

# SAACID



**Fadumo Mohamed Mohamoud**

Aqab Dheer camp is one of the IDPs (Internally Displaced Person) camps situated in the Lafole area of Afgoye District of Lower Shabelle Region. There are currently 566 families living in this camp; and this camp is one of 110 in the immediate area; with some 291,000 people subsisting in the Lafole area. These people remain without any future, as they have fled from Mogadishu – and with conflict continuing – no one is able to return.

SAACID constructed a water well with a catchment for about 100,000 people with funding provided by Oxfam Novib. The Aqab Dheer camp is within that catchment area, and is providing free fresh water to all the inhabitants in that camp.

Fadumo Mohamed Mohamoud is one of the IDP recipients from Aqab Dheer camp that is currently accessing water from the SAACID-Novib well.

“I am 34 years old, and a mother of 8 children - 3 boys and 5 girls. Their ages ranges between 2 and 15 years.

All my children are living with me. We have been displaced from Karaan District in north Mogadishu on 18 June 2009, following continuous heavy shelling with mortars by AMISOM in the all the residential areas of the district - mostly during the night time - and with no services, hospitals or ambulances available. Whether you were injured or not, no one dared to come out of their house at night, because of the fear of being killed or wounded. We quickly

decided to flee the area, taking along with us a few belongings; and carrying the small children and other items, such as mattresses, on our backs.

We are now living in a small hut made of make shift plastic sheeting and old and worn out clothes. After sometime, my husband started to look for a living at the animal market in Afgoye District; and with the little money he earns daily, which is not enough to sustain our large family, he buys some food items that will serve the whole family only for one meal. We feel happy with our situation though, as long as we are safe from the fighting in Mogadishu.

At present, we get fresh water without charge; but, sometimes we encounter problems for waiting in long queues to access the water distribution, because of the increasing number of IDPs in the area. We are very much pleased with the access to water; and very pleased that we now see that the water distribution is being expanded through the introduction of a water piping system in our area. We women folks have a special gratitude for that, since we used to carry water in our backs, and always felt backaches, and sometimes other ailments.

In fact, we are pleased with receiving fresh water that we use in drinking, cooking, bathing and washing our utensils and clothes as well. This has in fact kept our sanitation and hygiene at a good level; and community hygiene levels are also being maintained.

We are expressing our appreciation for SAACID and the donor Oxfam Novib, who assisted in digging this water well for the distressed displaced people living in the many IDP camps in Lafole”.