

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

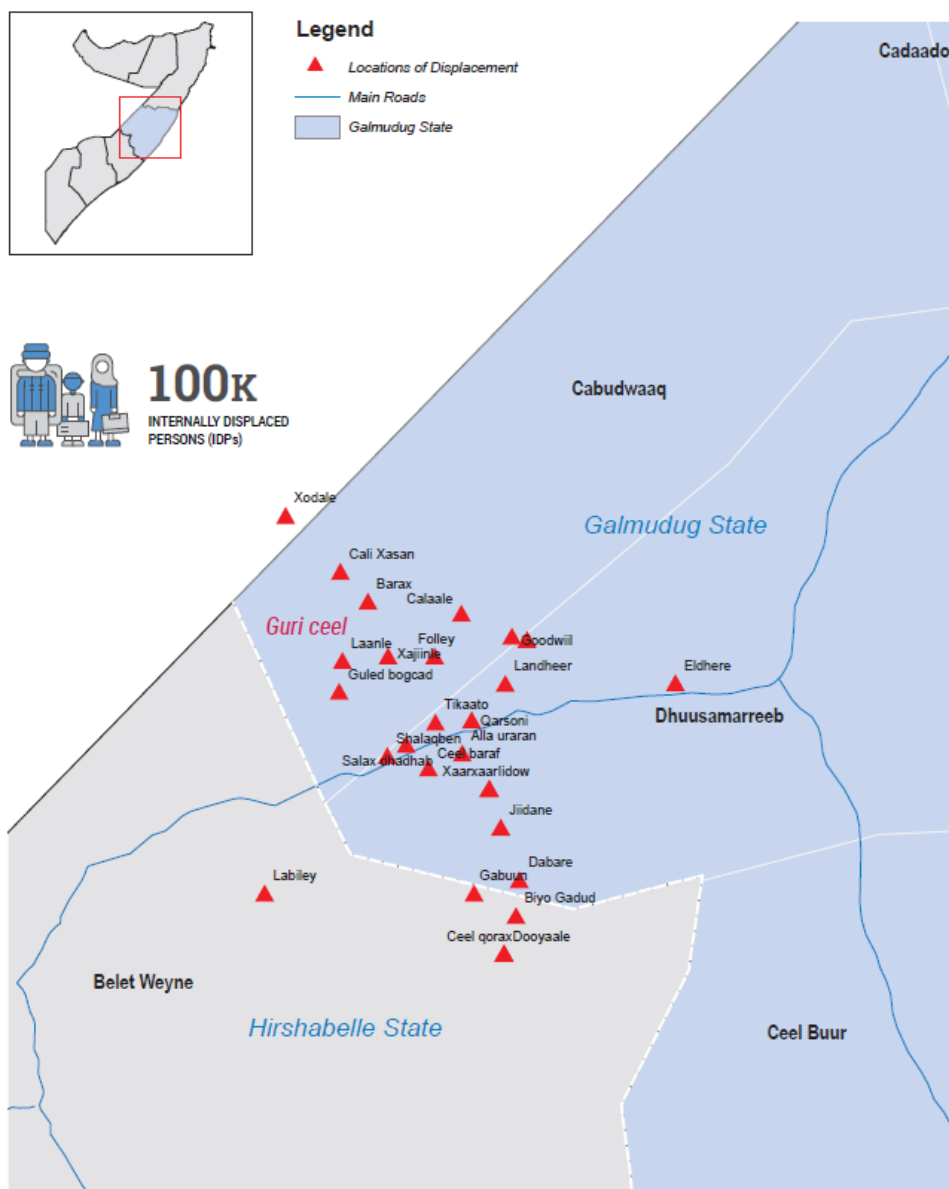
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Situation Overview

Clashes are reported in Guri Ceel town in Galmudug State since 23 October. At least 10 people have reportedly been killed, including a child. Sixty other casualties are admitted at Starlin hospital in Guri Ceel and Hanano hospital in the Galmudug capital, Dhuusamarreeb. Starlin hospital was hit but sustained minimal damage. However, operations at the hospital are paralysed because nearly half of the health workers have been displaced. Hanano hospital is also facing a shortage of emergency treatment kits. The fighting has destroyed several houses and properties, including Kulmiye private hospital. Movement along the road between Galmudug and Hirshabelle is disrupted. A curfew has been imposed in Dhuusamarreeb. The Guri Ceel airstrip remains closed since 1 October when the town was overrun.

Humanitarian partners have suspended missions to Guri Ceel amid reports that a majority of local residents have fled the town. A joint interagency assessment conducted on 18-21 October found that at least 100,000 people (16,740 households) have left and sought shelter in 28 nearby villages. The displaced include about 1,000 unaccompanied minors and 2,000 persons with disabilities and health related complications. About 18,440 of the affected people were internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in Guri Ceel before the situation escalated. Three new IDP settlements in Ceel Baraf, Salax Dhadhab and Dabare villages are accommodating about 44,000 people (7,300 families). The rest of the IDPs are living with relatives in overcrowded shelters or have remained within Guri Ceel area due to lack of capacity to move or no clan ties in rural villages.

Partners estimate that the new displacement has pushed the overall population in the nearby rural villages to over 152,200 people (including the host communities), thus exerting pressure on already overstretched basic services. Furthermore, the areas of displacement were already facing looming drought and water shortages which has led to a



Map showing the villages where displaced people from Guri Ceel town have sought shelter. Map: OCHA.

significant fall in livestock prices, crippling the local economy. The market in Guri Ceel is closed, and the prices of food and vegetables have increased by 20-30 per cent due to restrictions in movement and taxation. Furthermore, ongoing tensions and clashes have restricted humanitarian activities and access to people in need.

Humanitarian Impact and Needs

Local authorities have appealed for urgent food, shelter, non-food items, water and sanitation (WASH), health, nutrition and protection assistance for the affected people. The assessment found alarming levels of food insecurity among new IDPs, with some reporting consuming only one meal per day. The majority of the IDPs are depending on trucked water. Health conditions are poor, with 72 suspected acute watery diarrhea cases reported as well as measles and other diseases. Of the 3,000 children screened, 514 had moderate malnutrition and 214 are suffering from severe acute malnutrition. Three children were wounded by gunfire near Laba Hiran checkpoints while fleeing from the conflict.

Despite the huge needs, humanitarian response is limited by access challenges and funding constraints. There are no active health, WASH, shelter, protection and shelter projects in the areas of displacement. There are some nutrition and livelihood projects but these urgently need to be scaled up to meet increasing demand. In terms of water and sanitation, shallow wells and boreholes are overstretched due to the increasing population pressure. Open defecation is widely practiced in the IDPs settlements.

The assessment found that 45 displaced women had delivered children without birth attendants. In addition, displaced women expressed fears of gender-based violence while other IDPs were concerned about protection risks including potential child recruitment. About 25 per cent of displaced women are widows and 21 cases of forced early marriage of girls were reported in the areas of displacement. An estimated 44,000 school-going children are among the displaced families. According to the Education Cluster, 26 schools have closed, disrupting learning for more than 9,000 school-going children. Over the last two weeks, an NGO partner has screened 1,000 children under 5, of whom 121 presented Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 170 Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). Another partner, New Ways Organization, conducted a rapid screening of 937 children under 5 in Calalaale, Laanle, Qarsoni, Salax Dhadhab, Shalaqben and Godwiil villages, of which 148 presented SAM and 204 MAM.



Humanitarian workers assisting women and children who have been displaced from Guri Ceel, Galmudug. Photo: New Ways Organization.

Ongoing and Planned Response

Despite funding constraints, partners are trying to respond to the situation, but the lack of presence of organizations and insecurity in areas of need have affected planned response. Host communities provided water and food to displaced people. The Ministry of Women has provided cash-transfer and dignity kits for 50 households headed by widows and those living with disability. Clusters including Food Security, Health and Nutrition, and Shelter are expanding current projects to meet identified needs. Cluster response so far includes:

- **Food Security:** WFP through a local partner, APCC, has an ongoing cash-based transfers activity targeting 599 households while 401 are receiving in-kind assistance. Two other partners, Kulmiye Relief and Development Organization (KRDO) and Social Empowerment Rehabilitation and Development Organization (SERDO) are targeting 530 and 812 households, respectively. The cash-based transfers will continue until December. In addition, WFP plans to distribute vouchers for 5,300 households for November and December.
- **Shelter:** The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) will distribute 500 NFI kits from the contingency stock managed by IOM and the Shelter Cluster. UNHCR will conduct a detailed assessment with the objective to distribute additional NFI kits and shelter kits. New Ways Organization is planning to distribute plastic sheets (shelter) for 3,000 households.
- **WASH:** Hygiene kits are available for 580 households. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is drilling a borehole in Laanle village, which is one of the IDP locations. The cluster plans to distribute 1,500 hygiene kits to newly displaced families.

- **Nutrition:** An NGO, KAAH Relief and Development Organization (KAAH), supported by the Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF) is implementing nutrition services targeting 11 rural villages in Guri Ceel south. An NGO partner, Towfiq Umbrella Organization (TUOS), has a facility with integrated health and nutrition services in Guri Ceel town and plans to continue providing nutrition service once security improves. SERDO is providing MAM services in 18 villages. New Ways Organization has provided mobile health and nutrition services for 3,576 people.
- **Education:** Save the Children is supporting schools in Dabare and Salax Dhadhab where the displaced children are. The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA), through a partner Education Cannot Wait, supports five schools and can accommodate more displaced children. Godwill, Salax Dhadhaab, El Dhere have functional schools supported by partners and can enroll newly displaced children.
- **Health:** WHO with support of the health ministry has deployed 40 rapid response teams from Guri Ceel to displaced areas to conduct COVID-19 community awareness, AWD/cholera prevention, case detection, verification of suspected COVID-9 cases as well as sample collection and testing. About 25 cholera sample collection kits and 200 COVID-19 test kits have been sent from Dhuusamarreeb to Guri Ceel.
- **Protection:** Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) partners are conducting protection monitoring activities. A partner, IIDA Women Empowerment Organization, is supporting 50 children and their caregivers, mostly from minority clans who could not leave Guri Ceel due to financial reasons. Another partner is targeting 575 newly arrived children in Cabudwaq and Mataban through family tracing and re-unification as well as mental health and psychosocial support, targeting 1,100 adolescent girls with dignity kits and providing child protection awareness. New Ways Organisation is supporting 195 boys and 205 girls who have been separated from their caregivers.
- **CCCM:** A partner, Northern Front Youth League (NoFYL) is establishing a complaints feedback mechanism and monthly service activities, mapping and community engagement activities in the three new IDP sites. The Cluster aims to expand the complaints mechanism to additional IDP sites. Additional support from other agencies is currently being coordinated.