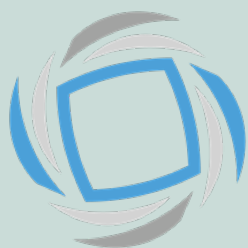




Cash Alliance's Food Security and Livelihoods Project in Somalia

Learning, Review, and Impact Assessment

April 2018



FORCIER

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In response to surging food security needs due to the ongoing drought, and pre-famine conditions, five organizations who had applied for the ECHO 2017 Humanitarian Implementation Plan joined together to form the Cash Alliance (CA) with an aim of providing cash support for Somali households affected by drought. The Alliance members are: Concern Worldwide (CWW), Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), Save the Children (SCI), Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The Cash Alliance is funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) for the pre-famine/ drought response in Somalia.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.nrc.no/>

<https://drc.ngo/>

<https://www.savethechildren.org/>

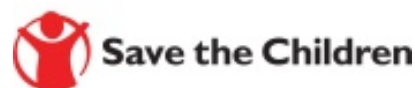
<https://www.cooapi.org/>

<https://www.concern.net/>

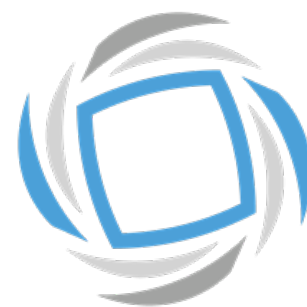
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Acronyms

CATI	Computer-Assisted Telephonic Interview
COOPI	Cooperazione Internazionale
CSI	Coping Strategies Index
CWW	Concern Worldwide
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
EUR	EURO
FCS	Food Consumption Score
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FSL	Food Security and Livelihoods
HDDS	Household Dietary Diversity Score
HH	Households
ICAI	International Commission for Aid Impact
IDDS	Individual Dietary Diversity Score
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
KII	Key Informant Interview
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PDM	Post-Distribution Monitoring
SCI	Save the Children
USD	US Dollars

Contents

Acknowledgements	4
Acronyms	5
Executive Summary	9
Background	12
Somalia and Somaliland Drought	12
Cash Transfer Programmatic History	12
Cash Transfer Programs in Somalia	14
The Cash Alliance/Consortium	15
Research Goals and Objectives	18
Method	19
Desk Review	19
Quantitative Data Collection	19
Qualitative Data Collection	20
Challenges	22
Cash Alliance Documentation	22
Survey Methodology	22
Data Reliability	22
Findings	23
Targeting Process and Criteria	23
Cash Transfer Experience	28
Feedback Mechanisms	30
Conflict	33
Mobile Money and Sim Card Retention	34
Food Security and Resilience	35
Coping Strategies	35
Food Consumption	36
Dietary Diversity	37
Social Impact	39
Expenditures	40
Education	41

Markets	42
Healthcare	43
Safety Nets and Sustainability	43
Cash Alliance/Consortium Coordination and Collaboration	45
Overall Program Evaluation and Analysis (OECD-DAC)	47
Relevance	47
Efficiency	47
Effectiveness	48
Impact	48
Accountability	48
Sustainability	48
Lessons Learned	50
Recommendations	51
References	53
Annex 1: Interview Rosters	55
Annex 2: Coping Strategies Index	57
Annex 3: Quantitative Survey	59
Annex 4: Qualitative Interviews	86
Focus Group Discussion with Beneficiaries	86
Key Informant Interview with Local Project Staff	90
Key Informant Interview with Local Authority	93
Key Informant Interview with Project Leads	96
Annex 5: Final Sampling Distribution	101
Annex 6: Current MEB Per District	103

List of Tables

Table 1: Number of Households Supported by Each Organization in the Cash Alliance.....	15
Table 2: Sampling Demographics.....	20
Table 3: Cash Transfer Experience According to Beneficiaries	30
Table 4: Feedback Mechanism Awareness and Utilization by Beneficiaries	31
Table 5: Utilization of Feedback Mechanisms by Respondents Who Were Also Aware of the Mechanisms	32
Table 6: Average CSI Scores per Organization.....	36
Table 7: Food Consumption Scores per Organization	37
Table 8: Household Dietary Diversity Score and Individual Dietary Diversity Score Means.....	39
Table 9: Key Informant Interview Roster	55
Table 10: Focus Group Discussion Roster	56
Table 11: CSI Questions Per Demographic.....	57
Table 12: Most Common Coping Strategies per Demographic	58

List of Figures

Figure 1: Cash Alliance Timeline	16
Figure 2: Drought Affected Areas in July 2017, at the Start of the Cash Alliance (FSNAU)	17
Figure 3: Targeting Steps	25
Figure 4: Baidoa, Somalia	25
Figure 5: Demographics of Respondents	26
Figure 6: Age Range of Respondents	27
Figure 7: Beneficiary Experiences by Organization and Location.....	28
Figure 8: What Beneficiaries Want To Know	29

Executive Summary

The Cash Alliance was started in 2017 as a result of the ongoing drought in Somalia and is composed of the Norwegian Refugee Council, the Danish Refugee Council, Save the Children, Concern Worldwide, and Cooperazione Internazionale. It is funded by European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and is currently called the Cash Consortium (referred to as the Cash Alliance throughout the report for consistency).

An evaluation of the Cash Alliance was completed by Forcier Consulting in March and April 2018 in order to measure the success of the program thus far. Quantitative surveys were performed with beneficiaries and qualitative interviews were done with project leads, local authorities, local project staff, and beneficiaries in all three zones of Somalia.

Based on the OECD-DAC criteria for program evaluation, scores were assigned to each criterion and the following were found:

- **Relevance: Medium**
Respondents repeatedly stated that they liked the cash transfer system and that it suited their needs but many also wanted trainings or livelihoods. People in IDP camps were particularly suited to be cash transfer beneficiaries as they lack the traditional safety nets, such as community financial and social support for those in crises, found in local communities across Somalia.
- **Efficiency: High**
The majority of beneficiaries interviewed in the quantitative survey thought the cash transfer process was timely and simple. The mobile money system makes the cash transfer program incredibly efficient in transferring money to beneficiaries.
- **Effectiveness: High**
The cash transfer program is improving people's food security and through providing them cash to buy food in local markets and pay down previous debts. It also reaches the most vulnerable people including minority clan members, disabled people, and older persons.
- **Impact: Low**
Social impact, measured as health and education access, has not been achieved. Rates of school attendance and health-seeking behavior are still low and beneficiaries often said they would be unwilling to spend money on education or health for fear they would not have enough money for food.
- **Accountability: Medium**
Respondents had low awareness of formal feedback mechanisms for the project and many focus group participants wanted more information regarding the timing and amount than was provided. For some demographic groups such as older persons, this information may have been hard to retain from earlier sensitization campaigns.

- **Sustainability: Low**

At the moment, the cash transfer amount is too small to have any impact beyond food security and resilience. In addition, there were a few concerning remarks made by those in IDP camps saying that they have become disincentivized to work due to the cash transfer. In addition, food security scores collected by Forcier after the cash transfer program were lower than food security scores collected during PDMs, possibly indicating that beneficiaries' food security and resilience had not sustainably improved.

The findings from the study were mixed but overall quite positive. The Cash Alliance was found to have successfully implemented a culturally-contextual and efficient cash transfer system. While there are weaknesses to be addressed, three in four beneficiaries found the cash transfer process easy and simple and beneficiaries were able to use the cash transfer to become more food secure during the program.

The following contain two sets of recommendations based on the Cash Alliance cash transfer project and the ongoing Cash Consortium cash transfer project. The first set of recommendations details suggestions for improving the beneficiary experience including specific recommendations on feedback mechanisms, health and education, community awareness, and livelihoods. The second set details recommendations related to creating a national social safety net in Somalia and steps that could be taken in the interim before a safety net program is operational.

Beneficiary Experiences

Social Impact: The cash transfer program has little influence over any social impacts (health, education, and livelihoods). While not the intended goal of the program, beneficiaries specifically want more job trainings and livelihoods and opportunities to seek free or reduced-cost health and education services. In almost all the areas where the Cash Consortium works, livelihoods, health, and education-focused projects exist. Connections should be made with these NGOs or projects so that referrals can be made to beneficiaries to fulfill more of their needs.

Feedback Mechanisms: Low awareness of feedback mechanisms was prevalent among all respondents. Save the Children had the highest percentage of respondents who reported awareness of feedback mechanisms and their methods for awareness-raising could act as a model for the rest of the consortium.

Awareness Raising: Beneficiaries were often not informed of critical details about the cash transfer. Methods are currently not sufficient for beneficiaries who are likely to forget information provided at registration. Because beneficiaries already are in possession of phones and sim cards, SMS technology would provide information on a regular basis.

Steps To Safety Nets

Target Creation: Currently targets are set using regional or zonal level data, providing less accurate and often unattainable goals. Completing a baseline of the community before registration or before

the announcement of the cash transfer program would provide more reliable and specific data for Cash Consortium communities.

Household Sizes: Household size greatly influences the impact of the cash transfer on food security, resilience, and social needs. Methods of cash transfer that take into account household size would achieve more equitable outcomes. However, household size may fluctuate with the introduction of the cash transfer. Therefore, determining household size should be done in the initial baseline, before notifying community members of the introduction of the cash transfer program.

ID System: Biometric systems are being introduced throughout Somalia in a variety of different capacities. Iris scanners were used in the 2017 Somaliland elections and fingerprints are used in WFP's SCOPE program and in the private sector's Camel Cash program. While creating a national ID system may be several years off, collecting and using biometric data for current or new beneficiaries would improve tracking systems and verification.

Verifications: Currently the verification process has a high threshold for redoing targeting and selection based on any excluding factors. This is a reoccurring problem in the Cash Alliance and Consortium as there is no standard minimum percentage of correctly-selected beneficiaries. Standards and expectations should be set at the beginning of the selection process for the next round of cash transfers and verification processes should be standardized and managed at the Nairobi office level.

By implementing these recommendations, the Cash Alliance can achieve more of their goals and create a stronger and lasting impact for their cash transfer beneficiaries.

Background

The Cash Alliance was created in 2017, in response to the ongoing drought in Somalia that has directly affected over half of Somalia's population. Its programs are still ongoing under the name, the Cash Consortium. The evaluation and learning research component of the cash transfer program in Somalia was carried out by Forcier from February to April 2018. This evaluation measures the Cash Alliance program in terms of its relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, impact, and sustainability, draws out key learnings, and provides recommendations for improvement for future programming.

Somalia and Somaliland Drought

Somalia has experienced an ongoing drought since 2015.¹ This drought has resulted in livestock deaths and has had devastating consequences for livelihoods and food security. Almost one million people have been displaced² and over 5.4 million people are currently experiencing acute food insecurity. The *Deyr* rains in 2017 became the fourth consecutive failed rainy season leading to the Somali government declaring the drought a national emergency.³ There are currently many different humanitarian responses to the drought including food aid, vouchers, and cash-based programming.

Cash Transfer Programmatic History

Cash transfer programs, in their current formation, started to emerge in the 1990s as a greater acceptance of systematic approaches to vulnerability developed.⁴ Currently, over 130 countries have cash transfer programs.⁵ Cash transfer programs are typically divided into three categories: unconditional cash transfers, conditional cash transfers, and restricted transfers (vouchers). Conditional cash transfers have conditions on how the cash is spent or what the beneficiary must do to earn the money. Unconditional cash transfers allow the beneficiary to spend the money in the way they see fit and do not require the beneficiary to fulfill any requirements before receiving the cash transfer.⁶ Restricted transfers provide beneficiaries with the ability to purchase a fixed quantity of a specific good.

¹ UN OCHA. Somalia: State-by-State Drought Analysis. February 2018. Accessed: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/20180228_state-by-state_drought_analysis.pdf

² UN OCHA. Somalia: Drought Response - Situation Report No. 8. Accessed: <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-drought-response-situation-report-no-8-16-may-2017>

³ UN AMISOM. Somalia President declares drought a national disaster. Accessed: <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-president-declares-drought-national-disaster>

⁴ Arnold C, Conway T, Greenslade M. Cash Transfers: Literature Review. DFID. 2011.

⁵ Bastagli F, Hagen-Zanker J, Harman L, et al. Cash Transfers: What does the evidence say?. *Overseas Development Institute*. 2016. Ibid.

⁶ ODI. Cash transfer programming in emergencies. 2011.

Today, both NGOs and governments use cash transfer programs in emergencies to quickly get aid to people affected by crisis. Organizations or governments that tend to resist cash programming do so because it doesn't fit neatly into their existing programs or because it would not serve their overall, often political, agenda.⁷ However, used successfully, cash transfers can address not only food security and nutrition but can address a number of sectors including shelter, education, and healthcare.⁸ There is evidence that food aid programs have a larger impact on the nutritional status of beneficiaries due to fortified aid or the lack of vitamin-rich foods in the market.⁹ Cash transfers have also been shown to increase people's food security and consumption due to increased purchasing of food using the cash transfer. Cash transfers have been seen to have advantages over food aid specifically due to the inefficiency of delivering food and the opportunity for beneficiaries to actually purchase the food they enjoy eating, and have been shown to be successful in assisting those who are most vulnerable in the community.^{10,11}

Cash transfers have been shown to significantly improve health and education of beneficiary households, particularly in stable contexts.¹² Even though cash transfers have been seen to impact health and education gains, the lack of supply of proper healthcare or education often hinders true and lasting gains in these areas.¹³ Lastly, cash transfers have been able to generate gains in livelihoods and income-generating activities, but often only in conjunction with other interventions.¹⁴ Cash transfers, both conditional and unconditional, are often well-received by beneficiaries compared to other types of aid because of the increased decision-making power over spending.¹⁵

More recently, cash transfers have been used in emergency settings due to their advantages over in-kind aid. These advantages include household decision-making power, local market stimulation, and livelihoods creation.¹⁶ There are distinct benefits to cash transfers in conflict settings, even with security challenges, where they have been seen to strengthen social unity if done in coordination with the government or local community.¹⁷ Various solutions such as mobile money and highly trained local staff have been used to reduce the risk of cash transfer programs in fragile contexts.

⁷ Harvey P, Bailey S. Cash transfer programming and the humanitarian system. ODI. 2015.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Creti P, Jaspars S. Cash Transfer Programming in Emergencies. Oxfam. 2006.

¹¹ DFID. Cash Transfers: Evidence Paper. 2011.

¹² DFID. Cash Transfers: Evidence Paper. 2011.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ CALP. A case for cash: crisis and disaster-affected populations' perspective. ND.

¹⁶ Gore R, Patel M. Cash Transfers in Emergencies: A Review Drawing Upon the Tsunami and Other Experience. 2006.

¹⁷ Ibid.

Cash Transfer Programs in Somalia

Cash transfers have been one of the primary methods of aid used by humanitarian actors in Somalia since the 2011 drought. During the 2011 drought, the World Food Programme and CARE International withdrew their food-based aid due to security concerns, which led to other NGOs with experience in cash-based programming advocating for cash transfers.¹⁸ Initial resistance to cash transfers focused on the uncertainty of the markets, and doubt that cash would reach the most vulnerable. However, after the drought was declared a famine in July 2011, NGOs and funders not previously involved in cash programming became interested in starting their own programs, primarily due to a limited ability to deliver other types of in-kind aid. Finally, cash transfers, the majority of which were vouchers, were used to alleviate suffering of drought-affected communities.¹⁹

Several evaluations by UNICEF,²⁰ International Commission for Aid Impact,²¹ Oxfam,²² Oxford Policy Management,²³ and UNDP²⁴ have been done on the cash transfer programming that occurred in 2011.²⁵ The research found that one of the largest benefits of cash-based programming was the ability to scale quickly, which was critical in the 2011 drought as the response had been repeatedly delayed due to security problems and the initial resistance to using cash programming.²⁶

Corruption was shown to be no more common with cash programming than other types of humanitarian programming. However, many households did have to pay a 'tax' on the cash transfer to local authorities each time the cash transfer was delivered. In return, they were allowed to stay in their local communities and continue receiving the cash transfer. Some local NGO employees had also been found to create fake beneficiaries and keep the money themselves.²⁷ In addition, security concerns prevented the most vulnerable from receiving cash in the 2011 famine. Al-Shabaab's control over certain severely drought-affected areas prevented the cash distributors from being able to physically give out cash to the target beneficiaries.²⁸ These problems were resolved to an extent by organizations switching to mobile money platforms. There was also a distinct lack of

¹⁸ UNICEF. Final Evaluation of the Unconditional Cash and Voucher Response to the 2011-2012 Crisis in Southern and Central Somalia. Accessed: https://www.unicef.org/somalia/SOM_resources_cashevalsum.pdf

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ International Commission for Aid Impact. DFID's Humanitarian Response in the Horn of Africa. 2012.

²² Featherstone, A. Evaluation of Somalia Drought Response 2011/12: Using Oxfam GBs Global Humanitarian Indicator Tool. 2012.

²³ Oxford Policy Management. A guide to calculating the cost of delivering cash transfers in humanitarian emergencies, with reference to case studies in Kenya and Somalia. 2014.

²⁴ UNDP. Cash and Compassion: The role of the Somali Diaspora in Relief, Development, and Peace Building. 2011.

²⁵ UNICEF. Final Evaluation of the Unconditional Cash and Voucher Response to the 2011-2012 Crisis in Southern and Central Somalia. Accessed: https://www.unicef.org/somalia/SOM_resources_cashevalsum.pdf

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

monitoring and evaluation during the drought, given the volume of programming being done at the time; hence information about the effectiveness of the cash-based programming in the 2011 drought is not as well documented as desired.²⁹

The Cash Alliance/Consortium

In order to offer the required emergency response to communities by the ongoing 2015 drought in Somalia, the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) formed and funded an alliance of organizations, called the Cash Alliance (now the Cash Consortium, as of November 2017). The principle objective of the Alliance is to ensure that drought-affected populations in Somalia are food secure. The cash intervention is intended to support communities to meet food and non-food needs.

There are five partners within the Cash Alliance: the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Save the Children (SCI), the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI), and Concern Worldwide (CWW). With a host of vulnerable communities experiencing food shortages across the country, the Alliance partners share the common goal of enhancing food security through cash support and other forms of emergency response.

The Cash Alliance Partners apply multi-purpose cash grants for a three-month period with a transfer value of 80% of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), calculated using the recommended rate per region (See Annex 2). The MEB is decided by the Cash and Market Working Group in Somalia and decreased during the project resulting in decreased cash transfers. The project commenced in April 2017 with a total budget of EUR 16,667,078 for a total cumulative targeted beneficiary figure of 45,968 households (HH) (approximately 275,808 individuals). The differences in numbers of households (See Table 1) for each organization can be explained by the level of existing programming and operations they had in place at the time of proposal.

Table 1: Number of Households Supported by Each Organization in the Cash Alliance

Organization	Number of Households
COOPI	3,945
SCI	12,828
CWW	11,686
DRC	7,900
NRC	10,254
Total	46,613

²⁹ Ibid.

Whilst each agency is funded independently by ECHO, there is a harmonized approach for the Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) Cash programming with clear coverage that encompasses complementarity as well as a common log frame and indicators.

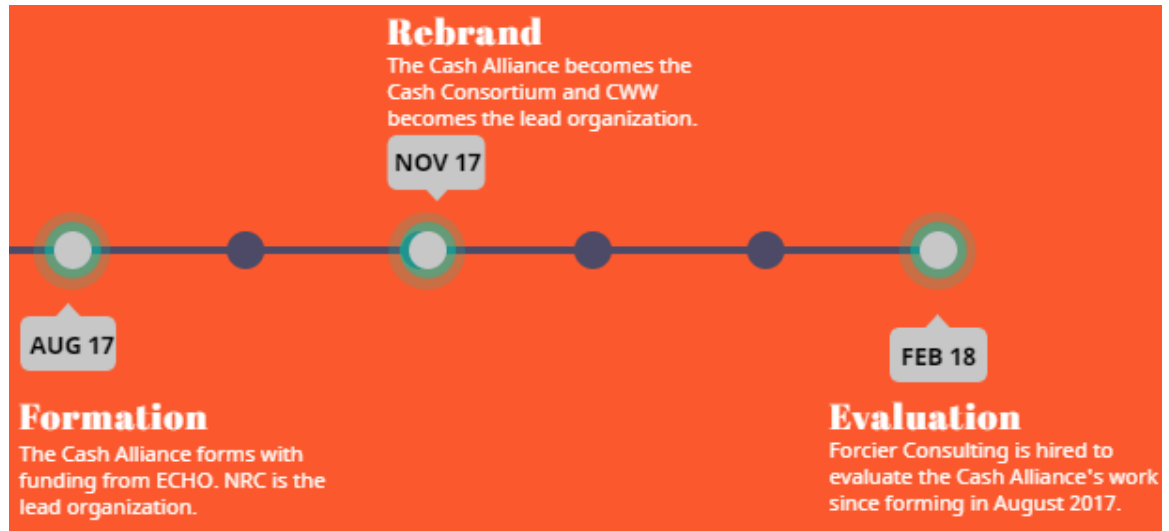


Figure 1: Cash Alliance Timeline

The organizations cover most of the drought-affected areas in Somalia. The organizations work in all three zones and have worked in 55 different districts. Areas where the cash transfer program was implemented were selected in part due to the drought level in those areas but was also heavily dependent on where the Cash Alliance was already working and already had infrastructure and staff in place. The Cash Alliance's work has primarily been focused in the serious, critical, and very critical drought-affected areas of Somalia (See Figure 2).

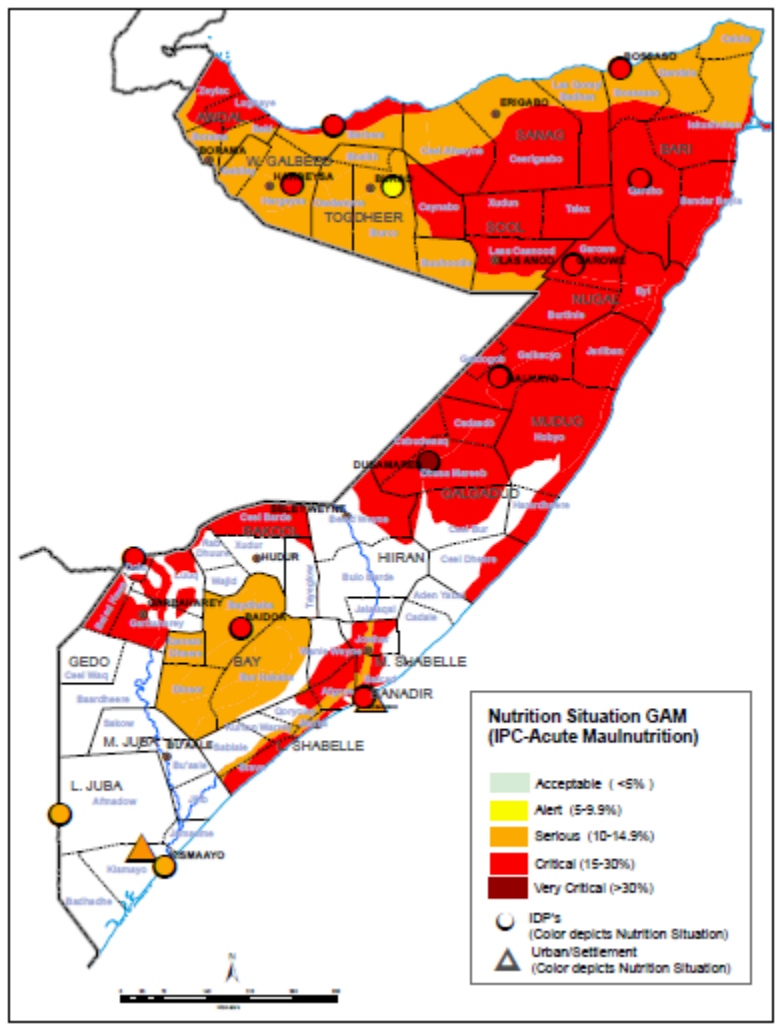


Figure 2: Drought Affected Areas in July 2017, at the Start of the Cash Alliance (FSNAU)

Research Goals and Objectives

Forcier conducted a multilayered evaluation of the Cash Alliance. Drawing from our knowledge and experience in evaluating cash programming, Forcier utilized a focused mixed-methods approach to assess the evaluation objectives through OECD-DAC criteria. The following describes the scope of the evaluation. This evaluation focused on the implementation of the project and the overall impact of cash programming implemented by the Cash Alliance in Somalia. The scope includes:

- Assessing the impact of the gatekeepers on the project and making recommendations on the next possible project implementation;
- Looking at the impact/outcomes of the cash transfers on non-food items to help derive information on good impact linkages;
- Drawing learnings on impact with special emphasis on areas in the south where partners do not have access;
- Investigating utilization of cash and its social impact, including education, health, nutrition, and the development of sustainable safety nets;
- Assessing the appropriateness of the cash delivery systems; and
- Assessing the success or otherwise of introducing a more unified and harmonized cash transfer project.

In order to evaluate the above scope of the project, Forcier tailored the methodological approach related to the OECD-DAC criteria. The five OECD-DAC criteria are: Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability. The category, Accountability, although not part of the OECD-DAC criteria, is an important aspect of this evaluation, and so remains an additional criterion of its own. The modified OECD-DAC criteria for this project evaluation are listed below:

- **Relevance:** Assessing the extent to which the cash transfer project is suited to the priorities and policies of the beneficiaries and local community and the extent to which the activities align with the overall goals of the project.
- **Effectiveness:** Assessing the degree of inclusion of all the relevant vulnerable community categories, the analysis of the impact on the beneficiary communities, the degree to which the agreed target criteria was used, and the assessments of any undesired results of the project
- **Efficiency:** Assessing the extent to which the speed, cost effectiveness and overall implementation responded to the beneficiary needs, as well as areas which could be improved
- **Impact:** Positive and negative changes produced by the cash transfer project, intended and unintended. This involves the impact and effects on other sectors, including local markets.
- **Accountability:** Ability of organizations to respond to beneficiary concerns and create trust between the organizations and beneficiaries.
- **Sustainability:** Assessing whether the cash transfer project can be replicated in the future, the identification of whether other longer-term social protection solutions exist and if long-term sustainable mechanisms are in place.

Method

A mixed-methods approach was used to address the research objectives. A desk review was conducted to inform the inception report, tool design, and this final report. Quantitative surveys were performed through computer-assisted telephonic interviews (CATI). CATI is used in the Forcier call center where enumerators follow a computerized questionnaire and administer the survey over the telephone. Lastly, qualitative interviews were conducted with beneficiaries, government officials or community leaders,³⁰ project leads, and local project staff.

Desk Review

A desk review of all relevant documents including project proposals, log frames, baseline reports, progress reports, success stories, and relevant secondary literature was conducted to both inform the construction of the tools and the analysis of data for the final report. Grey literature was also utilized. Search terms were a combination of the following: cash transfers, vouchers, Somalia, food security, cash support, livelihoods, Cash Alliance, cash programming. Searches for the above terms were performed in both search engines and grey literature databases (for example: Google, Google Scholar, ECHO).

Quantitative Data Collection

The quantitative survey was developed based on the research objectives and previous data collection performed by Cash Alliance partners. This survey was representative of the beneficiary population and allowed Forcier to analyze the impact of the cash transfer program on a population-based level.

A clustered sampling design was used to determine the sample size needed for the quantitative survey. Using progress reports provided by the Cash Alliance, it was determined that the Alliance organizations work in 55 districts in Somalia. Those 55 districts were used as clusters. The population size based on the contact lists was 44,649 individuals. A desired 95% confidence interval and a 5% margin of error were used. In addition, to account for the increase in variance with a clustered sampling design, a design effect of 1.6 was used. This design effect was estimated using previous studies and existing knowledge about the homogeneity of the population.³¹ The design effect increases the sample size in an effort to increase the level of precision within the

³⁰ Chosen based on their involvement in selection of beneficiaries

³¹ Kaiser R, Woodruff B, Bilukha O, Speigel P, Salama P. Using Design Effects From Previous Cluster Surveys to Guide Sample Size Calculation in Emergency Settings. *Disasters*. 30:2. 2006.

sample. Using these metrics, it was determined that the total needed sample size was 12 households per cluster, or a total of 660 household respondents.³²

In total, 670 people were interviewed in the quantitative survey, slightly above the target sample size of 660 respondents (See Table 2). After the call center began, it was determined that not all beneficiaries in all 55 districts could be reached due to missing phone numbers, districts that were no longer being worked in, and some beneficiary lists not being received by the end of fieldwork.³³ Lists were not complete due to lack of documentation, particularly for the first cycle of the cash transfer program. The sample size was calculated from the progress reports which included more districts than the beneficiary lists. However, the target sample size was still achieved by oversampling in districts in the same regions as districts that were not able to be sampled. It is unknown if the similarity of characteristics of beneficiaries in those regions extended beyond their geographical proximity and so the opinions of all beneficiaries may not be statistically represented.

Table 2: Sampling Demographics

Metric	Beneficiary Lists Provided by the Cash Alliance (Sampling Framework) (%)	Beneficiaries Contacted by Forcier (Sampling Completed) (%)
By Partner		
COOPI	4.5%	55 (8.1%)
CWW	6.8%	79 (11.3%)
DRC	36.3%	228 (34.3%)
NRC	40.9%	232 (34.9%)
SCI	11.4%	76 (11.3%)
By Location		
Somaliland	15.9%	113 (16.9%)
Puntland	6.8%	26 (3.9%)
South Central	77.3%	531 (79.3%)
By Gender		
Male	N/A	214 (31.9%)
Female	N/A	456 (68.1%)

Qualitative Data Collection

Both Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted to provide in-depth understanding and context for the research questions. Five KIIs were conducted remotely with a project lead from each organization. In addition, two KIIs were conducted with a

³² Sample size formula calculator can be found at: https://resources.vam.wfp.org/sites/default/files/mVAM_SampleSizeEstimation_0.pdf<http://web1.sph.emory.edu/cdckms/Sample%20Size%20Calculation%20for%20a%20proportion%20for%20cluster%20surveys.htm>

³³ Beneficiary lists were not received due to staff turnover and resulting missing beneficiary lists.

local government authority and a local project staff in 12 different locations, selected in consultation with the Cash Alliance. Two FGDs were also conducted in each of the 12 locations with beneficiaries, split by gender.

The local project staff and project lead interviews focused on the situation on the ground and were used to understand the implementation practices and impact on beneficiaries. The findings helped to draw lessons on whether shared mechanisms are being utilized by Alliance partners. In addition, interviews with local authority members provided perspectives on the intervention from key figures within the community (See Annex 1). This offered a high-level understanding about how the interventions have tackled the community needs, affected the community, impacted other sectors and markets and what actions would be needed for future programming.

Focus groups allowed for nuanced and open-ended responses to difficult questions, eliciting more information on attitudes, perceptions, and experiences that otherwise cannot be obtained by a structured survey. FGDs allowed for more detailed reports including in-depth explorations of respondents' views and experiences. FGDs were performed with female and male beneficiaries (1 female and 1 male FGD per location) (See Annex 1). The discussions sought to understand the perceptions towards cash support vis-à-vis the perennial shocks on the community's livelihoods, as well as how the implementations have impacted their livelihoods since the Alliance programming began.

Challenges

Challenges in the evaluation are categorized below by challenge type.

Cash Alliance Documentation

Not all beneficiary lists were obtained for each district the Cash Alliance organizations worked in. While the Research Officer re-sampled from the nearest districts to reach the desired sample size, limited conclusions can be reached about those districts which were not included in the household survey and the survey cannot be considered representative of all districts where the Cash Alliance has worked. A complete list of districts sampled can be seen in the annexes. In addition, monitoring data was not provided by all organizations and COOPI was the only organization that provided food security related monitoring.

Survey Methodology

The survey was necessarily long to incorporate and properly measure all metrics that were requested by the Cash Alliance. While skip logic and scripting were used to the fullest extent possible to eliminate repetitive questions, the nature of the food security scales means that similar questions are asked multiple times in slightly different ways. This could have created respondent fatigue towards the latter parts of the survey.

Data Reliability

There were some districts where beneficiaries did not always answer the phone number provided. Instead someone else answered the phone when Forcier enumerators called. While we were able to eventually reach other beneficiaries in the same district, it is concerning that beneficiaries are not always the ones in possession of the phone numbers used to send them cash transfers. This may be because the sim card was sold or that sim cards were registered to the wrong person by the mobile money company, as happened early on in the cash transfer project of one Cash Alliance NGO.³⁴ This was a problem also experienced by Cash Alliance partners, specifically COOPI.

Enumerators also performed callbacks to verify expenditure data as many respondents could not accurately recall the exact amount of money spent from the cash transfer on various household goods and items. Because recall on expenditure data has been shown to be poor, expenditure data was analyzed with a comparative lens, rather than analyzing absolute values.

³⁴ Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa, Somaliland (*via Skype*).

Findings

The following are the primary findings of the Cash Alliance evaluation. While the data collection did not include all beneficiaries from all districts where the cash transfer program took place, these findings do represent a broad picture of the Cash Alliance. In the section titled “Overall Program Evaluation and Analysis”, these results are linked to the OECD-DAC criteria in explaining how these findings show the strengths, weaknesses, and overall impact of the Cash Alliance.

Targeting Process and Criteria

The Cash Alliance uses a community-based participatory method which allows all members of the community to help in selecting the most vulnerable people in their location and makes it relevant to the community. There are also several verification steps that take place after the initial selection to ensure that vulnerable people are being selected.³⁵

The selection process starts with consultation of the district authorities, drought committees (in Somaliland), cluster coordinators (in South Central), and the organizations’ own teams in the area. These consultations are intended to receive permission by the authorities to begin implementing a cash transfer program in that

“The selection process is 90% of the work. Everything else goes well if the targeting process is done right.”

- Project Lead, SCI

location. Once they have received permission and located a community, the organization assesses whether there is an existing committee in the community. If not, a committee is organized, ensuring that people from minority clans, both genders, and other backgrounds are included. This allows for multiple views to be heard about who vulnerable people are in the community. An initial meeting is held with the community to educate them about the cash transfer program. Together, with the committee, criteria are developed for vulnerability relevant to that community. After a suitable definition of vulnerability in that community has been developed, then vulnerable households are identified by the organization using that definition.³⁶ Once enough households have been identified, these households are verified with the committee, or in the case of IDP camps, verified in a public forum. These public forums take place in a large space and the entire community is invited. Each family is presented as a beneficiary household and the community is allowed to provide input on whether they meet the developed vulnerability criteria.

³⁵ Key Informant Interview with Project Staff. Qardho, Puntland. Danish Refugee Council.

³⁶ Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa, Somaliland (via Skype).

While the exact definitions of vulnerability are different at each location due to the local committee's role in determining the specific criteria, typically-included groups are:

- Older persons
- Female-headed households
- Lactating mothers and mothers with young children
- Pregnant women
- Minority clan members
- Disabled persons
- Orphans

One organization, Concern Worldwide, noted that they do not select all the households at one time in case more vulnerable people are identified later in the process.³⁷

“When we have 100 households to support, we will register 85 and leave 15 to add if there are any exclusion problems. People who arrive later are often more vulnerable.”

These beneficiaries are also verified by the area offices after

- Project Lead, CWW

the targeting process has completed. Photos, names, and phone numbers are sent to the area office for verification. If it is not approved by area office, then the targeting process must be repeated. If the beneficiaries are approved, then sensitization training begins with the beneficiaries to explain what they can expect from the cash transfer program.

³⁷ Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa, Somaliland (via Skype).



Figure 3: Targeting Steps

This selection process was developed within the Cash Alliance at the inception of the Alliance and the same process is used for all five organizations. Slight differences may be seen depending on individual organizations' mandates and headquarter needs. For example, Save the Children tends to focus more heavily on vulnerable children in their selection criteria due to their mandate and organizations that do not work in IDP camps are less likely to reserve spots for initially excluded or unidentified people who meet the targeting criteria.³⁸

In the quantitative survey, 40% of the respondents reported knowing why they were selected as beneficiaries. Of those who reported knowing why they were selected, 91% indicated that they were selected due to low or no income. Further, 83% of beneficiaries said that high-income people would not be selected. Because of the public verification process, respondents are aware that they



Figure 4: Baidoa, Somalia

³⁸ Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa, Somaliland (via Skype).

are the most vulnerable in a community and many in focus groups pointed out that they were selected because they were members of vulnerable groups.

Only 11.5% of respondents reported that certain vulnerable groups were not selected as beneficiary households and the majority of beneficiaries in focus groups reported that there were no problems with certain groups not being selected as beneficiaries and reported that they themselves were marginalized groups (including being members of minority clans, older persons, and disabled people). The local authorities and project staff also concurred that the most vulnerable households (most commonly mentioned demographic groups included: minority clans, older persons, disabled people, lactating and pregnant mothers) were selected.

Respondents in the quantitative survey also represented multiple demographics targeted for the cash transfer program. 68.1% of respondents were women and 57% of those women were heads of households, aligning with the cash transfer program desire to target female-headed households as one of several vulnerable household types. On average, female-headed households had 1.6 children under the age of five while male-headed households had 2.1 children under the age of five, indicating that male-headed households may experience more child-related food insecurity as they have more children. 83% of respondents had at least one child under the age of 5. The majority of respondents (82.7%) were married but 14.0% were either widowed or divorced. The widowed or divorced demographic was largely composed of women, who represented 93.6% of the demographic. This could indicate that widowed or divorced women are highly marginalized in the population compared to widowed or divorced men as they were more likely to be beneficiaries.

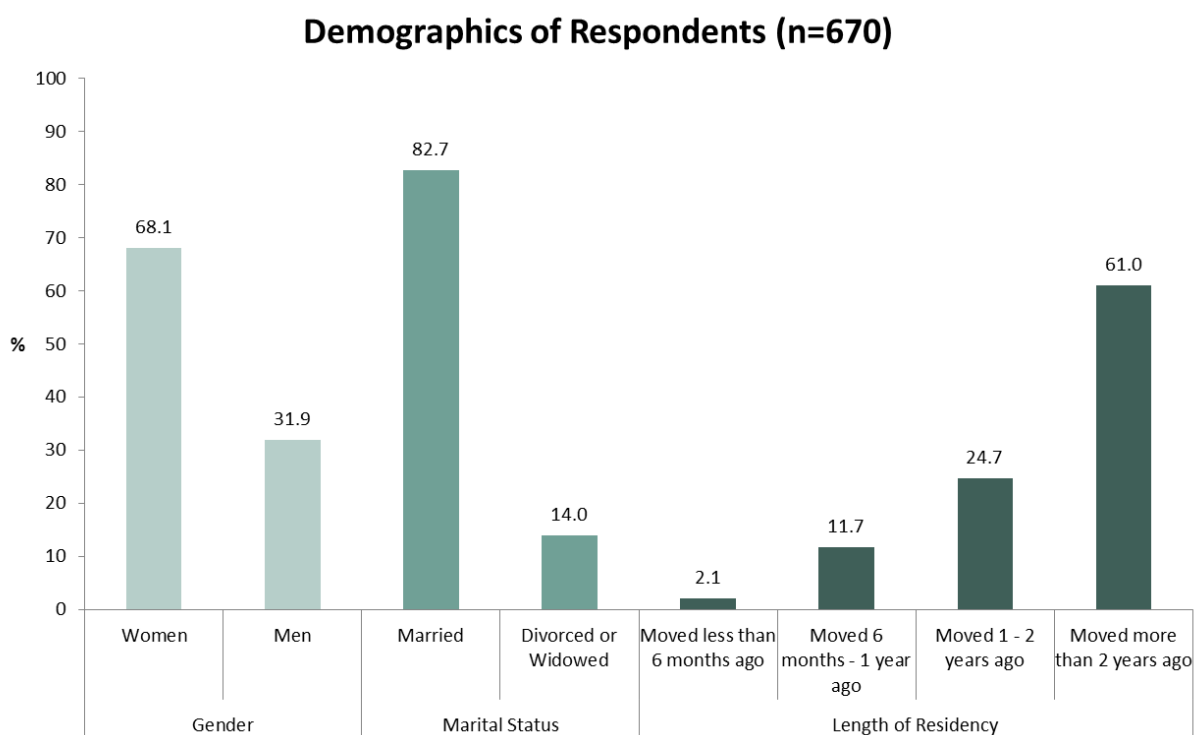


Figure 5: Demographics of Respondents

However, it may also be the case that divorced or widowed men were more likely to be remarried but were still vulnerable. 61% of respondents, including IDPs and host communities, had not moved in the past two years, while 13.7% had moved in the past one year. A population where 13.7% of the people have moved in the past year points to a rapidly migrating population. Most people said their primary reason for moving was to seek employment or livelihoods. Only 7% of people who had moved in the past year said it was solely because of conflict or drought, meaning the majority of people who have migrated did not fit the traditional definition of IDPs. In addition, people who have recently moved may not be included in the sample as the beneficiaries had already been selected a few months prior and therefore were not likely to have moved in the interim.

The average age of a respondent was 39 years old with a range of 15 years old to 90 years old. This is similar to age ranges seen in some of the focus groups where people up to the age of 77 were interviewed. One of the key targeting groups was older persons and while the majority of the sample was composed of middle-aged persons, older people had clearly been selected as beneficiaries.

Age Range of Respondents (n=670)

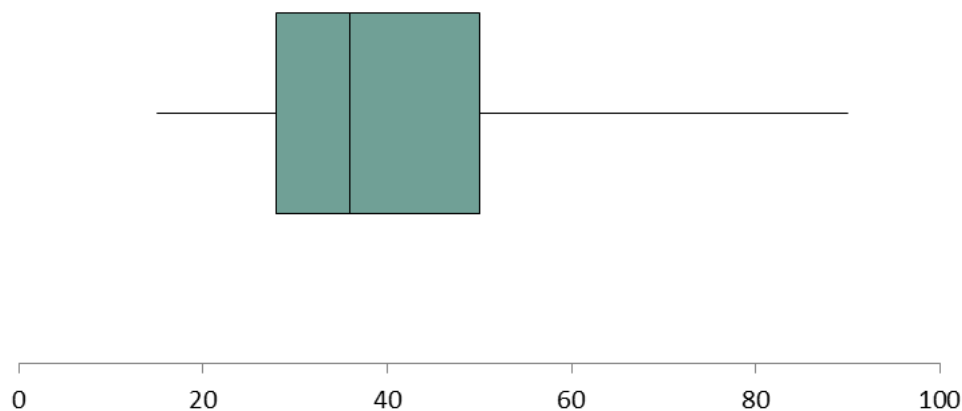


Figure 6: Age Range of Respondents

While not asked in the quantitative survey because of the sensitivity of the question, minority clan inclusion was assessed during qualitative interviews. Experienced Forcier researchers were selected for their familiarity and expertise with the area, and were further briefed on clan composition and dynamics at their location with internal Forcier district-level documents, in order to assess minority clan inclusion in the cash transfer programs. They worked with the local project staff in the field to select beneficiaries from multiple key vulnerable groups and minority clans.

Overall, beneficiaries interviewed in focus groups appeared to be a diverse group of people including older persons, disabled, and minority clan members. In addition, as seen from the quantitative survey, women and female-headed households represented a large portion of the

respondents, which aligns with Cash Alliance targeting efforts. Older persons and people with young children were also clearly represented as beneficiaries in the quantitative survey. The targeting methodology used by the Cash Alliance appears to be effective in selecting the most vulnerable people in a community.

Cash Transfer Experience

Data collection by both the Cash Alliance and Forcier tried to capture the experience of cash transfer beneficiaries in order to assess how relevant the program is to beneficiaries. These experiences were measured by Forcier through the quantitative CATI survey through beneficiaries’ reporting on information received, timeliness, and simplicity of the cash transfer process.

Beneficiaries' Experiences by Organization and Location

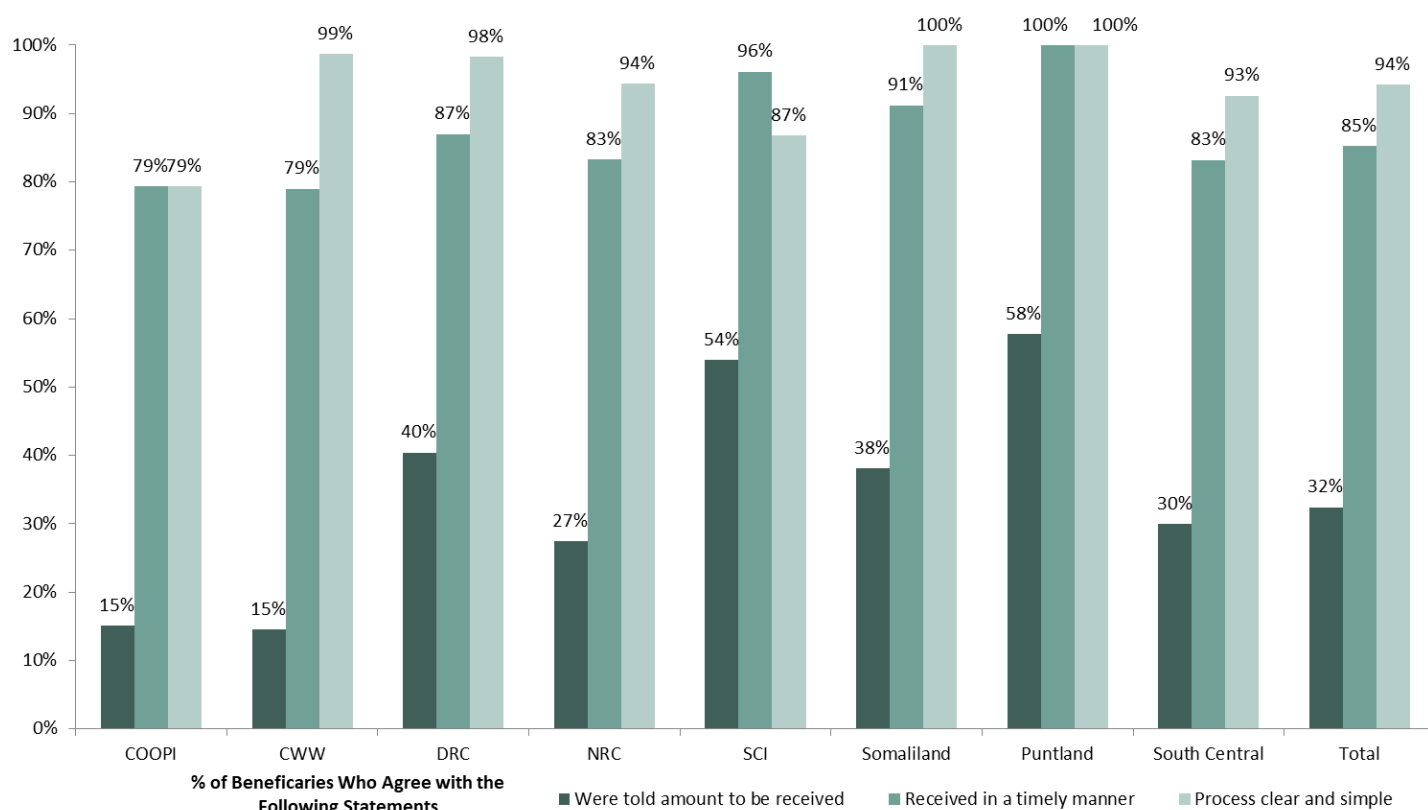


Figure 7: Beneficiary Experiences by Organization and Location

Most respondents (67%) also reported not being told how much they would receive each month despite project leads stating in interviews that community awareness was done in the first and

second cycles of the project. Each beneficiary was required to thumbprint next to their names and a statement on the amount of money and number of cycles and project staff confirmed that community awareness had happened in their locations.³⁹ Despite this community awareness, many beneficiaries reported not knowing this information. NRC beneficiaries in Ceerigavo stated in a focus group that they had been told to expect \$140 a month but only received that amount for the first month and now received \$60 a month. They seemed confused and wanted explanations from the focus group moderator about why the decrease had occurred.⁴⁰ This was similar to the experiences of the beneficiaries interviewed in several other areas where the amount decreased after a few months. Yet, the confusion of beneficiaries on why this occurred differed from place to place, likely from differing levels of sensitization.^{41,42} It is important to note that all beneficiaries who stated the decrease in the cash transfer amount said that the second phase, the lower amount, was not nearly enough to cover their needs. One beneficiary in Ishukuban said, "The first phase was \$154 per household and that was enough and better than the second phase which was \$89 and it was not possible to cover the necessary needs anymore." The difference in amounts is due to the drop in MEB mid-way through the project. The MEB is calculated by the Cash and Market Working Group and was decreased after a successful rainy season due to the understanding that resources would now be more available for beneficiaries outside of the cash transfer. When the drop in cash transfer amounts occurred, more community awareness was done and beneficiaries again had to thumbprint next to their name and the new cash transfer amount.

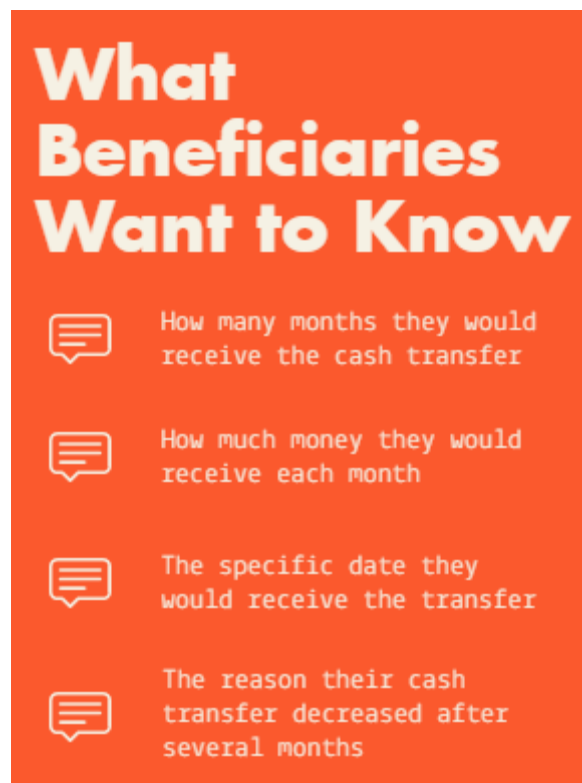


Figure 8: What Beneficiaries Want To Know

While most focus group participants could accurately describe the selection process occurring in conjunction with communities and community leaders, many also said they desired more information about the cash transfer program and what to actually expect.⁴³ This information was included in the sensitization training provided by all Cash Alliance partners but was later forgotten

³⁹ Key Informant Interview with Local Project Staff. Iskushuban, Puntland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁴⁰ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁴¹ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Iskushuban, Puntland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁴² Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Lascaanood, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁴³ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

by beneficiaries. The sensitization trainings may not be effective in communicating information to beneficiaries.

Information that beneficiaries wanted to receive included:

- How many months they would receive the cash transfer^{44,45}
- How much money they would receive each month^{46,47}
- The specific date that they would receive the cash transfer⁴⁸
- The reason their cash transfer amount decreased after several months^{49,50}

Unit of Analysis	COOPI	CWW	DRC	NRC	SCI
% beneficiaries who said they were told how much money they would receive each month	15.1%	14.5%	40.4%	27.4%	54.0%
% beneficiaries who said they received their cash transfer in a timely manner	79.3%	79.0%	87.0%	83.3%	96.1%
% beneficiaries who said the process was clear and simple	79.3%	98.7%	98.3%	94.4%	86.8%

Table 3: Cash Transfer Experience According to Beneficiaries

Feedback Mechanisms

Cash Alliance partners have the following feedback mechanisms in place in order to be accountable to beneficiaries:

- Telephone Hotline
- Beneficiary Representative

⁴⁴ A female beneficiary stated, ““They didn’t tell us for how long we will receive the money.” Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Widhwidh, Somaliland. Danish Refugee Council.

⁴⁵ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Dollow, South Central. COOPI.

⁴⁶ A female beneficiary stated, ““We received information about the project and how many months we were going to get money but we didn’t know how much money we are going to get every month.” Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Mogadishu, South Central. Danish Refugee Council.

⁴⁷ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Lascaanood, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁴⁸ A female beneficiary stated, “Yes, [we would like to know] the specific day that we will receive cash.” Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Luuq, South Central. COOPI. A female beneficiary stated, “Yes, [we would like to know] the specific day that we will receive cash.”

⁴⁹ A female beneficiary stated, ““We want to know why before they paid us 140 dollars but in the last months they gave us only 60 dollars and we don’t know what happen.” Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Lascaanood, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁵⁰ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

- Complaint Forms/Cards

These mechanisms were available at every project location and beneficiaries were made aware of these feedback mechanisms during the initial sensitization sessions. The majority of beneficiaries were not aware that feedback mechanisms existed, with only 9.6% reporting that they were aware of these mechanisms (See Table 6). This is lower than the post-distribution monitoring (PDM) reports completed by the Cash Alliance. This may be due to beneficiaries being unaware of *formal* feedback mechanisms rather than feedback they may have given before through informal sources. These informal sources include through community leaders or random calls through the monitoring call center.

“We have a hotline system in place where beneficiaries and other stakeholders can directly contact us. By the time we receive the complaint, we respond to them within 72 hours.”

- Local Project Staff, DRC, Mogadishu

Unit of Analysis	% beneficiaries who were aware that a feedback mechanism existed
COOPI	5.7%
CWW	9.2%
DRC	3.9%
NRC	10.7%
SCI	26.3%
Somaliland	5.3%
Puntland	7.7%
South Central	10.6%
Men	16.4%
Women	6.4%

Table 4: Feedback Mechanism Awareness and Utilization by Beneficiaries

Of the people who were aware of the feedback mechanisms, 20 percent had used them to report a complaint (See Table 7). The experiences of the twelve people who made a complaint varied greatly. Of those people who had used the feedback mechanism, five were very unsatisfied with their experience while five were somewhat satisfied with their experience. The majority of the people who were very unsatisfied with their experience had not received a response from the organization after making a complaint. Only two people were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with their experience. Satisfaction was not linked to which organization the beneficiaries were associated with and no significant conclusions can be drawn due to the small number of people who had used the feedback mechanism. Only half of the 12 people who had made a complaint stated that they received a response from the implementing organization.

Table 5: Utilization of Feedback Mechanisms by Respondents Who Were Also Aware of the Mechanisms

Unit of Analysis	The percentage of beneficiaries who were aware of a feedback mechanism and had utilized it
COOPI	33.3%
CWW	28.6%
DRC	11.1%
NRC	16.0%
SCI	20.0%
Somaliland	16.7%
Puntland	0%
South Central	19.6%
Men	28.6%
Women	6.9%

A similar level of unawareness was seen in the qualitative interviews. Beneficiaries in focus groups in Afgooye said they were completely unaware of any feedback mechanisms but were excited by the idea of being able to communicate any feedback or complaints to the organization with one person saying, “We don't know about any feedback mechanism to send complaints about the project but it will be good if we have a way that we can send complaints about the project.”⁵¹

Interviews with project leads and project staff repeatedly indicated that these mechanisms were available.⁵² Even with the mechanisms available, one project staff member admitted, “We have a telephone number in the office which they can call anytime but they don’t use it all too much.”⁵³ This high availability but low awareness is most likely due to low levels of sensitization by organizations and may indicate a need for repeated messaging about the availability of these mechanisms and the expectations beneficiaries should have about the cash transfer program. Other cash transfer program experiences show that this is not an uncommon problem, particularly when cash transfer beneficiaries are older and vulnerable because they are less likely to retain information.⁵⁴ Cash transfer programs in other contexts have increased their field visits or appointed a local community leader to funnel complaints to the NGO in order to make sure people have an avenue to provide feedback that is easily accessible and more easily remembered and to be accountable to beneficiaries.⁵⁵

⁵¹ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁵² Key Informant Interview with Local Project Staff. Mogadishu, South Central Somalia. Danish Refugee Council.

⁵³ Key Informant Interview with Local Project Staff. Galkacyo, Puntland. Save the Children.

⁵⁴ UKAID. Holding Cash Transfers to Account. 2013. Accessed at: <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/events-presentations/1441.pdf>

⁵⁵ Ibid.

Conflict

Very few people reported any problems receiving their cash transfers or of negative impacts related to the cash transfer. Of the 1.5% who reported a problem, 60% reported that the money was not available when they expected to receive their transfer. There was no correlation between the organization and people experiencing this problem ($p=0.34$).

However, 13.2% of respondents did say that community members were jealous of their cash transfer and 5.2% of respondents said they were treated differently in their community once they became beneficiaries. The most common change experienced by people in their community was that other people were less friendly towards them. Similarly, less than two percent of people said that conflict, or arguments, either arose because of the cash transfer or increased once the cash transfer started. PDMs by the Cash Alliance show high numbers of respondents reporting community jealousy. The literature shows that the community-based targeting process used by the Cash Alliance reduces the likelihood of resentment and jealousy towards beneficiaries.⁵⁶ Because the community participates in the selection of beneficiaries, there is likely increased ownership and acceptance of the cash transfer program.

Gatekeepers appeared to have a negative impact primarily in IDP camps where there were some reports of beneficiaries being charged \$5 by community leaders after each cash transfer.⁵⁷ If they did not pay, they were forced to leave the camp. Our enumerator reported that focus group participants said around 70 households had been forced to leave the IDP camp in Baidoa because of this. However, gatekeepers were not as prominent in host communities and there were no reports of them charging community members for nominating them as beneficiaries.

Very few of the respondents said that they attempted to keep their cash transfers hidden from either their community (16.1%) or other members of their household (7.0%). Some beneficiaries stated that one of the greatest benefits of the cash transfer program was that no one was able to take the money away from them and that it was kept secret by nature of the mobile money system with one saying "It is good because only we know the amount we got and we get it in our house."⁵⁸ One beneficiary in Ceerigavo pointed out that the cash transfer is spent almost immediately on necessary items and so there is little time for any corruption or crime to take place because the money flows into the market within a day or two of the transfer, saying "We haven't heard about anyone who misused this money because every person goes to the store when he gets that money".⁵⁹ Very few beneficiaries in the focus groups reported any problems with the cash transfer program.

⁵⁶ Robertson L, Mushati P, Skovdal M, Eaton J, Makoni J, Crea T, et al. Involving Communities in the Targeting of Cash Transfer Programs for Vulnerable Children: Opportunities and Challenges. World Development. 2014.

⁵⁷ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Baidoa, South Central. Concern Worldwide.

⁵⁸ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁵⁹ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

Mobile Money and Sim Card Retention

All Cash Alliance cash transfers now take place through mobile money. Transferring money through sim cards has several advantages. First is that money is efficiently transferred directly to the beneficiaries with no need to go through multiple people before reaching beneficiaries. This lessens the chance of corruption. Secondly, the beneficiaries can move to different areas and still receive the cash transfer, a benefit that is critical to reaching IDPs.

“This system is the best way to receive money because the money is transferred directly to our phones and is private. In the previous system... everyone could know whether we are receiving the money.”

- Man, 43, Luuq

Some organizations, like Concern Worldwide, provide sim cards to beneficiaries while some use sim cards already owned by beneficiaries. There have been some challenges with purchasing sim cards to give to beneficiaries as they register. One project lead reported that the sim cards they gave to beneficiaries had already been registered to other people by the mobile phone company and thus the money had been sent to the wrong person. Now that organization, Concern Worldwide, does not provide sim cards and uses the existing sim cards owned by beneficiaries.⁶⁰ Similar problems have not been reported in the literature but many programs prefer to use the existing phones and sim cards owned by beneficiaries rather than provide sim cards and phones, especially in areas where there is high cell phone ownership.⁶¹ However, there are benefits to giving sim cards to beneficiaries where it is easier to track whether money was sent directly to the recipient and to be able to target more vulnerable people in a community who do not own cell phones. Therefore, when sim cards would be included in the cash transfer program goal is to target the most vulnerable, not providing cell phones or sim cards may act as a barrier to reaching the intended beneficiaries during the targeting process.

One of the largest concerns of utilizing sim cards is the possibility of another person either buying or taking the sim card from the beneficiary and receiving the money themselves. All Cash Alliance partners have tackled this concern in a number of ways. First, the PDM reports are performed directly after a cash transfer to both verify that the beneficiaries received the cash and to analyze the ways in which the cash transfer was used. Likewise, call centers are set up to do verification checks after the cash transfer has been completed. These call centers call the beneficiaries on the same number that the cash was sent to, to verify the name of the beneficiary.

⁶⁰ Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa, Somaliland (via Skype).

⁶¹ GSMA. Landscape Report: Mobile Money, Humanitarian Cash Transfers and Displaced Populations. 2017.

The majority of respondents (76.7%) reported receiving a sim card. Only 2.3% of people reported someone offering to buy their sim card off of them and 3.3% reported that other beneficiaries had tried to sell their sim cards. Beneficiaries greatly preferred receiving the cash transfer through mobile money because it was safer and more efficient for them with one saying that if they had to go to the bank, “there would be thieves to take it from us.”^{62,63} Beneficiaries received the cash transfer in US dollars and 63% of respondents reported that they later exchanged the money into the local currency.

Food Security and Resilience

Food security and resilience are the primary goals of the cash transfer program and are two metrics used to measure the effectiveness of the program. PDMs and previous monitoring by the Cash Alliance have primarily focused on the cash transfer experience for beneficiaries and also measured key food security indicators. Forcier used both these reports and other sources of literature in order to triangulate findings.

Coping Strategies

The Coping Strategies Index (CSI) is used to measure the frequency and severity of behaviors and strategies related to coping and resilience, or the ability to anticipate risks, absorb shocks, and adapt to evolving conditions.⁶⁴ Using the same CSI questions that have been developed by the Cash Alliance, different demographic groups were given different CSI scales. The four different demographic groups were Urban/IDPs, Pastoralists, Agro-Pastoralists, and Riverine. They were asked different questions related to coping, due to the different behaviors that would be available to them. For example, the behavior “consuming seeds intended for future planting” would not be applicable to urban beneficiaries. A list of the questions and the groups asked each question can be found in Annex 2.

A higher CSI score indicates more severe coping strategies. Below, in Table 6, are the average CSI scores for each of the four demographic groups. While there is variation between the four groups' average scores, it is important to remember that the questions asked of each group were different and the severity of those behaviors varied immensely. Despite the similarity between organizational activities, organizations were working in different geographical regions which had associated differing levels of vulnerability. In addition, some organizations worked with IDP camps more than others which have a higher level of vulnerability. This higher level of vulnerability is reflected in the scores seen in Table 6 where urban and IDP demographics have the highest average CSI score.

⁶² Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁶³ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Luuq, South Central. COOPI.

⁶⁴ CARE. The Impact of Cash Transfers on Resilience: A Multi-Country Study. 2017.

CSI scores from PDM reports were lower (indicating less severe or less frequent strategies) with an average score of 10.0. These lower scores could indicate that the drop in MEB has negatively impacted the coping strategies and food security of beneficiaries. Because beneficiaries are now receiving less cash, they may be less able to buy food and build coping strategies. The CSI is also sensitive to seasonality and the PDMs and the Forcier data collection occurred in two different seasons which could have affected the beneficiaries’ abilities to cope. In addition, monitoring was not done uniformly between all five organizations and methodology differed between how PDMs were conducted. This could have influenced results. Uniform monitoring between the five organizations was a challenge that was mentioned by several project leads in interviews.⁶⁵

Table 6: Average CSI Scores per Organization

Demographic Group	Possible CSI Range	Average CSI Score	COOPI	CWW	DRC	NRC	SCI
Urban/IDPs	0 – 210	20.5	22.9	23.1	21.5	18.1	19.8
Pastoralists	0 – 189	17.4	13.8	21.9	17.4	18.2	9.0
Agro-Pastoralists	0 – 189	19.7	29.8	29.4	14.1	14.4	20.2
Riverine	0 – 259	7.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.0	N/A

The most common coping strategies are listed in Annex 2 for each demographic group. Not only does this list show the severity of some of the strategies, it can also pinpoint some areas of intervention for beneficiaries. In focus groups, participants linked improvement in coping strategies to the cash transfer. As one CWW beneficiary in Baidoa stated, “In my house, we used to only cook meals two times a day but since we started receiving the cash, we cook three meals daily.”⁶⁶

The cash transfer has, based on qualitative interviews, increased the coping abilities of beneficiaries. However, the quantitative data suggests that there is still much room for improvement. The most common behaviors are not the most severe coping behaviors but they are frequent, which indicates that the beneficiaries are using these behaviors multiple times a week, if not daily. While the cash transfers have made improvements and been effective in slightly increasing coping, it has not created an environment where beneficiaries are able to cope completely with shock and food insecurity.

Food Consumption

The Food Consumption Score (FCS) measures the frequency, diversity, and the nutritional value of respondents’ diets. The number of days that nine different food groups were consumed in the past seven days is used as the basis of this score. These groups are then weighted by their relative

⁶⁵ Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa (via Skype), Somaliland. 2018.

⁶⁶ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Baidoa, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

importance to nutritional intake and added to compile the score. Standardized thresholds are used to understand the percentage of beneficiaries who have poor, borderline, and acceptable diets.

Half of the beneficiaries had an acceptable Food Consumption Score (See Table 7). The other half of beneficiaries were almost evenly split between poor and borderline scores. COOPI beneficiaries had the highest rates of ‘poor’ scores. This may be because they were the most vulnerable to begin with as COOPI beneficiaries tended to be clustered in IDP camps and severely-drought affected areas. While reports from COOPI show much higher food consumption scores, the methodology of these reports rely on a random household walk and thus are measuring the FCS of the entire community, not just the most vulnerable beneficiaries in the community. Food consumption also varies by season and the season in which COOPI measured food consumption could have been a more plentiful time for food production. PDMs also showed much higher food consumption scores. Likewise to the CSI scores, the FCS is sensitive to seasonality and food availability differing by seasons which could affect the results.

Table 7: Food Consumption Scores per Organization

FCS Thresholds	Poor (0-21)	Borderline (21.5-35)	Acceptable (>35)
COOPI	35.2%	22.2%	42.6%
CWW	23.7%	19.7%	56.6%
DRC	26.1%	22.6%	51.3%
NRC	20.9%	28.6%	50.4%
SCI	23.7%	26.3%	50.0%
Urban/IDPs	26.1%	26.7%	47.3%
Pastoralists	17.5%	20.2%	62.3%
Agro-Pastoralists	24.4%	19.5%	56.1%
Riverine	0%	100%	0%
Total	24.5%	24.8%	50.8%

Half of respondents having an acceptable FCS could indicate that the cash transfer improved food security for respondents. However, it is important to keep in mind that these numbers are still much lower than the data collected by COOPI from households in the same communities and are lower than the PDM reports. While beneficiaries may be consuming more food than before, they are still not consuming food in the same amounts as their more well-off neighbors and their scores have decreased since the Cash Alliance PDM reports.

Dietary Diversity

Dietary diversity was measured in two different ways. The Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) measures the consumption of food types by the household in the last 24 hours and is meant as a reflection of the economic ability of the household to access a wide array of food groups. On the other hand, the Individual Dietary Diversity Score (IDDS) measures an individual’s (in this case, children ages 6 to 14) adequate intake of macro and micronutrient groups. The HDDS and IDDS

were both used in the quantitative survey to determine access for households and intake for children.

The HDDS is between 0 and 12, with 0 representing no access and 12 representing complete access to all food groups. No beneficiary scored a 12, meaning that no beneficiary had complete access to all food groups. Similar to other food security scores, the HDDS data collected in PDMs was, on average, slightly higher than the average scores found in the Forcier data collection. This could reflect seasonal availability or the decrease in MEB and cash transfers limiting the ability to purchase more expensive foods. The mean score was 4.4, a relatively low score. A score of four or less is considered to be part of the IPC 4 Emergency definition and an indication of low dietary diversity.⁶⁷ COOPI had the lowest average HDDS with their beneficiary respondents reporting an average. On the other hand, Puntland had a much higher score less than other zones with a reported average score of 5.7. This may be because there was a relatively smaller sample from Puntland, where only 3.9% of the calls were made. Men have a slightly higher average HDDS than woman which may be because women have less access to food and markets because they are more tied to the home and the children and are not able to travel as far. Likewise, smaller households (defined as those with five or less people) had higher food scores than other households. This may be because the cash transfer allowed them to purchase more food relative to the number of people in the house so they were able to spend more money on different types of food, rather than concentrating their efforts on the cheapest and most filling foods.

The three most common food groups that beneficiaries had consumed in the last 24 hours were grains, sugars, and fats, three highly caloric foods. However, most beneficiaries had not consumed any fruits or vegetables in the past 24 hours possibly indicating that they do not have access, either geographically or financially to these foods. It could also be that fruits and vegetables are not part of their preferred diet. Some beneficiaries did say that they would buy vegetables with their cash transfer.⁶⁸ One woman stated, "Sometimes when we receive the money, we go to Lascaanood and buy vegetables and also buy other families vegetables."

⁶⁷ FSNAU. Somalia Food Security and Nutrition Analysis. 2016.

⁶⁸ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Lascaanood, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

Table 8: Household Dietary Diversity Score and Individual Dietary Diversity Score Means

Unit of Analysis	HHDS Mean	IDDS Mean
COOPI	3.5	1.9
CWW	4.9	3.2
DRC	4.4	2.5
NRC	4.4	2.6
SCI	4.1	2.5
Somaliland	4.6	2.5
Puntland	5.7	3.9
South Central	4.3	2.5
Men	4.4	2.4
Women	4.2	2.5
Urban/IDPs	4.2	2.5
Pastoralists	5.2	3.1
Agro-Pastoralists	4.3	2.4
Riverine	3.0	1.0
Total	4.4	2.6

The IDDS is a score between 0 and 9 with 0 representing no nutrient intake and 9 representing high nutrient intake. The IDDS was only measured for the children (ages 6-14) in beneficiary households. The mean score was 2.6, indicating an inadequate intake of macro and micronutrients. The three most common food groups that children of beneficiaries consumed in the last 24 hours were grains, fats, and vegetables. However, it is important to note that less than half of children had consumed vegetables in the past 24 hours. Puntland again had the highest values which may be indicative of children having more access to food but is likely due to the small sample size in Puntland. CWW has a much higher average IDDS while COOPI has a much lower IDDS compared to the other organizations. Overall COOPI has the lowest food security scores of the organizations and it may be because COOPI is working with the most vulnerable people in severely drought-affected areas. The IDDS was not measured in the PDM reports.

The HHDS and IDDS of respondents are relatively low and show low exposure to micronutrient-rich food, possibly indicating risk of malnutrition. However, most respondents have a HHDS that is greater than 4, meaning they do not fit the definition of IPC 4 Emergency phase. Due to the severity of the drought, it is most important that beneficiaries are receiving enough macronutrients and the FCS section appears to show that total food consumption is increasing. However, more attention should be prioritized to micronutrient consumption, especially for young children, and whether micronutrient rich food is available or desired in beneficiary communities.

Social Impact

While the primary goal of the Cash Alliance was to improve food security, the Cash Alliance partners were also interested in understanding any social impacts that the cash transfer program had for beneficiaries. Specifically, education and health were two areas of interest in understanding

whether the multi-purpose cash transfer had any direct or indirect influence on social goods. Expenditures and markets were also examined to understand how the beneficiaries spent their cash transfer and whether that had any impact on market systems.

Expenditures

The majority of the cash transfer for all beneficiaries was spent on food.

The second largest category of spending was on debt repayment.

Project leads confirmed that they

expected at least some of the cash transfers to go to debt repayment as so many beneficiaries had taken out loans to survive before the cash transfer program started, but the primary purpose of the cash transfer is for purchasing food and food security. This also aligned with the PDMs conducted by the Cash Alliance where food and debt repayment were the largest expenditures.⁶⁹ With the exception of food and debt repayment, spending varied greatly between beneficiaries. Some beneficiaries noted that they were finally able to stop taking out loans to cover basic living expenses now that they were receiving the cash transfer, with one beneficiary in Buulobarde saying, “The money has managed so we stopped taking the loan.”⁷⁰ Others noted that they spent some of the cash transfer helping their neighbors who were not beneficiaries. These people were, in their eyes, equally vulnerable but were not selected because of the limited capacity of the Cash Alliance to provide cash transfers to everyone who is currently in need.⁷¹ As one beneficiary in Qardho said, “If you received some money and your neighbors had nothing, how can you eat alone? It is impossible so we give some of money.” The capacity of the Cash Alliance and its limitations was a theme brought up by beneficiaries and project staff alike.⁷²

“The cash transfer is first aid for us”

- Man, 41, Ceerigavo

These expenditure data were supported by the focus groups conducted with beneficiaries. As CWW beneficiaries in Afgooye said, they spent most of their money on food and whatever was left went to rent. However, the amount of the cash transfer was often only enough to cover the cost of food for that month and little else.⁷³ NRC beneficiaries in Ceerigavo said that “The needs cash transfer has not met were shelter, water and health but the other needs like food are covered.”⁷⁴ Many beneficiaries also noted that the ability of the cash transfer to even cover food greatly depended on the size of the household and many large households were not even able to cover the

⁶⁹ Cash Alliance. Post-Distribution Monitoring Reports. Accessed on: qlikcloud

⁷⁰ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Buulobarde, South Central Somalia. Save the Children.

⁷¹ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁷² Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa, Somaliland (via Skype).

⁷³ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁷⁴ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

food costs for their family, much less other basic needs.⁷⁵ One beneficiary stated, “Therefore if the man has two wives or his family is large, the cash transfer is not enough.”

One beneficiary in Ceerigavo described the cash transfer as “first aid”⁷⁶ as it helped his family with their most pressing and urgent needs but it was not able to cover any larger or social needs.

Education

Approximately 50% of survey respondents have children who are not enrolled in any school (including religious schools). Similar proportions were seen in every zone, even though each zone has different education systems and the cost of school varies greatly. For context, around 30% of all Somali children are enrolled in primary or secondary school (not including religious schools).⁷⁷ The majority of beneficiaries (59%) with children who are not enrolled in school said it was because they could not afford to send their children to primary or secondary school. Other reasons included that the nearest school was too far away, the drought affected their ability to attend, or that the school had closed. Beneficiaries living outside of Ceerigavo and Galkacyo noted that even if they wanted to send their children to school, there was no school in the area.^{78,79} This may be the case for many beneficiaries located in rural areas or IDP camps. Of beneficiaries interviewed in focus groups who did have children enrolled in schools, those children were almost exclusively enrolled in Madrasas (religious schools) and not primary or secondary schools.⁸⁰ One beneficiary in Afgooye stated that “We send our children to Madrasas because we are not able to send our children to school.” Madrasas are typically much cheaper than primary or secondary schools.

The majority of respondents (65%) have not been able to afford school fees at some point since the cash transfer started. A smaller majority (55.8%) have used their cash transfer to attempt to pay for school fees. Some beneficiaries in focus groups requested that the amount of the cash transfer be increased so

“Not all of the households send their children to school because the large families can’t afford it because they consume the little money they receive.”

- Woman, 38, Baidoa

that they could begin to send their children to school. At the moment, they had to use the cash transfer exclusively for food, with little left over for other expenses.⁸¹ Other beneficiaries said that

⁷⁵ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁷⁶ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁷⁷ Somalia Education Cluster Annual Report. 2017.

⁷⁸ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁷⁹ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Galkacyo, Puntland. Save the Children.

⁸⁰ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁸¹ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

they were now able to send their children to school with the cash transfer but that their ability to do so was because they had smaller families. For larger families, the cash transfer needed to be entirely spent on food.⁸² Larger families were far more likely to not have children enrolled in school. In small households, 76% of children were enrolled in school while in large households (defined as households of 12 or more people), only 44% of children were enrolled in school. Overall, the cash transfer program has had a mixed impact on the enrollment and attendance of children in school.

Markets

The majority of respondents (66.5%) reported that food prices had increased in the past year. Of those who said that food prices had increased in the past year, the majority said that it was due to inflation either from the cash transfers or from the drought limiting the availability of food and thus increasing the prices. Beneficiaries in focus groups often tied the price increases to the drought's impact on the availability of food and water and not the cash transfer program itself.⁸³ A beneficiary in Baidoa said, "During the drought season, the cost of food has increased, but generally some months it increases and some months the price decreases and it depends on the availability of goods." Some studies in other African countries have found that cash transfer programs do, in fact, cause "flash" inflation and temporarily raise the prices.⁸⁴ However, droughts also often cause inflation in market prices, particularly for food. There is some evidence that there is rising inflation across Somalia due to the drought but most food is imported which limits drought effects on food price inflation.⁸⁵ The steepest increase in inflation has been in Somaliland where prices of imported foods had increased by at least 17% in the past year.⁸⁶ Almost 40% of respondents said they started purchasing food at a different location after receiving the cash transfer mostly due to trying to find less expensive food. This is most likely not tied to inflation but respondents trying to relieve existing pressures from the drought. It also could be that respondents are continually purchasing foods at different locations to try to find the cheapest price and were doing this even before the cash transfer program started. Project staff and leads confirmed that inflation from the cash transfer itself is unlikely due to the relatively small amount of money flowing into the market due to the cash transfer.

Project leads, in interviews, shared some stories of people opening stores or selling goods by purchasing supplies with their cash transfers.⁸⁷ These stories were most common with those people who had small household sizes and thus had extra money after food costs but it appears only a small

⁸² Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Baidoa, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁸³ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Baidoa, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁸⁴ Creto P. The Impact of Cash Transfers on Local Markets. The Cash Learning Partnership. 2010.

⁸⁵ Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit. Market Update. March 2018.

⁸⁶ Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit. FSNAU. Market Update. March 2018.

⁸⁷ Key Informant Interview with Project Lead. Hargeisa, Somaliland (via Skype).

percentage of beneficiaries were able to do this. These stories all originated from IDP camps and somewhat contradict other statements by other IDP beneficiaries who said that they were disincentivized to work due to the cash transfer.⁸⁸

Healthcare

Most respondents (86.7%) reported that they have spent at least part of their cash transfer on healthcare. However, a similar percentage of people said they were not able to afford some healthcare procedures (85.2%) in the past year. PDM reports show that beneficiaries, on average, spent approximately 2% of their total cash transfer on healthcare services or about \$15. One beneficiary in Afgooye used the cash transfer when she got malaria, saying “I was sick and when I got the cash, I went to the hospital and the doctor diagnosed me with malaria. Now I am taking the medicine and will feel better soon.”⁸⁹ Other beneficiaries stated that they had used the cash transfer for healthcare if one of their family members was sick but if they did, they also cut down on their food intake and skipped meals since the cash transfer was not enough to cover both healthcare needs and food needs.⁹⁰ A beneficiary also indirectly referred to the inability to seek healthcare when they said their household sizes had fluctuated after “some of our children passed away due to chronic diseases like measles and cholera.”⁹¹ However, this could also indicate a lack of geographic access to health centers and may not have been impacted by the cash transfer itself.

Safety Nets and Sustainability

While traditional safety nets are typically viewed as something people have access to through their clans and families in Somalia, people in IDP camps reported that there were no safety nets or other kinds of support before the cash transfer program started.^{92,93}

“There are no safety nets in our community because we are all displaced people.”

- Man, 45, Mogadishu

While people in IDP camps often reported no safety nets or sources of aid in crisis with one saying “There are no existing safety nets; Concern is the only INGO who is supporting us and they also provide us water”, this was not the case for people still living in their communities. People living in their home towns often reported that richer community members and community leaders would provide money, clothes, and food for poorer individuals in the community.⁹⁴ One beneficiary stated “The rich ones also contribute money to those displaced and vulnerable families,

⁸⁸ See “Safety Nets and Sustainability” for more information

⁸⁹ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁹⁰ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁹¹ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Baidoa, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁹² Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁹³ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Dollow, South Central Somalia. COOPI.

⁹⁴ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Buulobarde, South Central Somalia. Save the Children.

and if your neighbors are not eating, you can't eat food." In fact, some beneficiaries living in their home towns were adamant that these traditional safety nets were the "Somali way" and said it was their culture to help people if they were suffering, whether due to illness, drought, or some other shock.⁹⁵ One female beneficiary in Ceerigavo stated, "Our culture says you have to help each other and let me tell you the ways we help: for example if someone or a family does not have anything to eat, we collect food and give it to them." These same beneficiaries frequently pointed out in focus groups that they were not the only households in need of support and asked for aid to be given to the surrounding households as well. One beneficiary in Qardho stated that "many people in the villages need emergency assistance and nobody has helped them." As mentioned in an earlier section, some beneficiaries reported giving away part of their cash transfer to their neighbors as they were also in need of aid but had not been selected as beneficiaries.⁹⁶ As beneficiaries in IDP camps do not have the same community and social structure to receive support in crises, they may be a more vulnerable group to target with cash transfer programs.

One worrying barrier to creating a sustainable safety net program in Somalia is the reporting of food price inflation by beneficiaries. The majority of beneficiaries had reported that prices of food had increased in the past year. As described in the previous section, this could be due to inflation due to the drought and it is a factor to consider in future safety net programming.

Beneficiaries were generally satisfied with the cash transfer program but tended to say that they wanted an increased cash transfer amount to cover more of their monthly expenses and livelihoods trainings so that they could begin to work after the cash transfer stops.⁹⁷ As one SCI beneficiary in Buulobarde said, "\$70-\$80 a month is not good long-term. We want jobs or livestock."⁹⁸ Beneficiaries specifically did not want food distribution programs as they worried it would be taken from them by community leaders.⁹⁹

A somewhat concerning observation was made by beneficiaries in Baidoa that the cash transfer had stopped them from continuing to seek work: "We used to go to the market to seek any sort of informal job; as mothers, we used to clean and wash clothes to help our family. But from the time when we started receiving the cash transfer we became more dependent and all of us stay at home now." This was also confirmed by another beneficiary in Baidoa: "I agree with her, because even our husbands rest and stay at home since we started receiving the cash transfer."¹⁰⁰ This observation was limited to one focus group and so it is not known how widespread this attitude is. Regardless, this attitude and apathy towards seeking out more income or livelihoods is concerning and

⁹⁵ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁹⁶ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Ceerigavo, Somaliland. Norwegian Refugee Council.

⁹⁷ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Afgooye, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

⁹⁸ Focus Group Discussion with Male Beneficiaries. Buulobarde, South Central Somalia. Save the Children.

⁹⁹ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Baidoa, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

¹⁰⁰ Focus Group Discussion with Female Beneficiaries. Baidoa, South Central Somalia. Concern Worldwide.

contradictory to the purpose of the cash transfer program. However, it is important to note that because they were staying home with the children, food security and nutrition for those children may have improved. Most beneficiaries did want jobs or livelihoods and so it is doubtful that this attitude is widespread.

Cash Alliance/Consortium Coordination and Collaboration

Overall, project leads and project staff were incredibly positive about the benefits of working together in a consortium. There were several specific benefits that were brought up repeatedly in multiple interviews:

- **Avoiding duplicate efforts:** Before the Cash Alliance, organizations were primarily working in silos and not communicating with each other, which allowed for two problems to occur: duplication of beneficiaries and clustering of program locations. In some cases beneficiaries were able to register with multiple organizations and receive multiple cash transfers. Now the beneficiary lists are shared with each organization to prevent duplication of registration. Organizations also tended to be clustered in the same areas, which created an overlap of efforts. Now, the Cash Alliance organizations are coordinating before they decide on geographic areas for their programs, preventing overlap and creating efficiencies.

“Before, we would all select our own areas so we would find that most organizations would cluster around certain [geographic] areas. Now, we have to agree who will go where so we have a wider spread and avoid gaps. When we share the list of the beneficiaries, we can find the duplicate registrations.”
- **Project Lead**
- **Sharing best practices:** Organizations were able to learn from each other. Specific instances of shared best practices included mobile money transfer costs, selection criteria and processes, and call center/monitoring efforts after each cash transfer. These were all identified by project leads as ways that they have been able to improve their programs by shared best practices from other organizations.
- **Learning from each other:** Not only do organizations share their best practices, they also share what went wrong so that others can learn from them. Now standard procedures have been created so that organizations can learn more easily from each other. This includes the same reporting structure and monitoring so that data can be shared continuously and in the same format.
- **Receiving more resources:** ECHO is interested in funding consortia rather than individual organizations so all organizations in the Cash Alliance are able to get more resources working together. There are clear advantages to working together beyond funding which makes donors more inclined to fund organizations as a group, rather than as individuals.

While the benefits of working together far outweigh the drawbacks, there were several identified areas for improvement by the Cash Alliance project leads and staff.

- **Targeting geographic areas:** One of the benefits of the Cash Alliance, the avoidance of duplication of efforts, is also one of the drawbacks as deciding which organizations get to work in certain geographic areas is not always an easy task and can cause disagreement within the Alliance. A solution to this has not been found and project leads identified this as an area that has caused disagreement in the past.

“It takes time for certain decisions to be made because all organizations have to come to an agreement... But there are many more benefits.”

- Project Lead

- **Making decisions:** Project leads commented on the relative slowness to make decisions in a group rather than as individual organizations. While this is a universal problem in consortium-type groups, it does impede the speed at which interventions and solutions can be created.

- **Lack of standard procedures:** Similarly, standard procedures have been developed for monitoring but not for general coordination. This was identified as a weak link in the Cash Alliance and project leads suggested more effort to create standardized coordination and sensitization procedures.

Overall Program Evaluation and Analysis (OECD-DAC)

Using the OECD-DAC criteria and the above findings, the Cash Alliance is evaluated below on its relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, accountability, and sustainability.

Relevance

People repeatedly said that cash transfers are what they would like and that they fit well into the local context. While there are small and often informal traditional safety nets in local communities, those in IDP camps are often isolated from any forms of traditional support, making cash transfer programs all the more important.

However, it is important to note that many beneficiaries in focus groups said that they also wanted additional livelihoods trainings, livestock, and jobs. People in IDP camps who had left their home communities for non-conflict reasons said that these things would allow them to leave the IDP camp and go back to their communities. Beneficiaries also commonly expressed confusion over why the amount of their cash transfer had lessened or stopped.

The Cash Alliance has a relevant and needed program in Somalia. Despite this, according to beneficiaries, a smoother transition at the end of their cash transfers and additional assistance to sustainability would create a more contextually relevant program. Coordination with other aid interventions such as training or livelihoods would be a more sustainable solution.

Efficiency

The majority of beneficiaries thought the cash transfer process was timely, clear, and simple. More importantly, the mobile money system streamlines the cash transfer process, creating less of a burden for both organizations and beneficiaries. As project leads confirmed, the mobile money system results in money that arrives directly to the beneficiary only a day or two after the order was given to send the money. The money does not have to travel through multiple people which lessens opportunity for corruption or delays.

In addition, the Cash Alliance appears to work well together. All five organizations have created incredibly similar programs so that sharing information and data is easy and there is little confusion about what other members are doing. Organizations work with communities directly and so communities have a large influence on the way the cash transfer program runs with regards to targeting. However, the methods of interacting with the communities are quite similar. The project leads meet monthly to talk about their programs and resolve any issues which enhance collaboration both in the field and outside these monthly meetings. While the Cash Alliance works well, decision-making is now an inherently longer process than it would be if organizations were working separately. However, the benefits of working together strongly outweigh the longer decision-making time.

Effectiveness

Our qualitative results indicate that the cash transfer system may have improved food security and resilience by providing people with the opportunity to purchase food and pay down debt, making them both more food secure and more resilient. As focus groups showed, many people were completely out of resources by the time the cash transfer program started. Without the cash transfer, it is unknown what sources of aid these people could have relied on.

The cash transfer system also appears to be reaching the most vulnerable, particularly disabled people and minority clans. The selection and targeting process for the cash transfers is rigorous across all five organizations and it is reflected in the beneficiaries we were able to contact for the quantitative survey and interview in focus groups.

Impact

While the primary impact of the cash transfer program has been food security and resiliency, other social impacts have been seen through some promising stories coming out of the program. There were some anecdotal reports of people in IDP camps are using their cash transfers to open their own informal shops and sell small goods to continue generating income but this was not possible for most beneficiaries and greatly depends on their household size. It was repeatedly confirmed in the focus groups that the people who were able to use their cash transfers for other goods beyond food such as school, healthcare, or business opportunities lived in smaller households.

Social impact beyond food security has not typically been seen except in anecdotal evidence. Even when people used the cash transfer to visit healthcare providers, it meant that they cut down on the amount of food they ate that month. Likewise, beneficiaries frequently mentioned not seeking healthcare for treatable illnesses such as measles and malaria due to the impact it would have on the food intake of their family.

Accountability

While all project leads confirmed the existence of feedback mechanisms for beneficiaries, there was low awareness by beneficiaries that these mechanisms existed. While making beneficiaries aware of these feedback mechanisms is part of the introduction to the cash transfer program, it is clear that that information is not 'sticking' past the introduction to the program. This is also true for a wide variety of information that beneficiaries in focus groups said they would like but was actually likely part of the initial sensitization training. It may be beneficial to hold sensitization trainings more than just at the beginning of the cash transfer program to remind beneficiaries of their rights and what to expect in the program.

Sustainability

At the moment, the cash transfer amount is too little to have any impact beyond food security. Thus, currently, people may not be able to get to a place where they no longer need the cash transfer. The goal of the cash transfer project is to increase food security but once the cash transfer

project stops, the beneficiaries are likely to experience decreasing food security again. To create a sustainable safety program, the cash transfer must be coupled with other types of support to create sustainability and successfully get people out of crisis.

In addition, there were a few concerning remarks made by those in IDP camps saying that they have become disincentivized to work due to the cash transfer. By coupling the cash transfer with other types of support, particularly training and livelihoods, people may be less likely to become disincentivized as they will be working or training throughout the cash transfer project.

Lessons Learned

There were several key lessons learned from this evaluation. These lessons can be used to both understand the current state of the project and provide learning for other cash transfer programs.

Impact of Gatekeepers: The Cash Alliance has introduced a robust selection process which accurately targets the most vulnerable people in the community. The targeting and verification process has been developed due to the impact of gatekeepers on previous programs. While there are still reports of gatekeepers impacting the program, particularly once the targeting and verification have been completed, the Cash Alliance has been successful in targeting the most vulnerable people in a community.

Impact on Non-Food Items: The majority of spending by beneficiaries was on food and most used their entire cash transfer to purchase food. Most commonly, beneficiaries would also use the cash transfer to pay down debt that they had incurred before the cash transfer. As of right now, the cash transfer amount is too low to have a large impact on non-food items such as shelter. The Cash Alliance has prioritized food as the primary expenditure of the cash transfer.

Work in South Central Somalia: South Central Somalia is far more insecure than other areas of Somalia and Somaliland and thus has more challenges in access. Despite the challenges, the Cash Alliance organizations are able to provide a secure method of cash transfer delivery through mobile money, an important and effective way to run a cash transfer program in an insecure area.

Social Impact: The Cash Alliance was not seen to have a large influence on social goods as the cash transfer primarily went to food. Some people were more likely to send their children to school or seek healthcare but this primarily happened with smaller families. The cash transfer amount currently does not take into account fluctuating household sizes and thus social impact varies greatly depending on family size.

Appropriateness: Cash transfers were seen to be an appropriate and contextual response to the drought by beneficiaries. Beneficiaries were happy with the cash transfer system although they also wanted livelihoods support. The mobile money system was viewed as a positive and appropriate transfer method by both beneficiaries and project staff.

Unified and Harmonized Approach: The collaboration seen in the Cash Alliance was incredibly positive and prevented duplication of efforts, a serious problem that had been prevalent before in both beneficiaries registering multiple times and geographic gaps as organizations clustered in the same areas. Through the Cash Alliance, the organizations have achieved more and been able to close some existing gaps in drought-affected communities.

Recommendations

The following contain two sets of recommendations based on the Cash Alliance cash transfer project and the ongoing Cash Consortium cash transfer project. The first set of recommendations details suggestions for improving the beneficiary experience including specific recommendations on feedback mechanisms, health and education, community awareness, and livelihoods. The second set details recommendations related to creating a national social safety net in Somalia and steps that could be taken in the interim before a safety net program is operational.

Beneficiary Experiences

Social Impact: The cash transfer program has little influence over any social impacts (health, education, and livelihoods). While not the intended goal of the program, beneficiaries specifically want more job trainings and livelihoods and opportunities to seek free or reduced-cost health and education services. In almost all the areas where the Cash Consortium works, livelihoods, health, and education-focused projects exist. Connections should be made with these NGOs or projects so that referrals can be made to beneficiaries to fulfill more of their needs.


Feedback Mechanisms: Low awareness of feedback mechanisms was prevalent among all respondents. Save the Children had the highest percentage of respondents who reported awareness of feedback mechanisms and their methods for awareness-raising could act as a model for the rest of the consortium.

Awareness Raising: Beneficiaries were often not informed of critical details about the cash transfer. Methods are currently not sufficient for beneficiaries who are likely to forget information provided at registration. Because beneficiaries already are in possession of phones and sim cards, SMS technology would provide information on a regular basis.

Steps to Safety Nets

Target Creation: Currently targets are set using regional or zonal level data, providing less accurate and often unattainable goals. Completing a baseline of the community before registration or before the announcement of the cash transfer program would provide more reliable and specific data for Cash Consortium communities.

Household Sizes: Household size greatly influences the impact of the cash transfer on food security, resilience, and social needs. Methods of cash transfer that take into account household size would achieve more equitable outcomes. However, household size may fluctuate with the introduction of the cash transfer. Therefore, determining household size should be done in the initial baseline, before notifying community members of the introduction of the cash transfer program.



ID System: Biometric systems are being introduced throughout Somalia in a variety of different capacities. Iris scanners were used in the 2017 Somaliland elections and fingerprints are used in WFP's SCOPE program and in the private sector's Camel Cash program. While creating a national ID system may be several years off, collecting and using biometric data for current or new beneficiaries would improve tracking systems and verification.

Verifications: Currently the verification process has a high threshold for redoing targeting and selection based on any excluding factors. This is a reoccurring problem in the Cash Alliance and Consortium as there is no standard minimum percentage of correctly-selected beneficiaries. Standards and expectations should be set at the beginning of the selection process for the next round of cash transfers and verification processes should be standardized and managed at the Nairobi office level.

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Annex 1: Interview Rosters

Table 9: Key Informant Interview Roster

Location	Organization	Position	Date Conducted
Afgooye	CWW	Project Coordinator	03/27/2018
Afgooye	N/A	Community Leader	04/02/2018
Baidoa	N/A	Government Authority	03/27/2018
Baidoa	CWW	Field Officer	03/28/2018
Buulobarde	N/A	Village Chairman	03/28/2018
Buulobarde	SCI	Project Manager	03/29/2018
Ceerigavo	N/A	Village Chairman	03/29/2018
Ceerigavo	NRC	Project Assistant	03/31/2018
Dollow	N/A	Government Authority	03/28/2018
Dollow	COOPI	Project Staff	03/28/2018
Galkacyo	N/A	Government Authority	04/02/2018
Galkacyo	SCI	FSL Coordinator	04/08/2018
Iskushuban	N/A	Vice Chairman	03/26/2018
Iskushuban	NRC	Project Staff	03/27/2018
Lascaanood	N/A	Community Leader	03/26/2018
Lascaanood	NRC	Project Staff	04/01/2018
Luuq	N/A	Community Leader	04/01/2018
Luuq	COOPI	Project Staff	04/01/2018
Mogadishu	N/A	Government Official	03/28/2018
Mogadishu	DRC	Project Coordinator	03/28/2018
Qardho	N/A	Mayor	03/29/2018
Qardho	DRC	Project Officer	03/31/2018
Widhwidh	N/A	Community Leader	03/25/2018
Widhwidh	DRC	Food Security Officer	03/26/2018
Hargeisa (via Skype)	COOPI	Program Coordinator	03/27/2018
Hargeisa (via Skype)	CWW	Country Emergency Coordinator	04/03/2018
Hargeisa (via Skype)	SCI	Head of Child Poverty Reduction	03/26/2018
Hargeisa (via Skype)	NRC	Livelihoods and Food Security Project Manager	03/27/2018
Hargeisa	DRC	National Program Manager	04/04/2018

Table 10: Focus Group Discussion Roster

Location	Partner	Number of Participants	Gender	Age Range
Afgooye	CWW	8	Female	20-50
Afgooye	CWW	8	Male	23-54
Baidoa	CWW	8	Female	25-45
Baidoa	CWW	8	Male	23-50
Buulobarde	SCI	8	Female	35-58
Buulobarde	SCI	8	Male	35-58
Ceerigavo	NRC	8	Female	39-53
Ceerigavo	NRC	7	Male	32-50
Dollow	COOPI	8	Female	30-70
Dollow	COOPI	8	Male	45-65
Galkacyo	SCI	11	Female	30-60
Galkacyo	SCI	11	Male	26-60
Iskushuban	NRC	11	Female	27-61
Iskushuban	NRC	9	Male	25-57
Luuq	COOPI	6	Female	30-50
Luuq	COOPI	6	Male	25-65
Lascaanood	NRC	7	Female	27-47
Lascaanood	NRC	7	Male	32-57
Mogadishu	DRC	8	Female	22-49
Mogadishu	DRC	8	Male	21-50
Qardho	DRC	10	Female	20-70
Qardho	DRC	11	Male	35-77
Widhwidh	DRC	6	Female	30-55
Widhwidh	DRC	6	Male	25-45

Annex 2: Coping Strategies Index

Table 11: CSI Questions Per Demographic

Coping Strategy or Behavior	Demographic Group
Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods?	All
Rely on food donations from relatives (Qaraabo)?	All
Limit portion size at mealtimes?	All
Restrict/reduce consumption by adults so children can eat more?	All
Reduce number of meals eaten in a day?	All
Borrow food on credit from another household (Amaah)?	All
Borrow food on credit from the shop/market (Deyn)?	Urban/IDPs, Agro-Pastoralists
Rely on food donations from the clan/community (Kaalmo)?	All
Seek or rely on food aid from humanitarian agencies?	Urban/IDPs
Send household members to eat elsewhere?	All
Beg for food (Tuugsi/dawarsi)?	Urban/IDPs, Pastoral
Skip entire days without eating (Qadoodi)?	Urban/IDPs, Agro-Pastoralists
Consume spoiled or left-over foods?	Urban/IDPs, Riverine
Rely on hunting for food (ugaarsi)?	Pastoral
Reduce home milk consumption and sell more of milk produced?	Pastoral, Agro-Pastoralists
Stop all home milk consumption and sell all milk produced?	Agro-Pastoralists
Consume weak un-saleable animals (caateysi)?	Pastoral
Community identified your household as in need of food and fives support (Qaraan)?	Agro-Pastoralists
Reduce number of meals per day by one (eg. From three to two)?	Riverine
Reduce number of meals per day by two (eg. From three to one)?	Riverine
Borrow food for consumption (to be repaid in future - in kind)?	Riverine
Consume seeds meant for future planting?	Riverine
Consume immature crops (fruits or cereals)?	Riverine
Consume wild foods?	Riverine
Consume unacceptable/prohibited foods (animal skins, grass and roots, clotted blood, tree leaves, warthogs)?	Riverine

Table 12: Most Common Coping Strategies per Demographic

Demographic Group	Most Common Coping Strategies (In order of commonality)
Urban/IDPS	Restrict/reduce consumption by adults so children can eat more
	Borrow food on credit from the shop/market (Deyn)
Pastoralists	Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods
	Restrict/reduce consumption by adults so children can eat more
	Limit portion size at mealtimes
Agro-Pastoralists	Reduce number of meals eaten in a day
	Restrict/reduce consumption by adults so children can eat more
	Borrow food on credit from the shop/market (Deyn)
Riverine	Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods
	Limit portion size at mealtimes
	Borrow food on credit from another household (Amaah)
	Borrow food for consumption (to be repaid in future - in kind)

Annex 3: Quantitative Survey

Module 1: Consent

Module 2: Respondent Information

Module 3: Project Participation

Module 4: Household Expenditure

Module 5: Household Dietary Diversity Score

Module 6: Individual Dietary Diversity Score

Module 7: Food Consumption Score

Module 8: Social Impact

Module 9: Conflict

Module 10: Feedback Mechanisms

Module 11: Sim Card Retention

Module 12: Reduced Coping Strategies Index

Module 13: Closing

Module 1: Consent

Question Number	Question	Options	Indicator/Objective Measured
1.	Select Zone		Demographic
2.	Select Region		Demographic
3.	Select District		Demographic
4.	Select Recipient Name		Beneficiary Information
5.	Enter Beneficiary ID Number	Number	Beneficiary Information
6.	Select Beneficiary Organization		Beneficiary Information
7.	Pull Beneficiary Phone Number		Beneficiary Information
8.	Select Female or Male Headed Household		Demographic
9.	Select Enumerator Name		
10.	Select Enumerator Code		
11.	Date of Interview		
12.	Hello, is this [RECIPIENT NAME]?		
13.	If no, what is your name?		
14.	If no, do you know [RECIPIENT NAME]?		
15.	What is your relationship to [RECIPIENT NAME]?		

16. If yes, schedule a time or record a new Number
phone number to call [RECIPIENT
NAME]

17. If no, thank you for your time.

18. Hello, I am [ENUMERATOR NAME]
from Forcier Consulting, interviewing on
behalf of the Cash Alliance to better
understand recipients' feelings about the
cash transfer project. I would like to talk
to you today and ask for your permission
to interview you. Feel free to consult
other people in the household before you
respond.

We would like to ask you some questions
about your household and the cash
transfers you have received. We will
record your answers for use in research,
but we will not mention you by name or
share your personal details with anybody
outside of our team. When we publish
the data and results from this study, we
will ensure that it is not possible to
identify you as the person who has
provided these answers.

This survey is taking place in your
community and other communities
throughout [Somalia/Somaliland]. The call
should take approximately 30-45 minutes of
your time and your participation is entirely
voluntary. You can stop the interview at any
time or not respond to any question and
there are no consequences for choosing not
to respond to a question or for ending the
interview.

You may not personally directly benefit from
this call. However, we hope that the
information and knowledge you provide will
help the Cash Alliance design and implement
projects that can better support people and
communities throughout Somalia and
Somaliland.

Do you have any questions about the survey
or what I have said? If in the future you have
any questions regarding the survey, or

concerns or complaints, please contact the Cash Alliance partner in your area.

19.	If you do not have any (more) questions, can you let me know here if you agree to be a part of this call and have your responses recorded?	Yes No	Consent
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Module 2: Respondent Information

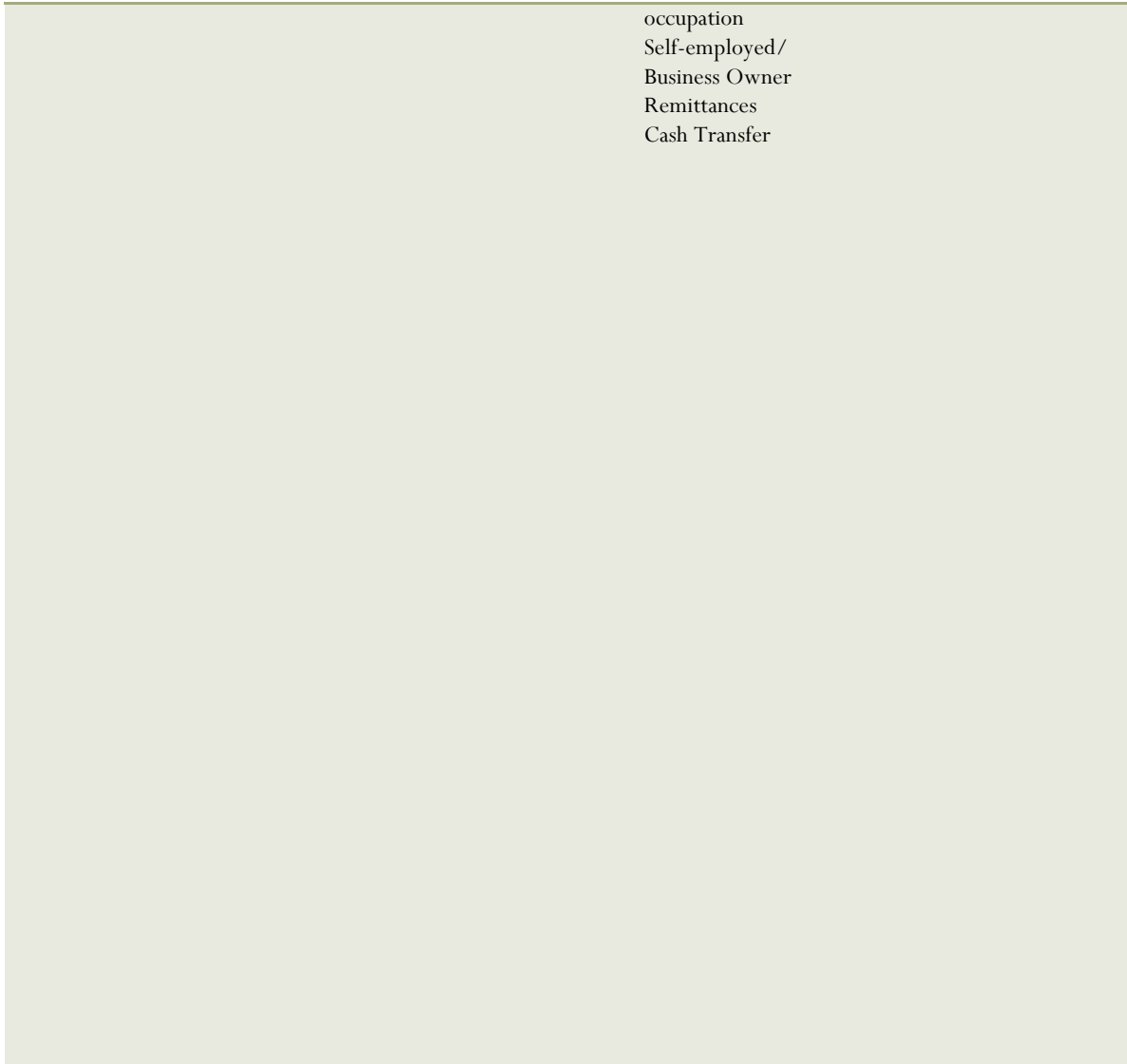
20.	How old are you?	Number	Demographic
21.	Respondent gender (do not ask)	Male Female	Demographic
22.	What is your citizen status?	Internally displaced person Pastoralist Agro-pastoralist None of the above	Demographic
23.	What is your marital status?	Never married Married Separated/Divorced Widowed Other (specify) I don't know / Unsure I prefer not to answer/ no answer	Demographic
24.	What is your relationship to the household head?	Head Spouse Son/daughter of head/spouse Mother/father of head/spouse Sister/brother of head/spouse Other relative (specify) Non-relative Other (specify) I don't know / Unsure I prefer not to answer/ no answer	Demographic
25.	What is the highest level of education you have received?	No Education Islamic Schooling Some Primary Completed Primary Some Secondary	Demographic

		Completed Secondary Some University Completed University	
26.	What is the highest level of education the head of household has received?	No Education Islamic Schooling Some Primary Completed Primary Some Secondary Completed Secondary Some University Completed University	Demographic
27.	How many people live in your household?	Number	Demographic
28.	How many women live in your household?	Number	Demographic
29.	How many men live in your household?	Number	Demographic
30.	Has the number of people in your household increased or decreased in the past year?	Increased Decreased Stayed the Same	Fluctuating Household Sizes
31.	Why is that?	Drought Marriage Education Having Children Death Other	Fluctuating Household Sizes
32.	Has the number of people in your household increased or decreased since you started receiving the cash transfer?	Increased Decreased Stayed the Same	Fluctuating Household Sizes
33.	Why is that?	Drought Marriage Education Having Children Death Other	Fluctuating Household Sizes
34.	How many children under the age of five live in this household?	Number	Demographic
35.	How many people under 17 years of age live in the household?	Number	Demographic
36.	How many children from the household are currently in school?	Number	Demographic
37.	What is the highest school grade that the female head/spouse has completed?	No Education Islamic Schooling Some Primary Completed Primary	Demographic

		Some Secondary Completed Secondary Some University Completed University	
38.	For how long have you lived in this location?	Less than 6 months 6 months to 1 year More than 1 year	Demographic
39.	Why did you recently move?	Drought Employment Conflict Marriage Education Bought a House (were rentals) Other	Demographic
40.	What is your household's main source of income?	Pastoralists/animal herding Senior government official, traditional chief, or head of village Health worker (e.g. Medical doctor, nurse, midwife, healer) Teacher (e.g. Primary, secondary or university teacher) Other professionals (e.g. Lawyer, police officer, accountant, banker, cleric, writer, artist) Office or service clerk (e.g. Secretary, cashier, teller) Salesperson or service worker (e.g. Retailer at a shop, market, or stall; waiter, cook) Farmer or fishermen Extraction and building workers (e.g. Miners, stone cutters, builders, painters) Metal, machinery and related trade workers (e.g. Blacksmith, tool maker, machinery or electrical mechanic) Artisan and craft	Impact on Livelihoods

workers (e.g. Potter,
weaver, carpenter,
leather worker,
shoemaker, food
processor)
Unskilled sales and
service worker (e.g.
Street vendor, hawker,
shoe cleaner, domestic
helper, cleaner,
doorkeeper, garbage
collector)
Charcoal production
and/or fuelwood
collection
Armed forces
Students
Domestic chores inside
the home (non-
agricultural, e.g. Child
raising, cooking)
Does not have an
occupation
Self-employed/
Business Owner
Remittances
Cash Transfer

41.	What were your household's three main sources of income last month?	Pastoralists/animal herding Senior government official, traditional chief, or head of village Health worker (e.g. Medical doctor, nurse, midwife, healer) Teacher (e.g. Primary, secondary or university teacher) Other professionals (e.g. Lawyer, police officer, accountant, banker, cleric, writer, artist) Office or service clerk (e.g. Secretary, cashier, teller) Salesperson or service worker (e.g. Retailer at a shop, market, or stall; waiter, cook) Farmer or fishermen Extraction and building workers (e.g. Miners, stone cutters, builders, painters) Metal, machinery and related trade workers (e.g. Blacksmith, tool maker, machinery or electrical mechanic) Artisan and craft workers (e.g. Potter, weaver, carpenter, leather worker, shoemaker, food processor) Unskilled sales and service worker (e.g. Street vendor, hawker, shoe cleaner, domestic helper, cleaner, doorkeeper, garbage collector) Charcoal production and/or fuelwood collection Armed forces Students Domestic chores inside the home (non-agricultural, e.g. Child raising, cooking) Does not have an	Impact on Livelihoods



occupation
 Self-employed/
 Business Owner
 Remittances
 Cash Transfer

42. Before enrollment in the Cash Transfer project, what were your three main sources of income?

Pastoralists/animal herding
 Senior government official, traditional chief, or head of village
 Health worker (e.g. Medical doctor, nurse, midwife, healer)
 Teacher (e.g. Primary, secondary or university teacher)
 Other professionals (e.g. Lawyer, police officer, accountant, banker, cleric, writer, artist)
 Office or service clerk (e.g. Secretary, cashier, teller)

Impact on Livelihoods

		<p>Salesperson or service worker (e.g. Retailer at a shop, market, or stall; waiter, cook)</p> <p>Farmer or fishermen</p> <p>Extraction and building workers (e.g. Miners, stone cutters, builders, painters)</p> <p>Metal, machinery and related trade workers (e.g. Blacksmith, tool maker, machinery or electrical mechanic)</p> <p>Artisan and craft workers (e.g. Potter, weaver, carpenter, leather worker, shoemaker, food processor)</p> <p>Unskilled sales and service worker (e.g. Street vendor, hawker, shoe cleaner, domestic helper, cleaner, doorkeeper, garbage collector)</p> <p>Charcoal production and/or fuelwood collection</p> <p>Armed forces</p> <p>Students</p> <p>Domestic chores inside the home (non-agricultural, e.g. Child raising, cooking)</p> <p>Does not have an occupation</p> <p>Self-employed/ Business Owner</p> <p>Remittances Cash Transfer</p>		
43.	How many people contributed to your household income last month?	Number	Impact on Livelihoods	on
44.	What was your estimated total household income last month? (US DOLLARS)	Number	Impact on Livelihoods	on
45.	Which of the following have you or members of your household received from other NGOs or projects in the past month?	<p>Food aid (for work or unconditional) </p> <p>Cash/vouchers (for work or unconditional) </p> <p>Free/subsidized seeds </p>	Impact on Livelihoods	on

	<p>Other free agricultural goods/assets Free household goods/assets Restocking (livestock transfers) Livestock treatment (vaccines & medication) New livestock-related infrastructure (road, loading ramp, shed) New agriculture-related infrastructure (market access roads, produce stalls) Improved land access for farming (share-cropping) New/improved water access point Loan received (directly or through an enterprise/credit group) Member of Village Savings & Loan / Ayuto / Hagbaad Training (agriculture, livestock, marketing, vocational, or resource management) None Other</p>
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Module 3: Project Participation

46.	Are you aware of the selection criteria used by the Alliance to choose your household as a beneficiary?	Yes No	Assess the impact of the gatekeepers on the project Identifying aspects to improve
47.	If yes, why were you selected?	Female Low Income Unemployment Other	Assess the impact of the gatekeepers on the project
48.	Are there certain people who are not eligible to be beneficiaries? (Select all that apply)	Men Minority Clan Members High-Income People People Without Children Other	Assess the impact of the gatekeepers on the project Human Rights Aspect Gender Sensitive Aspect
49.	Did the organization staff tell you the amount of money you will receive every month?	Yes No	Awareness on entitlements
50.	Did the organization staff tell you when you would receive the money every month?	Yes No	Awareness on entitlements
51.	Did you also receive a sim card from the Alliance with your cash transfer?	Yes No	Awareness on entitlements
52.	How long ago did you receive your last cash transfer?	Date	Assessing to which extent the speed of implementation of the cash transfer project responded to beneficiary needs
53.	Did you receive the cash transfer at the time when organization staff said you would?	Yes No	Assessing to which extent the speed of implementation of the cash transfer project responded to beneficiary needs Identifying aspects to improve
54.	How much time passed between registering as a beneficiary and your first cash transfer?	Less than 2 weeks 2-4 weeks 1-3.9 months 4 – 6	Assessing to which extent the speed of implementation of

		months More than 6 months	the cash transfer project responded to beneficiary needs Identifying aspects to improve Realistic MEBs
55.	How much cash did you receive? (US DOLLARS)	Number	Realistic MEBs
56.	Did you exchange the USD to Somali Shillings?	Yes No	Identifying aspects to improve
57.	If yes, where did you exchange the money?	Bank Market Relative Hawala Other	Identifying aspects to improve
58.	Was the exchange fair between USD to Somali Shillings?	Yes No	Identifying aspects to improve
59.	In your opinion, is the cash transfer process clear and simple?	Yes No	Identifying aspects to improve
60.	Was the amount received sufficient to cover your non-food basic needs in the household?	Yes No	Impact of CT on non-food items Realistic MEBs Identifying aspects to improve
61.	Was the amount received sufficient to cover your basic food needs in the household?	Yes No	Enabled to meet basic food need Realistic MEBs

Module 4: Household Expenditure

62.	Out of all income made in the past month, (including the cash transfer) how much did your household spend on the following:		Realistic MEBs
63.	Food (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
64.	Debt Repayment (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
65.	Clothing/Shoes (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
66.	Saved (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
67.	Business Investment (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
68.	Transport (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
69.	Rent/Shelter (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
70.	Water (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
71.	School Fees (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
72.	Gift/Share (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
73.	Livestock (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
74.	Household Items (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs

75.	Medical (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
76.	Agricultural Inputs (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
77.	Firewood (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
78.	Other (USD)	Number	Realistic MEBs
79.	Out of the cash transferred in the last cash transfer, how much did your household spend on the following: (USD)		Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
80.	Food (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
81.	Debt Repayment (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
82.	Clothing/Shoes (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
83.	Saved (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
84.	Business Investment (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
85.	Transport (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs

86.	Rent/Shelter (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
87.	Water (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
88.	School Fees (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
89.	Gift/Share (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
90.	Livestock (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
91.	Household Items (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
92.	Medical (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
93.	Agricultural Inputs (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs

			patterns Realistic MEBs
94.	Firewood (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
95.	Other (USD)	Number	Using cash assistance to cover basic needs as per expenditure patterns Realistic MEBs
96.	Has your spending on food increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the past year?	Increased Decreased Stayed the Same	Assessing food market behaviors
97.	Have prices for food increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the past year?	Increased Decreased Stayed the Same	Identifying aspects to improve Assessing food market behaviors
98.	If increased, why do you think that is?	Moved to More Expensive Area Inflation from Cash Transfers Inflation from Drought/Lack of Food More Demand from More People Moving In Other	Assessing food market behaviors
99.	Do you buy food items at a different location than you did before receiving the cash transfer?	Yes No	Assessing food market behaviors
100.	Why do you buy foods at a different location?	Better Quality Less Expensive More Convenient Other	Assessing food market behaviors
101.	Are the foods at the new location more or less expensive?	More expensive Less expensive About the Same	Assessing food market behaviors
102.	Who do you purchase food items from?	Farmers Local Traders Local Shops Wholesale Other	Assessing food market behaviors
103.	Has the availability of food changed since	Increased	Assessing food

you received the cash transfer?	Decreased the Same		Stay	market behaviors
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Module 5: Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)

104.	NOTE: Now I would like to ask you about the types of foods that you or anyone else in your household ate yesterday during the day and at night. Please include all food eaten both at your home or away from home or outside of your home.			Used to Calculate Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)(in the past 24 hours)
105.	Has this household eaten Any food made of grains (maize, rice, bur (injera, sabayad, rooti), sorghum, pasta, macaroni) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No		Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)
106.	Has this household eaten Any kind of tuber (potatoes, sweet potatoes, cassava, yams, or other foods made from roots or tubers) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No		Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)
107.	Any foods made from beans (white, brown, horse), peas, lentils, chick peas, rape seed, linseed, sesame, sunflower, soybean flour or nuts (groundnuts, groundnut flour) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No		Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)
108.	Has this household eaten Any vegetables such as onions, cabbage, green leafy vegetables, gathered wild green leaves, tomato, cucumber, pumpkin, mushroom, kale, leak, green pepper, beet root, garlic, or carrots in the past 24 hours?	Yes No		Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)
109.	Has this household eaten Any fruits, (such as mango, banana, oranges, pineapple, papaya, guava, avocado, wild fruit, apple) or juices, or food made from fruits, in the past 24 hours?	Yes No		Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)
110.	Has this household eaten Any meat (camel, beef, goat, lamb, chicken or other poultry, liver, other organ meats) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No		Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)
111.	Has this household eaten any eggs in the past 24 hours?	Yes No		Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)

112.	Has this household eaten any fresh fish, smoked fish, fish soup/sauce or dried fish or shellfish in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Household Diversity (HDDS)	Dietary Score
113.	Has this household eaten Any dairy products (cheese, yogurt, milk, powder milk, buttermilk or other milk products) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Household Diversity (HDDS)	Dietary Score
114.	Has this household eaten Any sugar, sugar cane, or honey in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Household Diversity (HDDS)	Dietary Score
115.	Has this household eaten Any oil or fat (butter, ghee, camel hump, vegetable oil, margarine) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Household Diversity (HDDS)	Dietary Score
116.	Has this household eaten Any other foods, such as condiments, coffee, or tea in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Household Diversity (HDDS)	Dietary Score

Module 6: Individual Dietary Consumption Score (IDDS)

1.	NOTE: Now I would like to ask you about the types of foods that only the children of this household ate yesterday during the day and at night. Please include all food eaten both at home or away from home or outside of the home.		Used to Calculate Individual Dietary Diversity Score (IDDS) for children, (in the past 24 hours)
2.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any food made of grains (maize, rice, bur (injera, sabayad, rooti), sorghum, pasta, macaroni) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS) Dietary Score
3.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any kind of tuber (potatoes, sweet potatoes, cassava, yams, or other foods made from roots or tubers) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS) Dietary Score
4.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any foods made from beans (white, brown, horse), peas, lentils, chick peas, rape seed, linseed, sesame, sunflower, soybean flour or nuts	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS) Dietary Score

	(groundnuts, groundnut flour) in the past 24 hours?			
5.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any vegetables such as onions, cabbage, green leafy vegetables, gathered wild green leaves, tomato, cucumber, pumpkin, mushroom, kale, leak, green pepper, beet root, garlic, or carrots in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS)	Dietary Score
6.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any fruits, (such as mango, banana, oranges, pineapple, papaya, guava, avocado, wild fruit, apple) or juices, or food made from fruits, in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS)	Dietary Score
7.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any meat (camel, beef, goat, lamb, chicken or other poultry, liver, other organ meats) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS)	Dietary Score
8.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten any eggs in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS)	Dietary Score
9.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten any fresh fish, smoked fish, fish soup/sauce or dried fish or shellfish in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS)	Dietary Score
10.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any dairy products (cheese, yogurt, milk, powder milk, buttermilk or other milk products) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS)	Dietary Score
11.	Have the children (6-14 years old) in your household eaten Any oil or fat (butter, ghee, camel hump, vegetable oil, margarine) in the past 24 hours?	Yes No	Individual Diversity (IDDS)	Dietary Score

Module 7: Food Consumption Score (FCS)

1.	NOTE: Now I would like to ask you about the types of foods that you or anyone else in your household ate in the last 7 days, and how		Used to Calculate Food Consumption Score (FCS) (in
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often. Please include all food eaten both at your home or away from home or outside of your home.			the past 7 day)
2.	Has this household eaten Any food made of grains (maize, rice, bur (injera, sabayad, rooti), sorghum, pasta, macaroni) in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
3.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
4.	Has this household eaten Any kind of tuber (potatoes, sweet potatoes, cassava, yams, or other foods made from roots or tubers) in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
5.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
6.	Any foods made from beans (white, brown, horse), peas, lentils, chick peas, rape seed, linseed, sesame, sunflower, soybean flour or nuts (groundnuts, groundnut flour) in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
7.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
8.	Has this household eaten Any vegetables such as onions, cabbage, green leafy vegetables, gathered wild green leaves, tomato, cucumber, pumpkin, mushroom, kale, leak, green pepper, beet root, garlic, or carrots in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
9.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
10.	Has this household eaten Any fruits, (such as mango, banana, oranges, pineapple, papaya, guava, avocado, wild fruit, apple) or juices, or food made from fruits, in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
11.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
12.	Has this household eaten Any meat (camel, beef, goat, lamb, chicken or other poultry, liver, other organ meats) in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
13.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
14.	Has this household eaten any eggs in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)

15.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
16.	Has this household eaten any fresh fish, smoked fish, fish soup/sauce or dried fish or shellfish in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
17.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
18.	Has this household eaten Any dairy products (cheese, yogurt, milk, powder milk, buttermilk or other milk products) in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
19.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
20.	Has this household eaten Any sugar, sugar cane, or honey in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
21.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
22.	Has this household eaten Any oil or fat (butter, ghee, camel hump, vegetable oil, margarine) in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
23.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
24.	Has this household eaten Any other foods, such as condiments, coffee, or tea in the last 7 days?	Yes No	Food Consumption Score (FCS)
25.	How many days in the last 7 days?	Number	Food Consumption Score (FCS)

Module 8: Social Impact**Education**

1.	How many of the school-aged children in your household attend school?	Number	Imbalance with other sectors
2.	What are the reasons not all your children attend school?	The family couldn't afford to send them anymore They started a job (out of home) They had an illness They got married Pregnancy stopped them from attending Death of a family member Corporal punishment Lack of teachers and teacher absence Violence / bullying / harassment / conflict (on way to school or nearby) Overcrowded classrooms School closed Drought Don't know	Imbalance with other sectors
3.	How much are school fees per school year for one child? (US DOLLARS)	Number	Imbalance with other sectors
4.	Have you ever not been able to afford school fees for the children in your household since receiving the cash transfer?	Yes No	Imbalance with other sectors
5.	Have you ever used your cash transfer to afford school fees?	Yes No	Imbalance with other sectors
Health			
6.	Think back to the last time someone in your household was sick. What did you do?	Went to the hospital Doctor came to house Traditional Healer	Imbalance with other sectors

		came Relatives took care of them Other		
7.	When that person was sick, did you spend any money on their healthcare?	Yes No	Imbalance with other sectors	
8.	What did you spend the money on?	Doctor Visit Medicine Traditional Healer Visit Hospital Other	Imbalance with other sectors	
9.	Have you ever used your cash transfer to buy healthcare services?	Yes No	Imbalance with other sectors	
10.	Have you ever not been able to afford healthcare since receiving the cash transfer?	Yes No	Imbalance with other sectors	
11.	How many times in the last month has someone been ill in your household?	Integer	Imbalance with other sectors	

Module 9: Conflict

12.	Conflict		Identifying aspects to improve Human Rights Aspect Gender Sensitive Aspect Undesired Results of Project
13.	Have you encountered any problem while processing/accessing the cash?	Yes No Refused	Undesired Results of Project
14.	What was the problem?	Money was not available Money was stolen No one was there Cash transfer amount was different than expected Different people get different amounts Corruption	Undesired Results of Project

		Other Refused		
15.	Are other members of the community jealous of you because of the cash transfer?	Yes No Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
16.	Do other members of the community treat you differently because of the cash transfer?	Yes No Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
17.	If yes, how have they treated you differently?	More friendly Less friendly Other Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
18.	Has the cash transfer caused conflict within your household?	Yes No Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
19.	If yes, with whom has it caused conflict?	Spouse Child Parent Other Male Relative Other Female Relative Friends Other Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
20.	Why has it caused conflict?	They want the money They want to spend it on themselves Other Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
21.	What happens when there is conflict in your household?	Verbal yelling Beating Punishment Kicked out of Household Other Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
22.	Is conflict in your household more or less frequent than it was before the cash transfer?	More frequent Less frequent No Change Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
23.	Have you tried to keep your cash transfer secret from other members of the community?	Yes No Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
24.	Have you tried to keep your cash transfer secret from other members of your household?	Yes No Refused	Undesired of Project	Results
25.	Who do you try to keep it secret from?	Spouse Child Parent Other Male Relative Other Female Relative Friends Other Refused	Undesired of Project	Results

Module 10: Feedback Mechanisms

26.	Feedback Mechanisms		Identifying aspects to improve Human Rights Aspect Effectiveness of community feedback mechanisms
27.	Are you aware of any mechanisms to report any complaint about the cash transfers?	Yes No	Effectiveness of community feedback mechanisms
28.	If yes, have you used these mechanisms to report a complaint?	Yes No	Effectiveness of community feedback mechanisms
29.	If yes, did you get a response from one of the Alliance organizations?	Yes No	Effectiveness of community feedback mechanisms
30.	If yes, were you satisfied with your experience in reporting a complaint?	Yes No	Effectiveness of community feedback mechanisms
31.	If no, why?	Did not get a response Did not get the complaint addressed Was not a timely response Staff was not respectful Other	Effectiveness of community feedback mechanisms
32.	In your opinion, what should be done to improve the cash transfer process?	Mobile Money Less Requirements More Secrecy Other	Identifying aspects to improve
33.	Has the cash transfer project addressed your immediate needs?	Yes No	Identifying aspects to improve
34.	If yes, what has it addressed?	Food Shelter School Fees	Identifying aspects to improve

		Other		
35.	If no, what has not been addressed?	Food Shelter Identifying aspects School Fees to improve Other		
36.	Given options, which alternative to cash transfer would you prefer?	Training Preferences on Employment modes of Food Vouchers assistances delivery Combination of Cash and Livelihoods Livestock No Alternative		
37.	Why would you prefer that alternative?	Want to be employed Cash Transfer not enough money Want training for job Want to have livestock Cash Transfer hard to use Other	Preferences on modes of assistances delivery	

Module 11: Sim Card Retention

38.	Sim Card Retention (To be asked if they were given a sim card)			
39.	Has anyone offered to buy your sim card that is linked to the cash transfers?	Yes No	Undesired Results of Project	
40.	If yes, how much did they offer to pay? (US DOLLARS)	Number	Undesired Results of Project	
41.	Do you know if other beneficiaries have sold their sim cards?	Yes No	Undesired Results of Project	
42.	Have you ever tried to sell your sim card linked to the cash transfers to another person?	Yes No	Undesired Results of Project	

Module 12: Reduced Coping Strategies Index

43.	In the past 7 days, if there have been times when you did not have enough food or money to buy food, how often (in days) has your household had to:	Number ≤ 7	Used to Calculate the CSI-R
	Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods?		
	Rely on food donations from relatives (Qaraabo)?		
	Limit portion size at mealtimes?		
	Restrict/reduce consumption by adults so children can eat more?		
	Reduce number of meals eaten in a day?	Urban/IDPs or Agro-Pastoralists	
	Borrow food on credit from another household (Amaah)?		
	Borrow food on credit from the shop/market (Deyn)?	Urban/IDPs	
	Rely on food donations from the clan/community (Kaalmo)?		
	Seek or rely on food aid from humanitarian agencies?	Urban/IDPs or Pastoral	
	Send household members to eat elsewhere?	Urban/IDPs or Agro-Pastoralists	
	Beg for food (Tuugsi/dawarsi)?	Urban/IDPs or	
	Skip entire days without eating (Qadoodi)?	Riverine Pastoralists or Agro-Pastoralists	
	Consume spoilt or left-over foods?	Pastoralists	
	Rely on hunting for food (ugaarsi)?	Agro-Pastoralists	
	Reduce home milk consumption and sell more of milk produced?	Pastoralists	
	Stop all home milk consumption and sell all milk produced?	Agro-Pastoralists	
	Consume weak un-saleable animals (caateysi)?	Riverine	
	Community identified your household as in need of food and fives support (Qaraan)?	Riverine	
	Reduce number of meals per day by one (eg. From three to two)?	Riverine	
	Reduce number of meals per day by two (eg. From three to one)?	Riverine	

Borrow food for consumption (to be repaid in future - in kind)? Riverine
Consume seeds meant for future planting?
Consume immature crops (fruits or cereals)?
Consume wild foods?
Consume unacceptable/prohibited foods (animal skins, grass and roots, clotted blood, tree leaves, warthogs)?

Module 13: Closing

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- 44. Thank you for your time and cooperation in sharing this information with us. Do you have any further questions?**

If the respondent asks any questions, answer what you can and record the others so the research team and project staff can follow-up where necessary.

Annex 4: Qualitative Interviews

Focus Group Discussion with Beneficiaries

Introduction and purpose of FGD:

As members of the community you have been exposed to the Cash Alliance’s Food Security and Livelihood project. You have been registered as a Cash Transfer recipient by one of the partner organizations, and received cash transfers in the past year. We would like to have a focus group discussion today, to gather some information on this project.

Forcier Consulting is an independent research organization. We are working with the Norwegian Refugee Council to evaluate the Cash Alliance’s Food Security and Livelihood project in Somalia/Somaliland, and as part of this evaluation we are interviewing a number of actors who are involved in the project. Our purpose today is to collect information, and report it back to the partners forming the Cash Alliance. We will be recording this discussion on this device. Your answers will be kept confidential and non-attributable. All questions are completely voluntary. The information you share with us will be used to inform future programming.

[Introduction of Forcier staff present]

At the start of the FGD a form will be completed which identifies the name, age, sex, residence, profession, and contact number. Each participant will then be seated and assigned a number so that responses given can be assigned to each participant.

The following key questions will be presented to the group. A maximum of 10 minutes will be spent on any one question.

Question Number	Question	Probes	Indicator/Objective Measured
Personal Experience			
1.	How were you selected to be a beneficiary?	community involvement, leaders	Effectiveness of beneficiary targeting and degree of inclusion Level of beneficiary participation in targeting process Impact of gatekeepers
2.	Are there any groups that are excluded from the selection? If so, why are they excluded?	minority clan, men	Human-rights sensitive design Impact of

			gatekeepers
3.	Who decides who will become a beneficiary?	community leaders, gatekeepers	Impact of gatekeepers
4.	Could you describe the process of signing up and receiving the cash transfer?	sim cards, waiting time, staff respectfulness, requirements	Speed of implementation Quality of delivery process
5.	When you sign up for the cash transfer, what information does the staff provide you?	amount of money in transfer	Level of awareness created regarding entitlements
6.	Is there any information that you feel like you did not receive or would have liked to have? What is that information?	amount of money, timing of delivery, how to get delivery	Level of awareness created regarding entitlements
7.	After receiving the cash transfer, what additional steps do you take to use the money?	convert into shillings, etc.	Quality of delivery process
8.	How well does the cash transfer system work, in your experience?	timeliness, interaction with staff, ability to cover needs	Appropriateness of cash delivery system
9.	What aspects of the cash transfer system work well? What aspects do not work well?	timeliness, interaction with staff, ability to cover needs	Appropriateness of cash delivery system
10.	Are you able to help yourself and your family with the cash transfer? If so, how?	food, shelter, school fees	Impact of cash transfers on non-food items
11.	How does the cash transfer help you and your family get through hardships?	Droughts, inflation, loss of livestock	Changes in coping mechanisms
12.	Have you started using a bank or other formal financial institutions? Why or why not?	Bank not available	Impacts on financial inclusion
13.	Has there been any change in household composition since receiving the transfers? If yes, why? How has that impacted your cash transfer?	Drought, marriage, birth, death	Fluctuating Households and MEBs
14.	How has the cash transfer program changed your ability to send your children to school?	Easier to send children, all of the money still goes to food	Impact of cash transfers on non-food items
15.	How has the cash transfer program changed your ability to seek healthcare when you are ill?	Easier to go to doctor, all the money still goes to	Impact of cash transfers on non-food items

Challenges		food	
16.	What needs does the cash transfer project not meet?	school, food, shelter	Cost-effectiveness of cash transfer
17.	What things do not work well with the cash transfer? Why?	not timely, not enough money, conflict	Identifying aspects that could be improved
18.	What specific problems in your life are not helped by the cash transfer?	school fees, shelter	Realistic MEBs
19.	What specific problems in your life has the cash transfer created?	conflict, became too dependent	Undesired results of project
20.	Has the cash transfer project created any problems or difficulties in your community? If so, what problems and difficulties has the cash transfer project created in your community?	jealousy, competition	Undesired results of project
21.	Has the cash transfer project created any problems or difficulties in your household? If so, what problems and difficulties has the cash transfer project created in your household?	fighting, domestic violence	Gender-sensitive aspect Undesired results of project
22.	How have you resolved these conflicts, if you have?	hiding cash transfer, haven't solved conflict	Undesired results of project
23.	Have you heard of any people misusing their cash transfers? Misusing the system? If yes, how and why?	selling sim cards	Undesired results of project
24.	Have costs for food or other things increased since you started receiving the cash transfer? Why? If yes, how much?	Inflation, shortage of food	Food market behaviors
25.	Are there any mechanisms for you to voice any complaints about the project? How well have they worked for you and/or why haven't you used them yet?	meeting with project staff, phone number to call	Effectiveness of community feedback mechanisms
26.	What are the main livelihoods activities in your community?	Agricultural, no employment	Impact on livelihood
27.	What did you do for your livelihood before receiving the cash transfer? How did your household get enough food to eat before the cash transfers started?	reliance on cash transfer, what jobs are available in their community	Impact on livelihood

28.	Have you been able to find a job or keep working since this project started? If no, why not? What do you do for your livelihood?	reliance on cash transfer, what jobs are available in their community	Impact on livelihood
29.	Can people in your community buy what they need in the local markets? What are the main goods that still cannot be accessed in your community?	food, building materials, seeds	Impact on livelihood
30.	What are the most common risks to the economic livelihood in your community?	civil insecurity, droughts, water shortages, inflation, unemployment, increased food prices, diseases	Impact on livelihood
31.	Are certain minority and livelihood groups more vulnerable to economic shocks?	pastoralists, women, ethnic minorities	Human-rights sensitive aspect
32.	Are there existing traditional safety nets that aid the most vulnerable members of your community in times of trouble? If yes, how effective are these programs in reducing vulnerability in times of economic shocks?	remittances, religious assistance, community donations, community welfare savings, zakat	Sustainability
33.	What types of preventative traditional safety nets exist in your community to help to prevent economic decline?	remittances, community sharing, zakat	Sustainability
34.	How do these traditional safety nets identify the people and/or groups who are in most need of assistance?	women, children, elderly, ethnic minorities	Sustainability
35.	Has the cash transfer project affected traditional support systems? If so, how and which ones have been most affected?	remittances, religious assistance, community relations, kinship	Sustainability
Improvements			
36.	What changes do you think can be made to the cash transfer system to make it better?	timeliness, amount of money, efficiency	Appropriateness of cash delivery system Unified and harmonized cash transfer project
37.	What alternatives to cash transfer would you prefer to address your needs?	in-kind, training, livelihoods	Preferences on modes of assistance delivery

38. Is there anything else you would like to add about your experience with the cash transfer project?

Thank you for your time.

Key Informant Interview with Local Project Staff

Question Number	Question	Probe	Indicator/Objective Measured
<p>Thank you for coming today. I am a researcher with Forcier Consulting and we are working with the Norwegian Refugee Council to evaluate the Cash Alliance's Food Security and Livelihood project in Somalia/Somaliland, and as part of this evaluation we are interviewing a number of actors who are involved in the project. Our purpose today is to collect information, and report it back to the partners forming the Cash Alliance. I will be recording this interview on this device. You have the right to refuse any question you would like and your participation is completely voluntary. Your answers will be kept confidential and non-attributable. Thank you for sharing your insights and feelings on cash transfers. Your answers will be used to inform future programming.</p> <p>Role</p>			
1.	What is your role in the cash transfer project?		
2.	How long have you been in this role?		
Selection Process			
3.	How are beneficiaries selected for this project?	gender, number of children, income	Degree of inclusion Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
4.	What stakeholders are involved in selection of the beneficiaries?	clan leaders, women	Impact of gatekeepers Level of beneficiary participation
5.	Are there problems with the beneficiary selection process? If yes, what are those problems?	clan dynamics, discrimination, transparency, vulnerable populations	Impact of gatekeepers
6.	Are there any groups that are excluded from the selection? If so, why are they excluded?	minority clan, men	Human-rights sensitive design Impact of gatekeepers
7.	How transparent is the selection	informing	Level of beneficiary

	process for beneficiaries?	beneficiaries, sensitizations	participation
Efficiency			
8.	How does the project transfer money to the beneficiaries?	cash delivery, Hawala, mobile money	Quality of delivery of implementation
9.	What are the challenges and benefits of the transfer system?	effectiveness, timeliness, transparency	Quality of delivery of implementation
10.	How efficient is the current cash transfer system in getting cash transfers to beneficiaries? If not efficient, why not?	what are points of delay along the process	Quality of delivery of implementation
11.	How timely is the current cash transfer system in getting cash transfers to beneficiaries? What factors affect the timeliness?	time between signing up and receiving money	Speed of implementation
12.	What are the challenges faced by beneficiaries in accessing the money?	exchanging money, many requirements	Aspects to be improved
13.	(To ask if working in Somaliland) Have you heard of the upcoming Zaad regulations on US Dollars (every transaction under \$100 will be in shillings)? Will this present a problem for your project? Are you planning to change your project in any way because of this?	no longer use Zaad for transfer, education for beneficiaries	Sustainability
14.	How have market prices changed since the cash transfer project started?	Drought; inflation from cash transfers; inflation from increased demand	Aspects to be improved
15.	Have you seen any inflation? What do you think is driving that?	Drought; inflation from cash transfers; inflation from increased demand	Aspects to be improved
16.	What would the impact on markets be if the cash transfer continued?	Inflation, demand, stock in store	Sustainability
17.	What feedback mechanisms do you have in place? How do those mechanisms work?	Who responds to them, if they are used	Community feedback mechanisms
18.	What types of data do you collect for monitoring?	beneficiary surveys on satisfaction, on spending, meta data from cash transfers	Joint Monitoring System Quality of Tools Improvement of Monitoring System

Corruption and Conflict			
19.	What stories have you heard of conflict that has occurred because of cash transfers, either in the household or in the community?	domestic violence, robbery	Undesired results of the project
20.	What stories have you heard of any attempts by beneficiaries to misuse their money or to give the money to someone else?	selling sim cards, giving money to someone else	Undesired results of the project
21.	Has the cash transfer project been affected by either natural disaster (drought) or insecurity due to Al Shabaab or clan/tribal fighting? If so how has this affected the cash transfer project?	damage to transport links/trade, networks, supply, market	Aspects to be improved
Coordination			
22.	How do you coordinate with other members of the Cash Alliance? Are there any difficulties in coordinating with other members? If yes, what difficulties?	planning, implementation, monitoring	Improved coordination mechanism of stakeholders of information
23.	How often do you coordinate with them?	daily, monthly, send reports vs. workshops vs. regular meetings	Improved coordination mechanism of stakeholders of information
24.	What information do you share with the other members of the Cash Alliance?	monitoring data, beneficiary lists	Improved coordination mechanism of stakeholders of information
25.	Do the Cash Alliance members use the same databases or formats for sharing information? If yes, in what style is information shared?	standardized format or template, excel, word, same database	Appropriateness of using common formats/databases
26.	What are the benefits of coordinating with them?	duplication of efforts, problem-solving, effectiveness	Improved coordination mechanism

			Coordination of stakeholders
			Coordination of information
27.	What could be improved about the coordination with other members of the Cash Alliance?	frequency of communication, standardized reporting format, type of information shared	Success of unified and harmonized cash transfer project
Benefits			
28.	To what extent does the project help the most vulnerable people in the community?	minority clans, disabled, women, children, older people	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems
29.	What could be done to help people transition from cash transfers to being self-sufficient?	livelihoods training, in-kind support	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems
30.	In your opinion, what is the best method for assisting the most vulnerable? Why is this the best method?	Cash delivery, mobile money, Hawala, or food vouchers	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems Other modes of delivery
31.	Is there anything else you would like to add about the cash transfer project?		
Thank you for your time here today.			

Key Informant Interview with Local Authority

Question Number	Question	Probe	Indicator/Objective Measured
	<p>Thank you for coming today. I am a researcher with Forcier Consulting and we are working with the Norwegian Refugee Council to evaluate the Cash Alliance's Food Security and Livelihood project in Somalia/Somaliland. As part of this evaluation we are interviewing a number of actors who are involved in the project. Our purpose today is to collect information, and report it back to the partners forming the Cash Alliance. I will be recording this interview on this device to refer to for my notes. You have the right to refuse any question you would like and participation is voluntary. Your answers will be kept confidential and non-attributable. Thank you for sharing your insights and feelings on cash transfers. Your answers will be used to inform future programming.</p> <p>Overview and Stakeholders</p>		

1.	When did the Cash Transfer Project begin in this location?			
2.	Describe the cash transfer process from selection to transfer of cash.	effectiveness, timeliness, transparency, stakeholder involvement		Quality of delivery of implementation
3.	Who are the stakeholders involved at each stage of the process? How are they involved?	clan government women	leaders, leaders,	Impact of gatekeepers Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
4.	Which collaborations were most effective? Why?	clan government women (answer to #3)	leaders, leaders,	Impact of gatekeepers Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
5.	Which collaborations were least effective? Why?	clan government women (answer to #3)	leaders, leaders,	Impact of gatekeepers Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
6.	In your opinion, what are the most important contextual factors (e.g. related to religion, culture, geography) that need to be taken into account for cash transfer interventions? Why?	drought, clan dynamics, livelihoods		Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
7.	How can the Cash Alliance intervention be improved to be more reflective or considerate of contextual factors?	different types of support, sensitization	more	Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
Governmental Role				
8.	What role do you play in the cash transfer project?	permissions, support		Joint Monitoring System
9.	Do you conduct reviews of the cash transfer project? If yes, when is the last time you conducted a review of the cash transfer project?	what kind of review, what do they look for		Joint Monitoring System
10.	Is there sharing of information between the government and the cash transfer project? If no, why not?	beneficiary lists, success of program		Improved coordination mechanism Joint Monitoring System
11.	What kind of information is shared? How often is information shared?	number or names of beneficiaries		Joint Monitoring System
12.	Are there any relational problems	community vs. project,		Improved coordination

between the stakeholders of this project?	government project, bottlenecks at specific positions/individuals	vs.	mechanism
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Results

13.	What are the challenges with the cash transfer project?	corruption, inflation	conflict,	Undesired results of the project
14.	Have you observed any adverse political, social, religious, or economic impacts as a result of cash transfers?	dependency, misuse, relations, norms	cash gender religious	Undesired results of the project
15.	What would the impact on markets be if the cash transfer continued? Why or why not?	Inflation, stock in store	demand,	Sustainability
16.	What benefits have you seen resulting from the cash transfer project?	improved security, conflict	food decreased	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems
17.	How would you improve the cash transfer project?	amount of money, type of beneficiaries, communication		Aspects to be improved
18.	Has the cash transfer project been successful? In what ways has it been successful?	improved security, conflict	food decreased	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems
19.	What are the most pressing needs in the community?	food, education, livelihoods	drought,	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems
20.	How has the cash transfer project addressed these needs?	provided education	income,	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems
21.	Do you think alternative safety net programs are more effective? Why?	food aid, assistance, generation projects	in-kind income	Appropriateness of cash delivery systems
22.	What other types of social protection services does the government offer in this district?	safety nets, transfers, in-kind aid	cash	Aspects to be improved
23.	How many people do these services help?	safety nets, transfers, in-kind aid	cash	Aspects to be improved
24.	What are the benefits of these programs? What could be improved about these programs?	safety nets, transfers, in-kind aid	cash	Aspects to be improved
25.	Is there anything else you would like to add about the cash transfer project?			

Thank you for your time.

Key Informant Interview with Project Leads

Question Number	Question	Probe	Indicator/Objective Measured
<p>Thank you for coming today. I am a researcher with Forcier Consulting and we are working with the Norwegian Refugee Council to evaluate the Cash Alliance's Food Security and Livelihood project in Somalia/Somaliland. As part of this evaluation we are interviewing a number of actors who are involved in the project. Our purpose today is to collect information, and report it back to the partners forming the Cash Alliance. I will be recording this interview on this device to refer to for my notes. You have the right to refuse any question you would like and participation is voluntary. Your answers will be kept confidential and non-attributable. Thank you for sharing your insights and feelings on cash transfers. Your answers will be used to inform future programming.</p>			
<p>Selection Process</p>			
1.	How are beneficiaries selected for this project?	gender, number of children, income	Degree of inclusion Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
2.	What stakeholders are involved in selection of the beneficiaries? How are they involved?	religious leaders, clan leaders, women	Impact of gatekeepers Level of beneficiary participation
3.	Are there any groups that are excluded from the selection? If so, why are they excluded?	minority clans, older people, people without children	Impact of gatekeepers
4.	Are there problems with the selection process on the ground? If yes, what problems are there?	clan dynamics, discrimination, transparency, vulnerable populations	Impact of gatekeepers
5.	How transparent is the selection process for beneficiaries? If not transparent, why not?	sensitization, information shared with beneficiaries/community leaders	Level of beneficiary participation
6.	Tell me about the process for creating these criteria. How did you work with other Alliance organizations to create these criteria?	meetings/workshops, one primary organization created the criteria, defined by ECHO	Implementing partners subscribed to agreed targeting criteria
7.	Which collaborations were most effective? Why?	clan leaders, government leaders, women	Impact of gatekeepers Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
8.	Which collaborations were least effective? Why?	clan leaders, government women	Impact of gatekeepers Human-rights sensitive aspect

			Gender-sensitive aspect
9.	In your opinion, what are the most important contextual factors (e.g. related to religion, culture, geography) that need to be taken into account for cash transfer interventions? Why?	drought, clan dynamics, livelihoods	Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
10.	How can the Cash Alliance intervention be improved to be more reflective or considerate of contextual factors?	different types of support, more sensitization	Human-rights sensitive aspect Gender-sensitive aspect
Efficiency			
11.	How does the project transfer money to the beneficiaries?	cash delivery, Hawala, mobile money	Quality of delivery of implementation
12.	What are the challenges and benefits of the transfer system?	timeliness, stakeholder participation, transparency	Quality of delivery of implementation
13.	What do beneficiaries have to do to access this money? Are there any problems with this? If yes, what problems?	Exchange money, go to pick-up location	Quality of delivery of implementation
14.	What does the organization expect the beneficiary to spend the cash transfer on?	food, non-food items, things that they are not allowed to spend money	How cash is being utilized and its impact
15.	How efficient is the current cash transfer system in getting cash transfers to beneficiaries? If not efficient, why not?	what are points of delay along the process	Quality of delivery of implementation
16.	How does your project differ from the other Alliance organizations' projects? Why?	type of transfer, beneficiaries, monitoring	Success of unified and harmonized cash transfer project
17.	How do you currently monitor your project?	Tools used, data collected, frequency of collection	Joint Monitoring System Quality of Tools Improvement of Monitoring System
18.	What are your future plans for monitoring your project?	Tools used, data collected, frequency of collection	Improvement of Monitoring System
19.	What does your joint monitoring system with other Alliance organizations look like?	Tools used, data collected, frequency of collection, sharing of information	Joint Monitoring System Mechanisms of coordination Improvement of

			Monitoring System
Corruption and Conflict			
20.	Have you heard of any conflict that has occurred because of cash transfers, either in the household or in the community? If yes, please explain	domestic violence, robbery	Undesired results of the project
21.	How do you prevent the misuse of funds at the local level by local project staff?	multiple person checks, screenings, reference checks	Undesired results of the project
Coordination			
22.	How do you coordinate with other members of the Cash Alliance?	planning, implementation, monitoring	Improved coordination mechanism Coordination of stakeholders Coordination of information
23.	How often do you coordinate with them?	daily, monthly, send reports vs. workshops vs. regular meetings	Improved coordination mechanism Coordination of stakeholders Coordination of information
24.	What information do you share with the other members of the Cash Alliance?	monitoring data, beneficiary lists	Improved coordination mechanism Coordination of stakeholders Coordination of information
25.	At what stages of planning and implementation did the Cash Alliance organizations collaborate? What decisions were made jointly and what decisions were made individually by each organization?	selection process, cash transfer amount, M&E systems	Improved coordination mechanism
26.	Do the Cash Alliance members use the same databases or formats for sharing information? In what style is information shared?	standardized format or template, excel, word, same database	Appropriateness of using common formats/databases
27.	What are the benefits of	duplication of efforts,	Improved coordination

	coordinating with them?	problem-solving, effectiveness	mechanism of stakeholders Coordination of information
28.	What could be improved about the coordination with other members of the Cash Alliance?	frequency of communication, standardized reporting format, type of information shared	Success of unified and harmonized cash transfer project
Benefits			
29.	What alternatives to cash transfers do you think should be explored?	cost, beneficiary experience, in-kind donations	Other modes of delivery Cost-effectiveness of transfers vs. other activities
30.	What could be done to improve the cash transfer system?	timeliness, beneficiary experience	Aspects to be improved
31.	What could be done to help people transition from cash transfers to self-sufficiency?	livelihoods training, in-kind support	Aspects to be improved
32.	In your opinion, what is the best method for assisting the most vulnerable people in Somalia? Why?	Cash delivery, mobile money, Hawala, or food vouchers	Other modes of delivery
Sustainability			
33.	What were the parts of the cash transfer model which are most financially sustainable (i.e. able to be maintained at same cost) ? Why?	number of beneficiaries, amount of money, method of transfer	Sustainability
34.	What were the parts of the cash transfer model which are the least financially sustainable ? Why?	number of beneficiaries, amount of money, method of transfer	Sustainability
35.	How do you think these least financially sustainable aspects of cash transfer could be improved in the future?	change method of transfer, align with MEB, use different standard than MEB	Sustainability
36.	What were the parts of the cash transfer model which are most operationally sustainable (i.e. structures that would enable continuity) ? Why?	method of transfer, selection process, sensitization processes	Sustainability

37.	What were the parts of the cash transfer model which are the least operationally sustainable ? Why?	method of transfer, selection process, sensitization processes	Sustainability
38.	How do you think these least operationally sustainable aspects could be improved in the future?	increasing sensitization, involve more stakeholders	Sustainability
39.	Do you think payment service providers have the capacity to implement a long-term cash transfer program? Why or why not?	Technical ability, staffing	Sustainability
40.	What would the impact on markets be if the cash transfer continued? Why or why not?	Inflation, demand, stock in store	Sustainability
41.	Is there anything else you would like to add about the cash transfer project?		
Thank you for your time here today.			

Annex 5: Final Sampling Distribution

District	COOPI	CWW	DRC	NRC	SCI
Abudwak			16		
Adan_dhere				1	
Afgoye			13		
Ainabo			13		
Badhan				13	
Baidoa	22	1			
Balad-Hawo		23			
Balanbale			15		
Bardale	12				
Beletweyne			2		13
BuloBerte			5		9
Burhakaba	13				
Cadado				15	
Dawa'aley				13	
Daynille			23		
Dhagaxyale				2	
Dharkenley				29	
Dhobley				13	
Dhuusamarreeb				14	
Dinsoor					13
Dollow	7		3	11	
Doxa-dheer				1	
El_Afweyn				13	
Erigavo				13	
Galkacayo			13		
Gardo			13		
Guriel			9	4	
Herale			11	3	
Hodon			6	21	
Hudur				6	8
Jowhar			13		
Kaxda				31	
Kismayo			15		
Laascaanood			3	10	
Lower-Shabelle		28			
Lughaya			24		
Luuq	1		2	17	
Mahas					13
Mataban			5		8
Mogadishu		27			
Wadajir_IDPs				2	
Wajid					12
Widhwidh			24		

Total	55	79	228	232	76
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Annex 6: Current MEB Per District

Source: Cash Working Group in Somalia

CWG - Transfer value recommendations - 07.07.17						
Region	Food security transfers: 100% of new Food MEB			Multipurpose transfers: 80% of new Full MEB		
	urban	rural	combined urban/rural	urban	rural	combined urban/rural
Awdal	84	86	85	90	87	89
Bakool	81	53	67	88	59	74
Banaadir	67	no data	67	81	no data	81
Bari	86	84	85	90	87	89
Bay	57	48	53	71	54	62
Galgaduud	87	no data	87	93	no data	93
Gedo	79	no data	79	94	no data	94
Hiraan	71	78	75	82	78	80
Lower Juba	86	76	81	102	86	94
Lower Shabelle	61	57	59	71	58	65
Middle Juba	68	62	65	80	66	73
Middle Shabelle	80	61	70	86	62	74
Mudug	79	87	83	86	95	90
Nugaal	69	75	72	74	82	78
Sanaag	80	78	79	123	82	102
Sool	69	68	69	86	76	81
Togdheer	76	76	76	82	75	78
Woqooyi Galbeed	79	no data	79	90	no data	90
AVERAGE	76	71	74	87	75	83

All values are in USD, May prices.

The combined urban/rural is the simple average of the urban and the rural.