

## Dealing with disasters assembly

### Introduction

July 2011. 12 million people in East Africa are facing desperate food shortages following the worst drought in 60 years.

Rains have failed for successive seasons, and families across Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya are struggling to find anything to eat or drink. Hundreds of thousands of livestock have already died. Food prices have rocketed.

Explore how governments, charities and individuals deal with disasters like this Food Crisis, and think about what action we can take to make a difference to the situation.



*Halima Bare' (40) in Elado village, Wajir District. (Woman inside hut with baby in arms)..Halima walked 50km with her seven children to get to Elado after the drought killed of 35 or her 40 livestock. The five remaining cows are too weak to stand. Her husband is off in search of new pasture and she has not seen him for one month. Photo Credit: Jo Harrison/Oxfam*

## **About this resource**

This resource is designed to be delivered as an assembly and consists of a powerpoint presentation and accompanying script.

It provides a general introduction to what we mean by 'disaster', what makes poor people particularly vulnerable to disasters and how the international community responds to disasters. Campaigning and fundraising are suggested as appropriate actions for young people who wish to get involved in reducing the impact of present and future disasters.

## **Time**

Presenting the assembly should take approximately 25 minutes.  
However to shorten the assembly slides 6 – 8 and/or 16 – 19 could be omitted.

## **Get Involved**

Oxfam's regional Youth and Schools campaigners are available to support young people, teachers and youth leaders who want to get more involved. Their contact details are here <http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/contact/>

## **Other resources**

### **Dealing with Disasters online pack**

The Dealing with Disasters online pack includes classroom activities about why disasters happen and what we can do to help. It is suitable for ages 11-14 and can be downloaded here [http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/dealing\\_disasters/?25](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/dealing_disasters/?25)