
ADRA DENMARK'S 2015 HUMANITARIAN RESULTS REPORT



June 2016

Humanitarian Partnership Agreement

This report presents the results of ADRA Denmark's humanitarian programming in 2015, funded through its Humanitarian Partnership Agreement with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Table of Contents

2015 RESULTS REPORTING	4
ADRA Denmark overall humanitarian results	4
South Sudan.....	6
Sudan.....	9
Sustainable Access to Health, Education and Water for All (SAHEWA-3)	10
Community Based Water and Sanitation Project (CBWASAP).....	12
Yemen	15
Flexible Funds	18
Burundi	18
Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo)	19
Yemen	20
Nepal	21

Acronyms

ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AWID	Access to WASH in Damascus and Rural Damascus (Syria)
BRASORY	Building Resilience among Somali Refugees in Yemen
BRES	Building Resilience in the Education Sector (South Sudan)
CAP	Community Action Planning
CATS	Community Approach to Total Sanitation
CBWASAP	Community Based Water and Sanitation Project (Sudan)
CFW	Cash For Work
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standard
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DKK	Danish Kroner
ECHO	European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department
EiE	Education in Emergencies
FFS	Farmer Field School
HAC	Humanitarian Aid Commission
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IDP	Internally Displaced People
LRRD	Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NFI	Non-food Item
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
ODF	Open Defecation Free
PTA	Parent and Teacher Association
PTSC	Project Technical Steering Committee
SAHEWA	Sustainable Access to Health, Education and Water for All (Sudan)
SERIN	Supplementing Emergency Response Initiatives in Upper Nile (South Sudan)
SARC	Syrian Arab Red Crescent
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
TLS	Temporary Learning Space
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
VDC	Village Development Committee
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WES	Water and Environment Service
WHO	World Health Organisation

2015 RESULTS REPORTING



> 180,000
direct
beneficiaries

ADRA Denmark has more than two decades of experience delivering humanitarian assistance in conflict affected and fragile situations as well as in acute emergency situations. Humanitarian aid makes up an increasingly important element of ADRA Denmark's organizational identity and remains a high priority in our work. In 2015, more than 40% of the total funds were used for humanitarian projects.

In total, the humanitarian interventions of ADRA Denmark in 2015 reached more than 180,000 beneficiaries in the areas of water and sanitation, shelter, food security, education in emergencies, provision of non-food items (NFIs), protection and awareness raising.

The 2015 ADRA Denmark Humanitarian Performance Report outlines the results of our humanitarian interventions during 2015, highlighting some of the successes and challenges faced by ADRA Denmark and our partners.

ADRA Denmark overall humanitarian results

In 2015, ADRA Denmark initiated the process of developing an overall Global Strategy covering development cooperation, humanitarian assistance as well as organisational development. A draft humanitarian strategy was developed, which is fully aligned with the Danish Strategy for Humanitarian Action. It reflects ADRA Denmark's emphasis on resilience and Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD), working in complex and protracted emergencies and building on longer-term partnerships with a limited number of ADRA offices in Africa and the Middle East.

The Programme Department was strengthened with the employment of a new Programme Director, and the drafting of a new programme manual was initiated with the aim of improving results documentation and quality assurance.

Throughout the year, ADRA Denmark continued to strengthen our humanitarian profile and portfolio, emphasizing fundraising and further development of partnerships with institutional donors other than Danida, in particular the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO). 2015 also experienced a significant growth in humanitarian funding from private donors, mainly due to our participation in the national TV and radio collections. The proportion of the humanitarian funding coming from Danida dropped to 74% in 2015.

ADRA Denmark also continued working on improving our ability to operationalize international humanitarian standards. ADRA Denmark is committed to the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) on Quality and Accountability and its nine commitments, which form the foundation for delivering accountable and quality humanitarian assistance. Out of the three steps of the CHS verification framework, ADRA initiated the first step of self-assessment in 2015, which was completed in 2016. In addition, ADRA Denmark played an instrumental role in advocating for and supporting the roll out of the CHS through the international ADRA network.

Throughout 2015, ADRA Denmark worked with its three long-term partners in Sudan, South Sudan and Yemen with funding from the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement (HPA) with Danida. Common for all interventions was the focus on reducing vulnerability and strengthening the resilience and coping mechanisms of the affected populations.

In our response to sudden onset major emergencies, ADRA Denmark relies significantly on our relationship with the international ADRA network. In 2015, we used HPA flexible funding to support and strengthen larger network responses in Nepal, Burundi, DR Congo and Yemen, reaching a wider number of beneficiaries than would have been possible with stand-alone interventions.

In addition, ADRA implemented an emergency response project in South Sudan with funding from Danida (single grant) as well as two water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects in Syria funded by Danida and ECHO, in addition to several minor contributions to projects in the ADRA network.

The HPA funded projects are included in the 2015 results reporting, including the longer term partnerships with South Sudan, Sudan and Yemen as well as the four projects funded with flexible funding. The humanitarian projects in Syria and South Sudan will be reported on separately.

Overview of main humanitarian projects supported by ADRA Denmark in 2015

Country	Project	Financed by	Expenditures in 2015 (DKK)	# of direct beneficiaries
South Sudan	Building Resilience in the Education Sector (BRES)	HPA	5,771,428	7,709
	Supplementing Emergency Response Initiatives in Upper Nile (SERIN)	Danida single grant	4,523,726	30,000
Sudan	Sustainable Access to Health Education and Water for All – phase 3 (SAHEWA-3)	HPA	4,057,497	17,191
	Community Based Water and Sanitation Project (CBWASAP)	HPA	3,019,455	36,788
Yemen	Building Resilience Among Somali Refugees in Yemen (BRASORY)	HPA	2,958,116	27,000
	Distribution of food and hygiene kits to conflict-affected IDPs and refugees in Aden governorate, Yemen	HPA flexible funds	963,006	15,000
Burundi	Network response for refugee population from Nyanza Lac Commune	HPA flexible funds	500,179	7,500
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	ADRA DRC East Emergency Recreational children centre construction response to Burundian refugees influx	HPA flexible funds	287,514	10,000
Nepal	Help Nepal Earthquake Survivors Project	HPA flexible funds & private funds	1,091,893	5,478
Syria	Access to WASH in Damascus and Rural Damascus (AWID)	Danida single grant	2,645,898	11,500
	Humanitarian Assistance to the Syrian population affected by the conflict in Syria (WASH)	ECHO & private funds	3,116,478	13,500

South Sudan

In 2015, ADRA continued to support a comprehensive education project in South Sudan, which was initiated in 2014 in response to the outbreak of conflict between the government and the opposition in December 2013. The **Building Resilience in the Education Sector (BRES)** project aims at ensuring conflict affected children's right to quality education in emergencies (EiE) in Maiwut County, Upper Nile State in South Sudan.

In 2015, ADRA provided support to close to 7,500 internally displaced (IDP) and host community school aged children as well as education authorities, teachers and Parent and Teacher Associations (PTAs).

CONTEXT UPDATE DURING 2015

Despite a formal peace agreement signed in August 2015 between the government and the opposition, the conflict continued throughout 2015 and the overall security situation remained volatile. Since the fighting erupted, more than 1.6 million people have been internally displaced in addition to those who have fled to neighbouring countries such as Ethiopia.

There are still many IDPs in the area of intervention, which remained relatively safe throughout 2015. While some IDPs have been moving back to their place of origin in Upper Nile and other states, many have settled in the area, creating pressure on already limited resources. Food is scarce and education has not been a priority neither for the IDPs nor the host communities. As the area is opposition controlled, all government support has been stopped to the main sectors, including education, which has continued to be a significant challenge for communities.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2015



In 2015, ADRA's education initiatives in South Sudan were funded jointly by ADRA Denmark and Norway, thus increasing impact and expanding the intervention area. The results described below cover the entire programme.

Safe and child-friendly learning spaces: In 2015, ADRA rehabilitated eight class rooms in Pagak primary school, creating a conducive and attractive learning environment for the pupils who before had attended classes under trees and in tents provided by humanitarian actors. In addition,

ADRA supported the set-up of 15 semi-permanent learning spaces to cater for the additional children of IDP families having settled in the communities. PTAs were actively participating in the construction work, demonstrating the sense of ownership among beneficiaries.

By the end of 2015, a total of 7,436 IDP and host community children (target: 8,000) were attending the targeted schools. ADRA also ensured increased access to water and sanitation (WASH) services. By the end of 2015, ADRA has installed gender segregated latrines in 13 out of 15 targeted schools/temporary learning spaces (TLS), installed 15 water tanks in schools and rehabilitated 15 water points in the communities surrounding the schools. Water committees were organized and trained to manage and maintain the water points. In order to promote basic health and good hygiene practices, awareness raising sessions were carried out for all school children. ADRA also initiated a school feeding

programme to address the challenge of children dropping out of school or attending irregularly due to being forced to go searching for food. It resulted in an immediate boost in school attendance in the first term, which was further strengthened by house to house campaigns encouraging parents to send their children to school. Apart from being a motivating factor for children to attend school, the program has also improved children's health and ability to learn.

Capacity building of education authorities and parents to provide inclusive education: 55 key education authorities were trained on school management and administration as well as cross cutting issues such as peace and reconciliation, gender, inclusion, psychosocial support and child protection. It resulted in more well managed schools with daily attendance tracking registers for teachers and pupils. In addition, mechanisms for reporting protection issues to relevant stakeholders were set up, and education authorities gained skills on psychosocial support and counselling of children with special needs. 183 teachers from the targeted schools also received trainings in provision of psychosocial support. Supervisory visits have demonstrated how some of the trained teachers have been able to accommodate pupils with special needs and incorporate sessions on peace building and conflict resolution during classes.

As a result of mentoring support from ADRA, PTA members formulated and implemented action plans that included the set up and maintenance of TLS as well as community dialogues aimed at improving school enrolment with a particular focus on girls' right to education, awareness raising and dialogue on issues such as peace and reconciliation. The fact that PTAs have taken responsibility has greatly contributed to increasing enrolment rates.

Improved relevance and quality of education: One of the major challenges to ensure access to quality education in the targeted areas is that teachers currently do not receive any salary as the government does not transfer funds to areas controlled by the opposition. Following guidelines from the Education Cluster and the Government of South Sudan, the project has provided monthly incentives to 183 teachers of USD 100, which has greatly improved teacher attendance and commitment to teaching.

Lastly, the project has supported schools with essential teaching materials and furniture as focus group discussions and interviews indicate that almost 50% of the decrease or fluctuation in attendance of the children is attributed to lack of scholastic materials.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES DURING 2015

Despite the government and opposition having signed up to humanitarian principles allowing access to populations in need of humanitarian assistance, many restrictions on road and air transport between the areas caused delays and made activities more expensive.

In addition, Sudan People's Liberation Army in Opposition (SPLA-IO) leaders forced their way into NGO compounds demanding accommodation and access to communication equipment. This was a clear abuse of the agreements signed by the SPLA-IO stating that the neutrality and impartiality of NGOs should be respected. It resulted in an evacuation of staff lasting for two weeks.

Insecurity and restrictions also reduced monitoring and support/supervision in the field, and access was further hampered by general transport difficulties following heavy rains.

Changes in governing structures caused delays in implementation as the new SPLA-IO leaders did not always respect already existing agreements between ADRA and the previous leaderships, and Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) thus had to be renegotiated or changed.

The fluctuating exchange rate and the shortage of hard currency (USD) negatively impacted on procurement of goods and payment for services. Import of goods from Ethiopia was also subject to restrictions. In addition, money transfers to the field have been difficult, posing risk to staff responsible for carrying funds to project areas and delaying payments until a professional company with expertise in money transfer was hired.

The lack of cell phone coverage in the field caused challenges and delays in communication between the field staff and head office in Juba.

LESSONS LEARNED DURING 2015

Measures to mitigate the consequences of the fluctuating prices and inflation are needed, such as ensuring budget flexibility, strategic planning of procurement and a close monitoring of market prices.

Participation of the community is crucial at all stages of the project and is particularly enhanced through involving community leaders in community meetings. The engagement of community actors including PTAs in planning and implementation has resulted in less drop out of children from school as well as community contribution in terms of firewood in the school feeding program.

Trainings will in the future be further adapted to the local context to ensure a better understanding among participants. This includes adjusting training materials as well as the language used in trainings.

High illiteracy among PTA members is a factor hampering their ability to understand and fulfil their roles. Therefore, adult literacy programs will be considered for PTA members.



The children in Wunkir Primary school, Maiwut County, used to sit under a tree with no exercise books when they were in school. Now, with a more suitable learning environment and the provision of exercise books, they can concentrate on their studies and be more effective students.

Sudan

During 2015, ADRA Denmark supported the implementation of two projects in Sudan in partnership with ADRA Sudan. The third phase of the Sustainable Access to Health, Education and Water for All (SAHEWA-3) project targeted local communities and IDPs in West Darfur and the Community Based Water and Sanitation Project (CBWASAP) worked in Blue Nile state.

In 2015, Danida carried out a review of ADRA Denmark, where ADRA Sudan was chosen as an example of ADRA Denmark's partnerships in humanitarian interventions. The review team visited Khartoum and West Darfur and recommended to conduct a more in-depth review of the ADRA Denmark supported projects in 2016. This review took place in April 2016 and covered SAHEWA-3 in West Darfur and CBWASAP in Blue Nile. The review report¹ concludes that the projects – which are essentially resilience projects – are highly relevant and that the community participation approach is appropriate. However, there are shortcomings with regard to logframes and documentation of results. The review gives 15 recommendations, which ADRA Sudan and ADRA Denmark are now addressing.

CONTEXT UPDATE DURING 2015

Sudan was in 2015 characterised by a continuing slowdown of the economy with limited oil production, increasing inflation and continued conflict in areas such as Blue Nile, South Kordofan and some parts of Darfur. The government is still engaged in an armed conflict with opposition groups in these areas. The humanitarian situation continues to be grave with more than 4 million people needing assistance. Yet, Sudan's government still appears stable with a strong centre around the capital, Khartoum and with some signs of return to normality in e.g. West Darfur. The influx of refugees from South Sudan has continued with a forecast for 2016 of a total of 190,000 persons.

In **Darfur**, positive steps were taken to restart peace negotiations with the many different actors. A referendum on the structure of the states of Darfur took place peacefully in April with the result that the present structure of five separate Darfuri states is retained.

Overall funding for humanitarian work in Darfur continues to decline, and efforts to move from relief to recovery and development (longer term impact) are now the focus, except in the cases of new displacement.

In **Blue Nile**, fighting, although sporadic, is still ongoing in some areas of Geisan, Bau and Kurmuk localities, creating instability and insecurity to beneficiaries and humanitarian staff. Improvements in food security among displaced populations have been limited by ongoing conflict, which constrains access to productive areas, income generating activities, and markets. The state is practically divided in a northern part, where the government is in control, while opposition forces control most of the southern part of the state. A grey zone in-between is where most internally displaced come from, and they typically move to urban centres and villages, where there is peace. The strain on resources is felt by the IDPs as well as the host population.

¹ 'ADRA Denmark - ADRA Sudan: If the CAP Fits...' A Review of SAHEWA and CBWASAP Projects, May 2016, By Intermedia Development Consultants, Kenya

Sustainable Access to Health, Education and Water for All (SAHEWA-3)

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2015



Throughout 2015, SAHEWA-3 continued its work to reduce disease risk and improve livelihoods in selected conflict-affected communities of West Darfur, reaching over 17,000 direct beneficiaries through its activities (target: 23,000). The project mainly worked in villages in El Geneina, Krenik and Serba localities.

The most remarkable achievements were the progress in implementing new community based approaches such as Community Action Planning (CAP), Farmer Field Schools (FFS), Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) and Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS).

A total of 12 communities had by the end of 2015 (target: 15 villages) made their own plans based on own resources with only minimal financial support from the project. These plans included a total of 19 specific activities (school classrooms, institutional latrines, community clubs etc.) of which 11 had been totally completed, six were started and only two were not yet started. 28 VSLAs were established and running with a few entering their third cycle with increased savings per cycle. Of these, 11 VSLAs were new against the plan of 25 new VSLAs in 2015. The FFSs had organised farmers in groups that took joint initiatives in cultivation, composting, and processing, e.g. of cheese. Cooperation with the El Geneina based Agricultural Centre of Research had been established and a number of simple pamphlets with illustrations had been produced on the agronomy of important crops. The number of water committees that are well functioning is increasing. Many now have water tariffs.

One of the achievements of SAHEWA, which is not common in Sudan, is the establishment of a project technical steering committee (PTSC). It serves as a forum for discussing project progress and challenges. Its members are project stakeholders including relevant government departments, which increases their understanding and support of the project.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES DURING 2015

The plans for 2015 were not fully achieved, as the project again faced delay in the start-up of activities due to new regulations for Technical Agreements by Sudan's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC). Delays in getting the Technical Agreement happen almost every year, and this affects planning negatively. It has therefore been decided to move the project year three months, so that start in 2016 will be April instead of January. The annual project cycle will thus be from April to March in the future. The first three months of the year are important for implementation of e.g. water activities, because these are dry months. It is not effective to have them as 'waiting months'.

In 2015, there was a significant number of months during which we were not able to transfer funds into Sudan for the project nor to the field for project implementation due to a variety of reasons, including slow transfers from Denmark to Sudan, delays due to staff problems and communication problems between El Geneina and Khartoum, e.g. due to internet breakdowns.

The project still struggled with the issue of haffir² management. In the second quarter (= end of dry season), only two out of ten monitored haffirs/ruhuds³ in the project area held water. Management and maintenance of haffirs in Darfur is tricky. Formally, the management of haffirs is a government mandate, but there is no capacity or willingness from the government to take this responsibility alone, and it would like to involve the communities in the management. However, while the communities around haffirs typically are farmers or agro-pastoralists, most of the users are herders, who migrate with their huge flocks of animals. This makes it difficult to control access to these strategic water points and to maintain them. ADRA has several times – and will continue to do so – raised the issue with the PTSC, which consists of relevant government stakeholders and also, since September 2015, the Pastoralist Commissioner.

Internally, the project has faced a difficult year because of the project manager's long absence due to sick leave. Low capacity of the ADRA Khartoum office for most of the year has meant that it could not give the project adequate support in this situation⁴.

LESSONS LEARNED DURING 2015

A lot has been learned by the SAHEWA project staff and their community partners in 2015 in terms of how the communities can take on development challenges. VSLAs are becoming very popular, and the Ministry of Social Welfare has expressed its support to wide implementation of this approach in West Darfur. It is important, however, to mention that while the VSLA is an important method to generate savings, there are clearly big needs in the villages amongst a certain stratum of better off villagers to take loans. It would undermine the VSLAs if they are turned into microfinance loan groups. Alternative access to credit institutions would be a need that the project may look at in 2016.

The most important lesson learned in 2015 was that the staff now begin to trust that the CAP, VSLA, and CLTS approaches can work. There was initially a fear, held by the staff, that the community might not respond and take the lead as is needed and crucial for these approaches. The staff have now seen the communities in action, and they have learned in greater detail the methods and their importance. The staff also have a greater understanding of what can undermine the community ownership and some of the limits we have as individuals and as a Civil Society Organization (CSO) that wants to encourage and support community ownership.

In 2015, the project changed its approach on sanitation from a delivery approach where concrete slabs and PVC pipes were given to selected villagers to a community based approach, where all households in a village dug latrines themselves using locally available materials. This CLTS approach has now been successfully implemented in three villages, who have declared themselves Open Defecation Free (ODF). It has been quite a revelation to the ADRA staff that it was actually possible to encourage communities to be fully responsible for their own sanitation, mostly because the government promotes an approach, where sanitation infrastructure is subsidised. Sanitation committees have been established in those

² A *haffir* is a big watering structure for animals, fenced and with inlets and outlets

³ A *ruhud* is a smaller watering point – a big pond with open access to animals

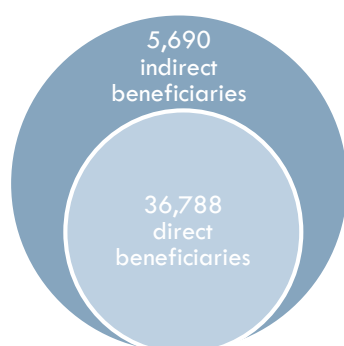
⁴ By the beginning of 2016, a programme director was recruited together with two Sudanese program assistants. One of the programme assistants has taken over the role as acting project manager, while a new project manager is being recruited.

villages to monitor that the ODF status continues, and ADRA is in the process of developing a manual for its version of CLTS.

Another important lesson learned during 2015 is that the partnerships that the project engaged in with local CSOs was not beneficial for neither ADRA nor for them. The partnerships were not deep enough to really share knowledge and capacity building. In 2016, it is planned to provide orientation to the partners and then to involve them directly on specific parts of the project, e.g. the VSLA component. The partnership will make it possible to establish, train, and monitor the groups. There are also plans to engage the partners much more in the hygiene awareness/CLTS parts of the project.

Community Based Water and Sanitation Project (CBWASAP)

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2015



Throughout 2015, CBWASAP continued working to reduce mortality and morbidity in Blue Nile State, reaching over 36,000⁵ direct beneficiaries (target: 110,000 for 2015-16), including host populations and IDPs. It is the third phase of the WASAP project, which was renamed to CBWASAP in early 2015.

The project is implemented in the Damazin, Rosaries, Geisan and Tadamon localities in Blue Nile State and is focused on improving livelihoods of pastoralists and agriculturalists as well as access to water and sanitation for the conflict affected population in the target areas.

In 2015, 3 haffirs were rehabilitated and two ruhuds were constructed in the project area. This resulted in water being made available all year round to more than 27,000 beneficiaries in six locations in Tadamon locality. In addition, nearly 68,500 heads of cattle were able to access water in the same locations, in addition to pastoralists migrating from one area to another.

The formation and training of five VSLAs has improved the savings and loans system in villages that lack regular bank services. In 2015, 125 community members participated in VSLAs (66 women and 59 men), together saving more than 4,000 USD. Moreover, the social fund connected to each VSLA has alleviated burdens for the entire community by providing emergency assistance in cases of illness, funerals and other unexpected events.

In terms of sanitation, four CLTS workshops in Rosaries and Tadamon localities encouraged targeted communities to dig latrines to improve their sanitation status and become ODF communities. In 2015, 117 latrines were constructed in four communities piloting the CLTS approach. Accompanying hygiene trainings and cleaning campaigns promoted the adoption of improved hygiene practices and a cleaner environment, reaching out to 32,000 beneficiaries. The ODF status is now being monitored by the communities.

⁵ This number of direct beneficiaries includes persons that benefit from more than one of the project's activities. They are only counted once. Therefore, the figure does not tally with direct beneficiary figures below for individual activities.

CAP sessions in seven communities raised community awareness and encouraged them to develop their own community plans to solve water and sanitation problems. Six out of seven communities prioritized water and sanitation services in their plans and started activities accordingly, based partly on their own resources. As a result of the CAPs, three new hand pumps (benefitting 1,500 persons) and three segregated latrines were constructed. The institutional latrines have improved access to safe sanitation for more than 13,000 beneficiaries in three locations in Damazin, Rosaries and Tadamon localities. Communities contributed 10% of the total cost of expenses to these pumps and latrines.

In order to ensure better networking, coordination and cooperation with relevant stakeholders, the dynamic partnerships with Water and Environment Service (WES) and Mubadiroon, the national CSO partner were continued in 2015.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES DURING 2015

In 2015, only minor deviations were documented as most activities were implemented within the year. But, as for SAHEWA, there was an initial delay, which meant that implementation had to be rushed in the last three months of the year. It has – as for SAHEWA – been decided that the repeated delays in start-up will be overcome in future by implementing project activities from April to March rather than trying to accommodate the delays within the normal January to December schedule. This restructuring will allow for the training of staff and the preparation of activities while the agreements are under consideration with HAC.

Some activities have not started, e.g. a pilot project to privatize water pump repair, service and maintenance. This was seen as a way to solve the problem of many non-functioning water pumps in Blue Nile State, but it was realized that this would require a change in the government's mandate as service provider of all water services. While such a pilot project is still meaningful, it would not make sense to do it only in Blue Nile. It would require an agreement at national level between WES and probably also UNICEF⁶. ADRA will in 2016 try to raise the issue in the national WASH forum.

It was also not possible to establish the proposed PTSC in Blue Nile in 2015. This was mainly due to the work pressure in the project to complete implementation before the end of the year. Efforts to establish the PTSC in 2016 will be made in collaboration with the national CSO partner, Mubadiroon. An exchange visit to SAHEWA in West Darfur will be made to see how a well-functioning PTSC works.

ADRA Sudan continued to face a number of challenges mainly in terms of cultural norms, logistical challenges and administrative delays. In some communities, cultural norms and traditions dictate that women are not allowed to sit together with men in meetings, but are kept as listeners while only men participate in discussions. Furthermore, community leaders continued to exercise supremacy in the management and control of community assets. This constantly challenges young people who feel, as future leaders, that they should be given the opportunity to be trained in the management of community development issues, including these assets. ADRA is trying to address this problem through constant sensitisation, including the use of female staff to empower and reach women. Experience has shown that it is important to hold separate planning meetings with women where their opinions are heard and incorporated into the bigger picture and to advocate among men for a change in mind-set.

⁶ WES is the sole provider of pumps and pump spares in Sudan. These are imported from India in collaboration with UNICEF.

Another major challenge during 2015 was inaccessibility to some project sites due to rains. This led to shifting some activities to other areas. Inaccessibility during the rainy season to all project sites deferred implementation of physical activities (construction, pumps repair) to the last months of the year, making it difficult to assess the impact of the new facilities. Since the targeted communities are farmers, activities such as the construction of household latrines could only take place after the harvest was complete in November/December.

LESSONS LEARNED DURING 2015

As for SAHEWA, CBWASAP is also now starting to learn new lessons from the implementation of community based approaches. The first VSLAs have been formed, based on a new manual, which takes Islamic banking into consideration⁷. It has also been possible for the project to introduce the CLTS approach in Blue Nile, although the staff of ADRA as well as Mubadiroon had been used to the Community Approach to Total Sanitation (CATS approach), which is promoted by UNICEF, but which does not as CLTS focus on behavioural change, but instead offers some incentives/subsidies.

Sustainability of project activities can best be achieved through strong networking with local authorities throughout the project cycle as well as through community participation in the planning process through CAPs. Much has been learned from an exchange visit by the CBWASAP project manager to SAHEWA in West Darfur. An additional exchange visit including more staff and staff from Mubadiroon will be undertaken in 2016.



Ardh Alhijaz Abakker is 25 years old and participated in a 4 days training on sanitation and hygiene. She said that the workshop opened her eyes on the dangers on open defecation and she is now dedicated to protect the water to avoid people getting sick from drinking the water.



In the village Bej Bej, the community has built its own “water yard” as a product of the Community Action Planning. ADRA has contributed with the diesel pump while the villagers have made everything else with their own resources.

⁷ Islamic banking principles do not allow interest taking on loans. The VSLAs thus have decided to give interest free loans to their members. VSL Associates has in 2015 published a new ‘Sharia compliant’ VSLA manual, which the project now uses.

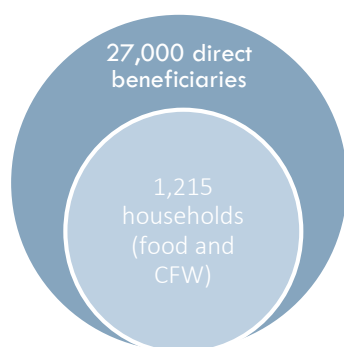
Yemen

During 2015, ADRA Denmark continued to support the **Building Resilience among Somali Refugees in Yemen** (BRASORY) project, which was initiated in 2013 with the objective to strengthen social cohesion and economic resilience among Somali refugee communities in Aden in the southern part of Yemen. It was designed as a three-year pilot project aimed at assessing the best possible approaches to build the resilience of the Somali refugee communities. However, the current conflict has forced ADRA to shift the focus of the interventions towards providing more emergency oriented support to address the humanitarian needs of the population, including refugees, IDPs and vulnerable host community members. In 2016, the project was renamed to Food, Livelihoods and Protection Assistance in Aden (FLP) to reflect the new approach.

CONTEXT UPDATE DURING 2015

Since mid-January 2015, the political crisis has progressively deteriorated in Yemen. The power struggle between Houthi forces and those loyal to President Hadi further escalated in March 2015 amid deepening political tensions and an increase in sectarian violence. On 26 March 2015, a Saudi-led coalition of 10 countries launched a military campaign in Yemen against Al Houthi rebels. As of June 2016, despite ongoing peace negotiations, the conflict continues with no end in sight, having a devastating impact on the lives of all Yemeni people, IDPs and refugees. Aden is one of the areas which has been most affected by the catastrophic situation. Despite the gravity of the humanitarian situation, it has been described as a forgotten crisis, receiving relatively little attention in the media and international community, and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for the country is severely underfinanced.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2015



The BRASORY project was running smoothly until the launch of the military campaign in March 2015. During the first quarter of 2015, ADRA continued its support to refugee committees and implemented three pilot projects aimed at improving household income, including formation and training of three VSLA groups, selection and placement of 20 young Somali interns as well as establishment and training of day care groups.

Due to the conflict and increasing insecurity, shelling and the heavy use of artillery, all activities were put on hold or cancelled from 26 March 2015, the ADRA office was closed and all international ADRA Yemen staff were evacuated.

As the fighting continued, ADRA Denmark requested and received permission from Danida to reallocate some of the BRASORY funds to address immediate humanitarian needs in the area of Aden. As per UNOCHA's 2015 Yemen HRP, the entire population of Aden was considered in need of protection and humanitarian assistance, in particular in the areas of food and WASH.

The reallocation of funds targeted both refugees, IDPs and the host population as they have all been affected by the crisis. Activities were designed to increase the food security of 615 of the most

vulnerable IDP, refugee and host community households, improve access to clean water through the installation of water pumps, and improve livelihoods as well as the quickly deteriorating hygiene and health situation in the area through cash-for-work (CFW) activities focused on rubble removal, street sweeping, drainage clearance, waste collection etc.

ADRA Yemen was able to resume activities in Aden from August 2015, continuing the originally planned awareness raising activities, which by the end of the year had reached more than 6,000 people (target: 4,000) with vital information on landmine risks, gender based violence, sexual harassment and other issues which are challenges in Basateen community.

In addition, ADRA initiated acute humanitarian assistance responding to the catastrophic situation in the area. During the last quarter of 2015, as per the plan ADRA distributed two rounds of food vouchers to 615 vulnerable IDP and refugee households (3,690 individuals) in Dar Sa'ad and Basateen, each covering at least one month. Furthermore, with the installation of 20 water pumps in or around schools, hospitals, mosques and populated neighbourhoods, 16,700 refugees, IDPs and host community members gained improved access to safe and clean water sources, as many water pumps had been stolen or destroyed during the fighting, thus leaving people without access to water.

600 individuals selected from the most vulnerable households were enrolled in the CFW programme, which was one of the most successful activities in 2015. Beneficiaries were mainly engaged in cleaning activities in schools, hospitals, main streets and public places in Basateen. The absence of the state during the conflict affected the health system and caused an extremely infectious hygienic situation on the streets of Aden which were full of garbage, leading to outbreaks of contagious diseases such as dengue fever and malaria. In addition to improving the hygiene situation, the CFW programme also gave a source of income to the most vulnerable families, reducing the use of negative coping mechanisms and assisting them in fulfilling their basic needs or enabling them to purchase items to restart their own small scale business. A large number of volunteers also joined the campaigns on their own initiative, and Aden's Governor publicly honoured ADRA Yemen for the impact of the hygiene campaigns carried out by the CFW participants.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES DURING 2015

As described above, ADRA was forced to change most of the planned activities due to the breakout of conflict. Many of the planned activities were not resumed in the second part of 2015 due to the situation and change in priorities and needs, namely the internship and VSLA programmes.

An evaluation of the BRASORY project and its different pilot projects had been planned for 2015 as a basis for reviewing progress and developing a new phase of the project for the coming years. Due to the ongoing conflict, this has not been possible. Still, the successes, challenges and lessons learned have been documented throughout the project and the learnings from the pilot projects will be actively used once it becomes possible to conduct more long-term oriented activities.

Challenges in terms of recruiting and retaining qualified human resources continued throughout 2015. It was not possible to recruit an international project manager as the security situation continues to pose serious threats to international staff, especially in the area of Basateen. The security level in Aden remains uncertain, there are frequent assassination attempts on government officials, and armed groups remain visible. In general, it remained unsafe for international staff to return to Yemen in 2015,

and ADRA has therefore been working on strengthening the capacity of national staff in and outside Yemen. Also national staff have suffered from the volatile security situation and have at times experienced harassment and access constraints, which also have led to temporary halts in activities. Staff, however, were able to implement all activities on time despite the difficult situation.

Increased control with money transfers and blockade of foreign funding have caused delays in funds transfers and subsequent delays in the implementation of activities. ADRA continuously coordinates with banks to ensure the availability of alternative intermediary banks.

LESSONS LEARNED DURING 2015

The breakout of conflict in 2015 showed the importance of having a flexible approach and being able to adjust activities rapidly as the situation evolves. While current activities are mainly focused towards addressing acute humanitarian needs, ADRA will as soon as possible resume early recovery and resilience building activities such as internships and vocational training programmes which can help beneficiaries to support themselves and thereby enhance sustainability.

The magnitude of the needs experienced by the population in Yemen together with the limited funding available has underlined the challenges of providing humanitarian assistance in a context where the large majority of the population is in need. ADRA staff have been approached and in some instances harassed by community members wanting assistance, and it has been very important to be able to demonstrate how beneficiaries have been selected based on need and need alone. Clear communication of selection criteria as well as active involvement of communities in the selection and verification process has been crucial to mitigate tensions.



This single mother of five found her home partly destroyed when she returned after the fighting had stopped. Her oldest son Yasser (19 years old) participated in ADRA's cash for work project and earned enough money to repair the sewing machine. Now she can once again provide for her family.



Yasser participating in the cash for work program to help his mother.

Flexible Funds

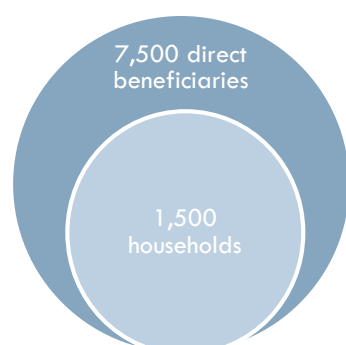
During 2015, ADRA Denmark supported four projects with the flexible funding, responding to immediate needs in Nepal, Burundi, DR Congo and Yemen. Thus, the focus has to a great extent been on existing partner countries where ADRA Denmark is already supporting humanitarian and/or development projects.

Burundi

Unrest broke out in Burundi on 26 April, 2015 in connection with the President's announcement of candidacy for the upcoming presidential elections in June. The pre-election tensions led to a large number of Burundians seeking refuge in the neighbouring countries. By mid May, over 105,000 persons had fled the country, more than half to Tanzania. However, due to cholera outbreaks in the refugee camps in Tanzania, many refugees started returning back to Burundi. Upon return, many found their house and commodities looted or were fearful of going back.

ADRA Denmark has supported an ADRA International network humanitarian emergency response in favour of the refugee/returnee population in Nyanza-Lac Commune, Makamba Province in the southern part of Burundi bordering with Tanzania. The project targeted 1,500 households in a temporary camp for returnees with emergency support in terms of food distribution, transitional shelter and NFIs. ADRA Denmark contributed with more than 80% of the total budget of USD 86,460.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS



ADRA Burundi distributed food and NFIs to 1,500 households in the camp. Each was given a food ration covering one month as well as basic NFIs in the form of soap, sheeting, cooking pots, jerry cans, plastic bags and a sack for packing NFIs. ADRA Burundi was the only CSO working in the camp and coordinated the response with relevant authorities and UNHCR.

The response was a one-month short term emergency response, expecting that refugees would return to their homes after elections. ADRA Burundi together with other stakeholders has been following up to determine what can be done to ensure shelter for returnees whose houses have been destroyed as well as those who are expected to return later.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES

No major challenges were experienced in this short term project.

LESSONS LEARNED

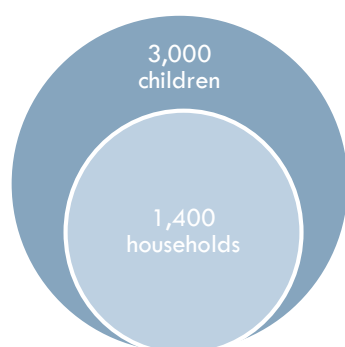
Local authorities and community leaders play a crucial role in helping to identify beneficiaries and facilitate distributions in a peaceful atmosphere and should be involved from the very beginning. In addition, the participation of beneficiaries in the distribution strengthens accountability.

Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo)

Following the political unrest and deteriorating security situation in Burundi, more than 10,000 Burundian refugees were registered in South Kivu and transferred to the UNHCR established camp of Lusenda. In 2015, ADRA Denmark supported ADRA DR Congo in improving living conditions of the refugees staying in the camp, focusing on covering unmet needs and urgent gaps in the assistance provided to refugees within the areas of shelter, protection and WASH.

ADRA Denmark contributed with 60% of the total budget of the project, which was implemented in collaboration with the international ADRA network.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS



ADRA constructed and equipped a recreational centre in the camp for children below five (representing $\frac{1}{4}$ of the population in the camp) in order to mitigate their exposure to psychological stress and fulfil their right to development, play and protection. The recreational facility also reduced risk exposure to insecure play grounds such as the lake side, which is inhabited by crocodiles.

On average, 450 children per day accessed the recreational facilities and volunteer supervisors ensured all children had access to the facility in an orderly way. After the end of the project, the centre was handed over to UNHCR and a local NGO, which have ensured that the centre keeps running.

In addition, 500 children (target: 562) benefited from plastic toilets/potties to avoid open defecation in the camp. Their caregivers were sensitized on safe hygiene practices, including the proper use of toilets and excreta disposal. This resulted in improved sanitation and hygiene practices with regard to safe handling of child faecal disposal at household level, reducing the risk of spread of diseases.

Solar lamps were distributed to 1,400 households (8,400 individuals) to address protection risks and reduce the risk of fire incidents due to refugees burning dry grass for lighting their shelters. The lighting contributed to an improved security at household level in the camp, reducing the cases of camp fires.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES

An overwhelming demand for services resulted in the centre having to provide access on a rotational basis to accommodate 450 children a day, 50% more than expected. In addition, further interventions are essential as the camp has turned out to be required for longer than originally expected.

Due to high demand, prices had increased to more than double from the time of planning to implementation, and fewer potties than expected were therefore purchased and distributed.

LESSONS LEARNED

In cluster meetings and other fora, ADRA was instrumental in advocating for the needs of smaller children, who up to then had not been prioritized. The project also showed how efficient collaboration can ensure that gaps are identified and filled, and that there is no duplication.

Beneficiary involvement and participation is crucial. Among others, ADRA involved beneficiaries in selecting volunteers to support children at the centre, promoting acceptability, security and ownership.

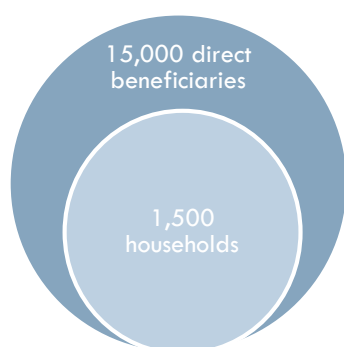
Yemen

The conflict in Yemen continues to cause civilian deaths, destruction as well as displacement on a large scale. Many of those arriving in host areas inside Aden are increasingly vulnerable and many have been displaced internally multiple times. Families are exhausting their assets and resources, and there is much evidence of households resorting to negative coping mechanisms. The majority relies on humanitarian food assistance as their primary source of food.

The short term emergency project **“Distribution of food and hygiene kits to conflict-affected IDPs and refugees in Aden governorate, Yemen”** aimed at responding to urgent needs and restore the sense of life, health and human dignity through the distribution of food and hygiene items to 1,500 IDP and refugee families affected by civil war in Yemen.

The project was undertaken in collaboration between ADRA Yemen, Sweden and Denmark. Led by ADRA Sweden with funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the contribution from ADRA Denmark (corresponding to 1/3 of the total budget) allowed for a second food distribution to the targeted beneficiaries.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS



The project successfully met all its targets. During the last quarter of 2015, ADRA Yemen distributed two rounds of food items and one round of hygiene kits to the 1,500 most vulnerable IDP and refugee families (8,670 persons) in Basateen and Dar Sa'ad areas of Aden, which have received little humanitarian assistance. Each family received food rations twice, covering at least three months. Hygiene kits were adapted to the different needs of women and men and distributed to the same beneficiaries.

ADRA Yemen provided awareness sessions to promote good hygiene practices and reduce health risks to direct beneficiaries of food and NFI assistance, school students and other participants in awareness sessions, in addition to radio broadcasts. In total, awareness sessions have reached 15,000 people.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES

The unstable security situation has affected the project. Though no delays in implementation were experienced due to access or security constraints, activities were regularly put on hold for shorter periods of time to ensure staff safety.

The project start was slightly delayed due to delays in receiving funds. It has become increasingly difficult to transfer funds to Yemen. In addition, exchange rates are affected.

Due to the high levels of need and limited availability of funds, ADRA staff were approached and, at times, harassed by beneficiaries complaining about not receiving assistance. ADRA Yemen has increased efforts to thoroughly explain funding limitations, capacity and selection criteria as well as ensured a complaints mechanism is in place.

LESSONS LEARNED

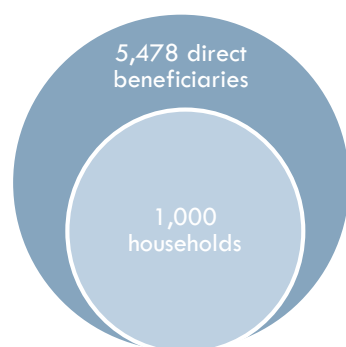
The project complements the BRASORY project, in particular activities funded through reallocation of the funds, and allows for staff to share lessons learned across the projects. Already existing projects in Aden ensures synergy, cost-effectiveness and a thorough knowledge of the targeted locations.

Nepal

Two major earthquakes struck Nepal on 25 April and 12 May 2015 (7.8 and 7.5 magnitude, respectively). They resulted in close to 9,000 casualties, and it is estimated that the lives of eight million people – almost one third of the population of Nepal – have been impacted by the earthquakes.

Through the international ADRA network, ADRA Denmark supported ADRA Nepal in providing an initial emergency response to victims of the earthquake, focused on food security, transitional shelter and hygiene promotion in order to prevent diseases from spreading. The project targeted a total of 1,000 households and ADRA Denmark contributed with ½ million DKK from the flexible funds, amounting to approximately 20% of the total budget.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS



ADRA Nepal was able to immediately activate its response to the earthquake and received strong support from the international ADRA network, which deployed its Emergency Response Team (ERT) four days after the first earthquake.

Through its local partners and in coordination with local Village Development Committees (VDCs), ADRA Nepal distributed two tarpaulins, a tool kit, collapsible water containers and food items supporting a family of six for two weeks to 1,000 households in Dhading, one of the worst affected districts. In addition, water filters and soap donated by other actors were distributed to 800 households.

As per the Danida review of the use of flexible humanitarian funding immediately after the earthquake, ADRA's support was overall found to be relevant for the context and provided as effective and timely as could be expected, in addition to being effective in contributing to alleviating the suffering of the earthquake victims.

PLANS, DEVIATIONS AND CHALLENGES

Coordination was a main challenge due to the large number of actors responding to the earthquake. In addition, government stakeholders expected unlimited support from NGOs which required negotiations in order to ensure that support to those most in need was prioritized.

In addition, the response was slightly delayed due to the unavailability of sufficient supplies (tarpaulins) in the local market and logistical constraints. ADRA International had shelter kits pre-positioned in Dubai, but due to the limited capacity at Kathmandu airport, it took several days before they arrived.

LESSONS LEARNED

A close collaboration with local partners knowledgeable of the context is crucial, together with active collaboration in coordination forums and with local authorities to avoid overlap and duplication.

There is a need for improved preparedness and supply chain analysis, including pre-positioning of supplies and efficient logistical planning.

The flexible funding made it possible to initiate an immediate response and made it easier to leverage additional funds from other donors and the public as ADRA could show how work was already ongoing on the ground.