**Locust swarms and drought**

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"The new locust swarms are extremely worrying. Gains from harvests in recent years could be completely wiped out. Millions of people would then have too little to eat," warns Elmi Abdi Nur. He is the emergency relief director in Somalia of a memeber of the alliance Aktion Deutschland Hilft.

In total, nearly six million people in the country are dependent on humanitarian aid. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Somalia is currently preparing for a period of drought: Already, 90 percent of households are using less water than normal.

Additionaly the corona pandemic and natural disasters increase famine.

"People are struggling to avert a potential famine," explains Abdi Nur. "Many families are unable to make a living due to weather extremes and restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The prolonged lockdown has already led to hunger. Women and girls in particular are forgoing meals when there is not enough food for all family members."

Through member organizations the alliance Aktion Deutschland Hilft is working in regions that were already affected by locust plagues last year. Currently, the alliance is providing families with drinking water, food, hygiene items and financial assistance. In the coming weeks the alliance plans to expand supplies to families in need. Your donation will save people in East Africa from starvation.