert link(s) and/or attach relevant documentation to the alert. Documentation may be found at UN OCHA, ACAPS, or other internationally recognised sources.*Sources:- Official televised statement by President Abdirahman Abdillahi Irro, 30 July 2025- Statements from local officials, religious leaders, and aid workers in Awdal- UN estimates (UN OCHA Somalia Humanitarian Update, July 2025)Affected Population:- Over 1.2 million people are directly at risk in the four affected regions- Vulnerable groups include pastoralist families, female-headed households, children under 5, and the elderly- Access constraints in rural areas, but local community structures are functioningUrgent Needs:- Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance to displaced households- Emergency water trucking, rehabilitation of water points- Livestock feed and animal health support- Targeted nutrition for malnourished children and pregnant/lactating mothers- Protection for displaced women and childrenResponse Actors:- Government of Somaliland – leading national coordination and appeal- Local community elders and religious leaders – mobilizing grassroots support- UN Agencies (e.g. WFP, UNICEF) – early warnings issued- INGOs/NGOs – not yet fully mobilized; coordination mechanisms formingSupporting Documentation:- Somaliland Government Drought Declaration – 30 July 2025 (attached)- UN OCHA Somalia Drought Update – July 2025 ([https://reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-drought-conditions-central-and-northern-regions-flash-update-no1-5-august-2025))c.3.1 Provide as strong as possible evidence of why there is a change in the current slow onset crisis. Describe also when the change occurred (m*ention specific dates if possible).* The situation transitioned from a slow-onset drought into a full-scale humanitarian emergency following an official presidential declaration on 30 July 2025 by President Abdirahman Abdillahi Irro. This marked a critical shift in both severity and coordination mechanisms. Several triggers were cited:* Sharp increase in livestock deaths reported in July 2025 in Awdal, with local reports from aid workers and media documenting carcasses strewn across pasturelands, indicating an irreversible loss of livelihood assets for pastoralist communities.
* Collapse of key water points and boreholes across Salal and Sanaag in late June through July, with local authorities reporting water trucking demand exceeding existing supply capacity.
* Internal displacement from drought-affected villages to urban centers like Borama and Berbera spiked by an estimated 15–20% between 15–30 July, as reported by community leaders.
* The formation of a National Drought Emergency Committee and televised government appeal signal a coordinated national-level response, which had not previously been the case.
* Local fundraising appeals (e.g. ministers donating one month’s salary) began around 31 July, showing the crisis has crossed into the public emergency space.Previously a slow-onset drought, the crisis has now tipped into an emergency requiring immediate humanitarian intervention.

c.3.2. How could DERF grants make a difference for the crisis affected population? *Please consider the following points:** *Rapid disbursement*
* *Short intervention (0-9 months)*
* *Meeting needs of hard-to-reach populations not catered for by other donors*

DERF funding would:- Enable rapid deployment of emergency relief within days of approval- Target hard-to-reach pastoralist populations not yet reached by UN or larger donors- Support a short-term intervention (3–9 months) that prevents total livelihood collapse- Bridge the funding and response gap until larger-scale humanitarian operations mobilize- Help local partners deliver lifesaving support through existing field presence and networksc.4 Are you already responding to this emergency? In which locations/sectors? For which target group? Through which forms of local presence? What is the outcome of your latest assessment and what have you done since then? Yes, IAS DK partners, LMI Somalia, Taakulo and Warsan Relief Organisation are present in Awdal and Saahil, working through a local partner network. Their ongoing work focuses on resilience, WASH, nutrition, education and livelihoods.The latest field reports (July 2025) from Awdal confirm:- Increasing dehydration and malnutrition- Communities requesting urgent water, food, and cash support- Mobile outreach shows 70% of surveyed households have lost livestockIn response, we are:- Conducting rapid needs assessments- Engaging local authorities and community elders- Preparing to launch a DERF-supported emergency intervention |