The Impact of Multipurpose Cash on Foster Families in Somalia

A survey Report
Overview

- Armed conflict and climate shocks affected the lives and livelihoods of children and their families in Somalia.

- Droughts and insecurity led to massive displacement—2.6 million people living in 2,000 displaced person camps across Somalia, many of them are Unaccompanied Separated Children (UASC).

- These boys and girls are at further risk of child trafficking, abuse and exploitation in camps and communities.

- Many of these children are fostered by their extended families and acquaintances until they are reunited with their parents.
Overview

- World Vision operating in Baidoa since 1993 and has implemented programming with GAC funding since 2015.

- A total of 50 (40 female, 10 males head of HH) foster families were registered for Multipurpose Cash transfer Assistance (MPCA).

- Duration: six months (Year:2021)

- Amount: 60 USD

- Modality: Multipurpose cash used to pay for school fees, food, water, shelter, medical service, and clothing for UASC
Demographics

- Females 72% and Males 28%
- 24% HH (26-30 yrs), 28% HH (31-35 yrs), 28% (36-45 yrs) and 2% between (56 – 60 yrs). The average household size was 5 people
- 88% have been registered with the local governments and 22% unregistered UASC
- 76% of the respondents were related to the children they were taking care of while 24% were not related
- Six respondents mentioned that they have children living with disabilities (five girls, one boy). Disabilities include paralysis, hearing and visual impairments.
Main Findings

Early Marriage
24% children under 18 years still got married after families receiving MPCA due to economic reasons and family preference.

Children/Adults relationships
88% alluded that MPCA improved the relationship, 10% worsened.

Sustainability
52% of the respondents believe HHs and children may face new risks after cash transfer programs ends.

Child Labour
4%
The number of under 18 working UASC reduced from 10% to 4% due to cash intervention.

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Coping Strategy Before and After Cash

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Before Intervention</th>
<th>After Intervention</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduce number of meals eaten in a day</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skip entire without meals</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limit portion of meal</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rely on less preferred or less quality foods</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Borrow food or rely on assistance from neighbour or relatives</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purchase food on credit</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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