COVID-19: SOMALI RED CRESCENT SOCIETY (SRCS) COVID-19 RESPONSE

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the country, the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) has been reaching out to communities through health promotion, hygiene promotion and awareness campaigns. SRCS main target areas have been the SRCS Primary Health Care (PHC) clinics, communities living within 5km radius of SRCS facilities, hospitals, IDP settlements and other high-risk areas.

**HEALTH PROMOTION**

- 124,877 people were reached with health education through promotion of handwashing and physical distancing practices at 71 SRCS clinics.
- 1,000 Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials reaching 7,953 people.
- 12 SRCS staff were trained on Covid-19 case management in Garowe, Bosaso, Galkayo branches.
- Facemasks, gloves and hand washing facilities has been provided to all medical practitioners in Keysaney hospital.
- 20 volunteers have been deployed to take temperature from all people visiting Keysaney hospital.
- Handwashing facilities accessible to communities were established at all hospitals and clinics, rehab centers, IDP camps where SRCS RFL phone call teams operate.
- Basic PPE were given to all staff in SRCS facilities and volunteers involved in activities. The items used include facemasks, gloves and soap.
- Thermometers were provided to all clinics to take the temperature of the patients who visit the SRCS clinics.
- SRCS staff and volunteers have been trained on mass health education to be conducted in the clinics, marketplace, with communities and IDPs.
- 165 trained volunteers were mobilized to carry out house to house COVID 19 preventive messages for about 83,160 individuals in Hargeisa.

**HYGIENE PROMOTION**

- 1,410 pieces of soap, 30 water tanks, 245 jerry cans, 51 dustbins, 40 sanitizer bottles and 31 boxes of napkins were distributed to SRCS branches and clinics.
- Hygiene Promotion sessions were conducted at community level and at clinic level. Key preventative messages and proper hand washing demonstrated to 60,884 people both residents and IDPs, in market places, villages and in the clinic waiting area.
- Handwashing tanks and soap were distributed to all 71 clinics supported by SRCS. 3,971 people utilized health promotion in communities at SRCS facilities.

**INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL AT HEALTH FACILITIES**

- 57,122 people received PPE and all SRCS clinics were equipped with face masks and hand washing materials with disinfectant agents. The temperature of the patients who visit SRCS clinics are checked before they join others in the waiting area.
- Volunteers in each clinic are frequently providing and instructing infection prevention measures to the service users.
- 27 SRCS staff were trained on infection prevention and control and they were designated to apply this knowledge and skill in health facilities in Hargeisa.

**RAISE AWARENESS AMONG PUBLIC THROUGH IEC/TV/RADIO**

- TV and radio messages are broadcasted through 12 radio stations with key messages on handwashing, hygiene and social distancing. The broadcasts covers most of the regions in the country.
- Over 80,400 people benefited from COVID-19 awareness sessions and distribution of posters, leaflets on the same.

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

- 13,393 volunteers, staff members and members of Community Health Committees (CHC) were trained on COVID-19 and preventive measures and are currently involved in raising awareness.