

TRANSITIONING TO DIGNIFIED SHELTERS IN BAIDOA

Somalia experienced a surge in internal displacement following the 2016/2017 drought. This resulted in an increase in the number of vulnerable households who lost livelihoods and access to basic services. This increase was visible in the IDP settlements in Baidoa, with many households lacking access shelter and other basic services including water and sanitation. This situation was further exacerbated in Baidoa due to floods in March and April 2018 which led to approximately 5000 displaced households coming to the IDP settlements in Baidoa. In light of this situation, ACTED secured funding from USAID/OFDA to addressing the pressing needs of the displaced population, including the provision of shelter. The project, which saw the construction of 368 CGI shelterunits started in November 2018 and was completed in July 2019.



Photo: A typical IDP settlement in Somalia



The cost of each shelter unit: Each transitional shelter cost USD 579.

The size of each unit: Each unit has one room measuring 4 meters by 4 meters and is constructed mainly with corrugated galvanized sheets and has concrete floor.

Number of windows: Each shelter has 2 windows, one located at the back and another in front.

Photo: Transitional Shelters provided by ACTED

Challenges faced during the implementation and Lessons learnt:

- Due to the unavailability of some of the construction materials in the local markets, slight delays were caused to the construction.
- Skilled beneficiaries living in the target settlements were engaged for temporary employment to construct the shelters and in turn gained paid employment.
- Constructions of transitional shelter are faster since the materials used can be fixed quickly.
- Households with many members have partitioned their shelters using curtains and blankets inside their shelters to improve privacy within the households.

How the beneficiaries were selected:

The households were selected in areas where secure land tenure documents were secured to avoid the risk of eviction. ACTED program staff, carried out the selection process in consultation with community leaders, local authorities and shelter agencies. Throughout this process, ACTED coordinated with key stakeholders for the selection of target beneficiaries for shelter provision.