



# UNOCHA Regional Workshop on Humanitarian Partnership Eastern and Southern Africa

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***African...***



***spirit***



***concept***



***composition***



# Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA)

- A non-governmental organisation based in Ethiopia that provides lifesaving programmes and services for displaced communities across Africa.

- AHA's programmes are divided into 6 categories that address the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs):

- ✓ Capacity Development
- ✓ Health Care
- ✓ HIV/AIDS
- ✓ Gender Based Violence
- ✓ Relief & Recovery
- ✓ Humanitarian Policy & Advocacy

- Since 1994, AHA has extended its services to 17 countries; its main services in East Africa are based in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan.



# Ethiopia

- Support to displaced communities from Eritrea and Somalia seeking refuge in Ethiopia's *Asaiyita, Berhale, Adi Harush, Bokolomayo, Malkadida* and *Kobe* refugee camps.
- These services reach over 70,000 Somali and Eritrean refugees.
- Through partnerships with the Government of Ethiopia, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and other NGOs, AHA has been able to support refugees by providing shelter, water and sanitation, HIV/AIDS, and non-formal education services.



## Somalia

- Since September 2011, AHA's projects in Mogadishu have been conducted in partnership with a Somali national NGO and the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia.
- The projects, which reach over 450,000 IDPs, provide:
  - Water, sanitation and hygiene interventions, and
  - Nutrition/health support for mothers and children under the age of five.



## Sudan

- AHA's two main sites of operation are in Darfur and Blue Nile State.
- In these sites, AHA provides services that deal with relief and recovery, capacity development, and healthcare for over 700,000 IDPs and returnees.
- Interventions in Sudan are carried out in partnerships with various agencies of the Government of Sudan, UNHCR, WFP, FAO and international and national NGOs.



## Key Challenges

- Lack of independent resources, which limits:

- Institutional growth and capacity;
- Ability to scale up existing interventions during emergencies;
- Ability to dispatch rapid response teams to new areas;
- Ability to bring contributions to projects when entering into new partnership agreements – creates a tone of dependency rather than equality (contractor vs. partner);
- Efficiency in programme implementation



## Key Challenges (Cont'd.)

- A shrinking “humanitarian space”
  - Physical access that aid agencies have to affected populations;
  - The extent to which agencies are able to adhere to the core principles of humanitarian action;
  - Security conditions – i.e., the nature of the ‘operating environment’ that agencies work in;
  - The ability of affected populations to reach needed lifesaving assistance and protection.

## Key Challenges (Cont'd.)

- Operational challenges
  - High prices of materials;
  - Unavailability of local markets (lack of variety/quality in supplies);
  - Lack of adequate drug and laboratory supplies;
  - Unavailability of skilled workers;
  - Rough access roads;
  - Weather – protracted dry or rainy seasons





**THANK YOU!**