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

The Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS), in partnership with its Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners, has been reaching out to communities through the promotion of health and hygiene measures and awareness campaigns to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the country.

Main target areas include SRCS Primary Health Care (PHC) clinics, communities living within 5km radius of SRCS facilities, hospitals, IDP settlements and other high-risk areas.

HEALTH PROMOTION
- 31,500 people were reached with health education, promotion of handwashing and social distancing practices at 71 SRCS Clinics.
- 36,200 communities living around 5 km radius of clinics were provided with information sessions on COVID-19 prevention, along with 2,150 posters and other materials.
- SRCS staff and volunteers have been trained on mass health education to be conducted in the clinics, market place and with over 37,800 communities and IDPs.
- 459 trained volunteers were mobilized to carry out house to house Covid-19 preventive messages.

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL AT HEALTH FACILITIES
- 137 SRCS staff and volunteers received Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- 19,934 people have benefited from spraying of 71 SRCS clinics and 57 public areas including community centres and internally displaced persons’ camps.
- SRCS has distributed 1,967 pieces of face mask, 14 infra-red thermometers and 1,972 hand gloves to 71 health clinics, rehabilitation centers and nutrition supported centers.
- The temperature of the patients who visit SRCS clinics are checked before they join others in the waiting area.
- 56 SRCS staff were trained on infection prevention and control and were designated to apply this knowledge and skill with equipment in health facilities.

HYGIENE PROMOTION
- 41,432 people benefited from 591 handwashing tanks, 451 jerry cans and 920 cartoons of soap.
- Hygiene Promotion sessions were conducted at community level and at clinic level. Key preventative messages and proper hand washing demonstrated to 6,120 residents and IDPs, people in market places, villages and in the clinic waiting area.
- 41 handwashing tanks and pieces of soap were distributed to all 71 clinics supported by SRCS.
- Over 29,349 people utilized handwashing services at all SRCS health clinics.

AWARENESS RAISING AMONG PUBLIC THROUGH IEC/ TV/ RADIO
- Key messages on handwashing, hygiene and social distancing were broadcasted through radio stations and TV stations to cover all the regions in the country.
- Over 603,015 people benefited from COVID-19 awareness through radio and TV stations.

CAPACITY BUILDING
- 39 volunteers, clinic staffs and Community Health Committees were trained on COVID-19 and preventive measures and are currently involved in raising awareness.