



# **Humanitarian Aid in the Horn of Africa**

**Csaba Gyimesi**  
**European Commission – DG ECHO**



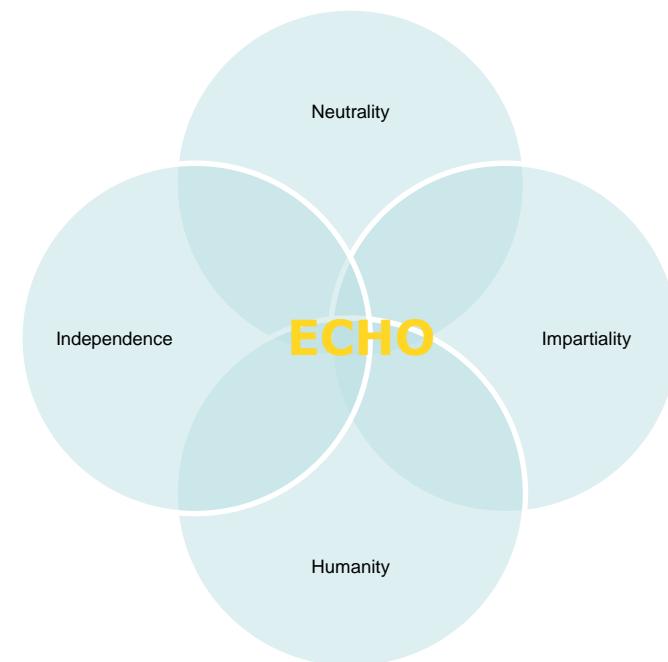
# Overview

- Recap of humanitarian aid
- ECHO strategy in the Horn
- Addressing the root causes?
- Resilience
- CMCoord



# DG Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

In charge of humanitarian aid and disaster response.





# Humanity

*Human suffering must be addressed wherever it is found with particular attention to the most vulnerable population. The dignity of all victims must be respected and protected.*



(ext. European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid)



# Neutrality

*Humanitarian aid must not favour any side in an armed conflict or other dispute.*



(ext. European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid)

# Impartiality

*Denotes that humanitarian aid must be provided solely on the basis of need, without discrimination between or within affected populations.*



(ext. European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid)

# Independence

*Means the autonomy of humanitarian objectives from **political**, economic, **military** or other objectives. It serves to ensure that the sole purpose of humanitarian aid remains to relieve and prevent the suffering of victims of humanitarian crises.*



***EU humanitarian aid is NOT a crisis management tool***



# Helping victims when disaster strikes





# Natural Disasters





# Man-Made Disasters





In Europe







## Humanitarian Aid Mandate

**Save and preserve life** during emergencies and in their immediate aftermath, in man-made disasters and natural disasters, inside the EU and outside the EU.

**Provide assistance and relief** to people affected by longer-lasting crises such as civil wars.

**Fund the delivery of aid** ensuring that aid is accessible to those for whom it is intended.

**Assist refugees and displaced people** wherever they find sanctuary and to help them resettle if they return home.

**Support short-term rehabilitation and reconstruction** work to help victims regain a minimum level of self-sufficiency, taking long-term development objectives into account where possible.

**Ensure preparedness** for natural disasters, in particular by setting up early-warning systems and financing disaster prevention projects in high-risk regions.



# What kind of humanitarian operations does ECHO fund?

## Water and sanitation

- New wells and boreholes
- Water piping
- Latrines
- Sewage treatment
- Hygiene education etc.

## Food and nutritional support

- Basic food supplies
- Supplementary feeding for infants
- Special rations for malnourished people
- Seeds for farmers etc.

## Medical assistance

- Vaccination campaigns
- Essential drugs
- Hospital equipment
- Primary health clinics
- Local staff trainings etc.

## Shelter

- Tents
- Plastic sheeting
- Building materials etc.



# What kind of humanitarian operations does ECHO fund?

- Support for **humanitarian mine clearing**
- **Disaster preparedness** (DIPECHO)
- Support for **psychosocial assistance** and technical assistance to partner organisations
- **ECHO flight**  
Free **humanitarian air service** operating from DRC and Kenya to open up remote areas to aid agencies, enabling quick transportation of staff and cargo



# Horn of Africa Strategic Framework and Action Plan

## Strands of action in Strategy:

- ***Democratic and accountable state structures***
- Peace, security, conflict prevention and resolution
- Mitigation of the effects of insecurity in the region
- ***Poverty reduction, economic growth and prosperity***
- Regional cooperation

(in ***bold***: Commission competence)

## Strands of action in the Somalia discussion paper:

- Supporting Security (***including police***),
- ***Rebuilding the Somali state***,
- ***Supporting economic and social environment (including basic social services)*** and
- Regional cooperation



# The 4 pillars of ECHO HoA strategy

- 1. Life-saving humanitarian response*
- 2. Enhancing of emergency preparedness mechanisms*
- 3. Supporting the recovery of affected population and increasing their resilience through the protection of livelihoods*
- 4. Refugees*



# Main expected results of humanitarian aid interventions in PILLAR 1: Life-saving humanitarian response

- *Save and preserve life*
- *Reduce mortality related to malnutrition*
- *Increase access to potable water*
- *Improve access to primary health care*
- *Put in place epidemic response support mechanisms*
- *Put in place protection mechanisms against violence against IDPs*
- *Shelter for IDPs*



# Main expected results in PILLAR 2: Enhancing of emergency preparedness mechanisms

- *Enhance preparedness of Humanitarian organisations and communities against natural disasters*
- *Food market surveys and surveillance through food aid operations*
- *Increased surveillance of displacements*
- *Contingency planning and stock prepositioning*



# Main expected results in PILLAR 3: Supporting the recovery of affected population and increasing their resilience through the protection of livelihoods

- *Protection and prevention of livelihood erosion*
- *Improved food availability and transition towards longer term nutrition programmes*
- *Conflict sensitive actions for recovery in the most drought affected areas*
- *Advocacy for a resilience agenda*
- *Increased complementarity between humanitarian aid and longer term structural assistance.*



## Main expected results in PILLAR 4: Refugees

- *Addressing critical gaps in life-saving services.*
- *International protection standards including strengthening of child protection and gender based violence.*
- *Continuity of assistance despite a volatile security environment.*
- *Long-lasting approaches to refugees through increased refugee self-management and self-reliance.*
- *Assistance to return voluntarily to their places of origin and regain their self-sufficiency.*



# Commission activities in the Horn

## Commission activities with impact on CSDP / root causes of conflict:

- **Resources** as a source of recurrent conflict: water, food, irrigation canals
- **Livelihood projects** – CSDP working to make piracy as business model less attractive while DEVCO works to make others more attractive
  - **Employment**
  - **Infrastructure, environmental works**
  - **Public services**
  - **Reconstructing Mogadishu**



# Resilience

- Recent and recurrent crises have affected 31 million people in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel region of Africa. Need for sustained policy to increase the resilience of vulnerable people in the developing world.
- Strengthening resilience lies at the crossroads between humanitarian and development assistance.
- Seeking to break the vicious cycle of drought, hunger and poverty through sustained coordination between humanitarian and development assistance.
- Focusing on resilience saves more lives, is more cost effective and contributes to poverty reduction – thus boosting the impact of aid and promoting sustainable development.

# Examples





# CMCoord

- EUTM Somalia
- EUNAVFOR Atalanta
- Operations Centre

- AMISOM
- UN integration