



ADRA Responds to COVID-19 in Somaliland



A boy washing his hands during an awareness campaign in Hargaga Village, Lascanod.

The basic act of washing hands has always been an important factor in preventing the spread of diseases. As the coronavirus spreads, washing our hands in the right way and regularly is one of the most effective ways to prevent its spread.

For Fatima Ali, washing hands properly is now an important aspect of her life.

“I never knew that washing hands in the right way could kill germs. Right now, I have learned the proper way to wash my hands and keep them clean,” she says.



Fatima washing her hands in one of the installed hand wash facilities in her village.

Fatima is from Dhumay village in Lascanod District, Somaliland where ADRA through the RESTORE project funded by European Union and in collaboration with SIDA under the SomReP consortium, coordinated activities for COVID-19 prevention and awareness response. The response will reach approximately **186,000 people** from **31,000 households** in Lascanod targeting IDPS, pastoralists and communities in **12 villages**. The response will run for **2 months (May-June)**, with a budget of **US \$ 6,000**.



Fabricated handwash facilities that were distributed at strategic market and health centres in the targeted 12 villages in Lascanod District.

The project installed hand washing facilities with soap and water at strategic market and health centres in the targeted villages. The hand wash facilities were fabricated to have three taps, hence three people can use it at the same time while ensuring that social distancing is maintained.

To ensure that communities receive the right information, ADRA employed **13** health professional workers recommended by the Ministry of Health at regional level to spread key awareness and prevention messages on COVID-19. The health workers were each equipped with megaphones.



Some of the health promoters to help in the awareness campaign. Each health promoter received a megaphone for the campaign.

For Fatima, not having the right information meant that she did not know what COVID-19 was all about. But through the health promoters, she knows something about the virus.

“I had heard so many things about this disease. The health promoter who talked about the disease made us understand about the disease and what I need to do to protect myself, my family and community.” Billboards were also put up at the town centre in Lascanod with awareness and prevention messages. Ahmed, a taxi driver at the town commended the installation of the billboard and how the message has changed the way he now does things.

“Since the day the billboard was installed, the message is a constant reminder of the disease to me and what I am expected to do, to ensure I stay safe.” As the coronavirus continues to spread,

ADRA is coordinating response activities for COVID-19 prevention and awareness through its programming and is working diligently to ensure that we all play our part in fighting the pandemic.



Billboards were placed in strategic places in Lascanod town.

Social Media Links

Twitter

- <https://twitter.com/SomRePOfficial/status/1263394393362501637>
- <https://twitter.com/adrasomalia/status/1258411127656132615>
- <https://twitter.com/adrasomalia/status/1255750198061682689>

Facebook

- <https://bit.ly/2ZQLtgI>
- <https://bit.ly/2MbFD1s>
- <https://bit.ly/2AtQQHO>



A boy washing his hands in Lascanod. The handwash facilities were strategically placed in the targeted villages.



A patient washing his hands before entering Samkab MCH in Lascanod. ADRA distributed soaps and hand wash facilities to the health facility.



A woman washing her hands in Lascanod. The handwash facilities with soap were strategically placed in the targeted villages.