

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	885
Land:	Somalia
Kilde:	UN OCHA
Titel:	Somalia. Humanitarian Bulletin
Udgivet:	1. maj 2021
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	2. september 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- The *Gu'* rains, which is usually received between April and June, have ended in May with no more rains expected until the next rainy season (October-December). Mild to moderate drought conditions are foreseen across the country in the coming months.
- Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) and cholera cases have spiked across the country. In Banadir region, about 410 cases were admitted to hospital between 16 and 30 May compared to 299 cases in the preceding two weeks.
- Conflict-related displacement has escalated with an estimated 4,950 households (29,700 people) displaced to Xudur town in South West State following a directive from non-state armed actors to vacate 42 villages surrounding the town.
- Near mid-year, the Somalia 2021 HRP funding is critically low and insufficient to address the alarmingly high needs. This is the worst funding for Somalia in six years.



Flooding in Belet Weyne town. Photo: Yahya Dahiye/OCHA

KEY FIGURES

5.9M	2.9M	116K	1.6M	14.8K	131K
People in need of humanitarian assistance.	People displaced by conflict and natural disasters across the country.	People displaced by water shortages since October 2020.	People currently experiencing acute food insecurity.	Cases of COVID-19 reported since March 2020.	People who have received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Gu' rains end early, exacerbating the risk of drought conditions

The *Gu'* rain season (April-June) has ended early with a poor rainfall performance in many parts of Somalia despite heavy rains in late April and early May. With no more rains forecasted until the next rainy season (October-December), mild to moderate drought conditions are foreseen across the country in the coming months. Dry conditions will contribute to the likelihood of crop losses and deterioration in pasture and water availability in some areas. According to Fewsnets¹, a forecast of low rainfall in the Ethiopian highlands is also expected to lead to a significant decline in water levels of the Shabelle and Juba rivers.

¹ FEWSNET: Somalia Seasonal Monitor. 5 June 2021.

Flooding affected about 400,000 people in 14 districts since late April, of whom 101,300 people were displaced from their homes. Jowhar was the worst affected, with floods caused by river breakages displacing 66,000 people from 27 villages, destroying over 40,000 hectares of farmland, disrupting learning in 12 schools and damaging 82 per cent of WASH infrastructures. In Belet Weyne town, flooding displaced nearly 22,000 people and destroyed 1,235 hectares of farmland.

More than 80 per cent of Somalia was facing moderate to severe drought conditions when the *Gu'* rains started in some parts of Somalia. The combined impact of drought and floods are likely to exacerbate the already critical food security situation in Somalia. A fifth of the population, up to 2.8 million people are now projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity and hunger². According to the [Somalia Humanitarian Needs Overview 2021](#), one million children are acutely or severely malnourished. In addition, concerns remain of another surge of Desert Locusts, particularly in northern parts of the country due to favourable conditions following the *Gu'* rains.

Humanitarian partners have scaled up assistance to flood-affected people, reaching at least 82,000 people with lifesaving assistance including food, water and sanitation, hygiene, health, cash assistance and shelter. Lack of funding has hampered the response. As of 16 June, the 2021 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan is only 25 per cent funded, with all clusters funded 20 per cent or below.



Local residents in Baarey, Jowhar, fixing a river breakage to stop flooding. Photo: OCHA

SUSPECTED AWD/CHOLERA CASES SPIKE ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Cases of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) and suspected cholera have spiked in Somalia. A total of 211 new suspected cases (104 female and 107 male) and five deaths were reported between 31 May to 6 June³, with 145 (68.7 per cent) being children under 5 years of age. The cases were reported from 22 districts in Hirshabelle, South West states and Banadir region. According to the Health Cluster and WHO, high admission rates have been recorded in Banadir with 410 cases admitted between 16 and 30 May compared to 299 cases in the preceding two weeks: a 36 per cent increase in admission rate. Most of the cases were from the IDP settlements in Kahda, Daynille, and Hodan districts and are attributed to lack of access to safe water, inadequate latrines and delayed access to health services.

In Jubaland, 402 AWD cases have been admitted in Belet Xaawo main hospital and other health facilities with two deaths reported since the onset of the current outbreak on 17 May. In response, partners and local authorities are providing health services and WASH responses including water treatment and hygiene promotion to the local population. However, there is a need to continue hygiene awareness campaigns for three months, rehabilitate and chlorinate shallow wells along the riverside, distribute 4,500 emergency hygiene kits in affected neighbourhoods, construct 400 emergency sanitation facilities for both IDPs and poor households in the town and provide emergency mobile health clinics or teams.

Reports from South West State indicate that the Ministry of Health recorded 220 cases of AWD in Qoryooley, Afgooye and Marka (Lower Shabelle region) between 5 and 30 May 2021. The state ministries of health, water and energy resources is working with the WASH and Health clusters on mitigation activities. In Galmudug State, 147 suspected cases were reported in May in Ceelgula and Galbarwaqo (Hobyo district), Dhuusamarreeb and Gaalkacyo. Partners have responded by establishing isolation tents and launching awareness-raising campaigns in Dhuusamarreeb and Gaalkacyo hospitals. Preliminary information indicates that the rise of AWD is attributed to seasonal diarrhoea caused by the consumption of

²FSNAU and FEWSNET Somalia. Food Security and Nutrition Quarterly Brief. 18 May 2021.

³ Somalia Ministry of Health and Human Services. Weekly Acute Diarrhea Situation Report. Week 22.

dirty water from shallow wells. Health Cluster partners are monitoring the situation. Local authorities and humanitarian partners are appealing for tents, medical supplies, gloves, and aqua tablets to contain the situation.

Since the beginning of 2021, a total of 2,761 cumulative suspected AWD/cholera cases including 24 deaths, of which 1,666 (60.3 per cent) were children under 5 years of age and 43.3 per cent females. The most affected districts include Adale, Daynile, and Qoryooley. There are currently 18 cholera treatment centres, nine in South West, four in Jubaland, three in Hirshabelle states and two in Banadir region.

CONFLICT-RELATED DISPLACEMENT ON THE RISE

Thousands displaced in South West State

Displacement due to tensions and conflict has escalated, exacerbating already alarming vulnerabilities. In 2021, more than 463,000 people⁴ were forced to flee their homes, 85 per cent due to insecurity and close to 207,000 people in Mogadishu due to the elections-related violence in April. Reports indicate that clan-related conflicts are increasing among pastoralist communities amidst increased competition for scarce resources due to floods and droughts. Non-state armed groups are exploiting this situation, making demands for taxes and child recruitment, thereby driving displacement. Across Somalia, 2.6 million people remain displaced by tensions, conflict and climate-related events; many with no hope of returning to their homes soon and at constant risk of eviction from their settlement.

In Banadir region, an estimated 2,500 displaced people from Lower Shabelle arrived in Kahda district in the last two weeks of May. The IDPs left Leego, Yaaq Birawayne and Baladul Aamiin villages since April due to persistent raids, abductions of civilians, and burning down of assets and livelihoods by non-state armed actors. Some arrived from Wanla Weyn town due to clan conflicts while others relocated from other districts, including IDPs from Middle Shabelle who left War dhagah, War Isse, Gaal leef, Qoor dheere, Jilable, and Ali fool dheere villages due to joint operations by the Somali army and local fighters against Al Shabab. Around 13,200 IDPs from Lower and Middle Shabelle regions arrived in Banadir and joined IDP settlements in Kahda district, according to CCCM partners. In total, nearly 15,700 IDPs arrived in Banadir between April and May.

In South West State, more than 4,950 households (29,700 people) have been displaced to Xudur town following a directive from non-state armed actors to vacate 42 villages surrounding the town, according to the authorities. The actors have also increased their presence along main supply routes, preventing the smooth entry of basic commodities into the town, negatively impacting the livelihoods of local residents and pushing food prices up. On 5 June, the local authority appealed for immediate humanitarian assistance for the new IDPs. Rapid assessments conducted in early June by NGO partners and the WASH, Health and Food Security clusters show that essential needs include emergency latrines and water trucking/access. Humanitarian partners have initiated response activities including distribution of non-food items, food through cash-based transfers valued at US\$70 each, WASH responses and multi-purpose cash transfers.

Apart from IDPs from Xudur, scores of people displaced into Bardaale district and Baidoa town due to fear of forced recruitment and threats from Al Shabab in April, are facing significant needs. A joint assessment in May 2021 by the Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Child Protection clusters in Bardaale/Baidoa found that 47 per cent of the new IDPs in Bardaale live in unplanned settlements while 31 per cent in Baidoa live with family members in urban centres. The new IDPs are estimated to be 4,326 in Baidoa, and 5,421 in Bardaale. According to the assessment, 37 per cent of the respondents believe that sexual exploitation has increased, 57 per cent indicated a rise in female genital mutilation, 20 per cent indicated an increase in intimate partner violence. Significant gaps were found in the provision of services including legal support, GBV safe houses, solar lamps, dignity kits, mosquito nets, mattresses, bedsheets, shelter and non-food items, latrines, water points and food. Partners are intervening to provide rape services to GBV survivors, case management and psychosocial counselling and support.

“After my husband died, I had to escape with my three children”

Hodan Abdilahi Qasim, a 28-year-old mother of three girls recently fled fighting in Baadweyne village and is one of the 130 recently displaced people who arrived in Soomaliweyne camp in south of Gaalkacyo, fleeing from conflict which erupted in Baadweyne in April. Hodan's husband was killed during the conflict.

⁴ SOMALIA: INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS (unhcr.github.io)

“After my husband died, I had to escape with my three children to get to a safe place,” said Hodan. People affected by conflict like Hodan undergo indescribable dangers to get to safety. Hodan narrates how she and her family managed to leave Baadweyne noting, “every area of the village was bustling with fighting. Living in a makeshift shelter means bullets can easily penetrate your home. Those fighting might even enter your house to hide. You are in a state of constant fear,” Hodan said.

She left all her belongings behind when she fled Baadweyne and was lucky to have been picked up by a family also fleeing to safety in a rented vehicle.

“I cook whatever I get in the day for the children,” she said. “We left all our utensils except two cups, plates, and pot. My family used to eat three meals a day, but when I lost my husband and fled hurriedly for safety, I left behind our 10 goats and four camels. It is difficult to get money to buy food here. I have tried to find a job, but it is difficult because the camp where we live is far from the town.”

Stories like Hodan’s are far too common in conflict-affected areas in Somalia. The situation is further exacerbated by other challenges IDPs must face on a daily basis. Over the last three months, communities in Baadweyne have faced water shortages, drought and conflict. An estimated 7,656 people who were displaced from Baadweyne are now living in Gaalkacyo and Cabudwaaq districts of Galmudug State.

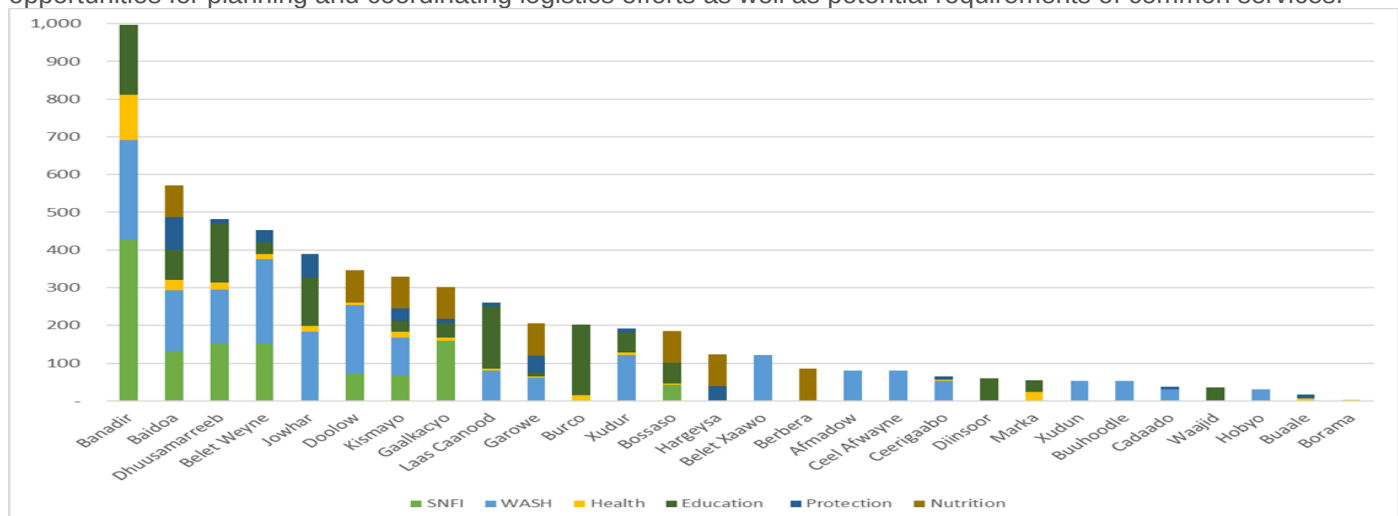


Hodan Abdilahi and her three children in Soomaliweyne IDP Site. Photo: Muno Gedi/UNOCHA

LOGISTICS CLUSTER SUPPORT TO EMERGENCY RESPONSE

An estimated 5,813 MT of cargo (worth US\$19 million) will be positioned in all the 18 regions

Mapping the logistics capacity in Somalia has been instrumental in operationalizing the [Emergency Response Preparedness Plan](#) (ERP). The Logistics Cluster worked together with the Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) to support the humanitarian community in preparing for and responding to disasters. The logistics component of the ERP was designed to identify and assess available logistics infrastructure and resources, estimate the cargo demand and identify opportunities for planning and coordinating logistics efforts as well as potential requirements of common services.



Preposition Cargo Tonnage per location and cluster. Source: Logistics Cluster

The prepositioning strategy is an essential component of the ERP which aims to improve the overall agility of first-line response. Based on other cluster plans, the Logistics Cluster estimates that 5,813 mt of cargo (worth US\$19 million) will be positioned in all the 18 regions (28 locations), with half of the cargo being allocated to Banadir, Baidoa, Dhuusamarreeb, Belet Weyne and Jowhar areas. Appropriate planning is crucial to ensure relief can be delivered in a timely and cost-effective way. Each location was assessed, on available infrastructure, capacity and accessibility to propose cost-effective transport modalities.

About 75 per cent of the locations can be reached by sea, road or a combination of both if transport requirements are planned. The goal is to minimize airlifting which costs up to 30/40 times more than other modalities. The Logistics Cluster also identified several opportunities for using seasonality to access locations when roads are dry or make use of sea cargo (lengthier but cheaper) operating along the Somali coastline decreasing reliance on air transportation. The cluster has identified key preposition locations enabling humanitarian organizations opportunities to pool resources such as transportation and storage. The Logistics Cluster intends to augment partners' capacity through the provision of common logistics services and serve as a platform where organizations can work together to overcome logistics challenges.

LIFESAVING INTERVENTIONS IN SOMALILAND

KSRelief funding NRC projects for drought and conflict-affected people

With funding from the [King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center \(KSRelief\)](#), the [Norwegian Refugee Council \(NRC\)](#) is implementing lifesaving, sustainable water and sanitation (WASH) interventions for drought and conflict-affected populations in Sool, Sanaag and Togdheer regions. On 18 May, two boreholes were drilled and equipped with solar panels in Burao and Awrbogeys areas, Las'anod district to serve over 10,000 people. These have been handed over to the beneficiary communities and the government of Somaliland.

NRC is currently in the final stages of constructing two high-capacity dams (each 15,000 cubic metres in Darussalam village in Buhoodle district and Qabribayah village, in Las'anod district. The project has also funded 103 family shared latrines in six IDP settlements in Burao and Buhoodle and distributed 4,545 hygiene kits through vouchers in nine IDP settlements in Burao, Buhoodle and Las'anod districts. A total 3,000 menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits were distributed to girls and women of reproductive age. To-date the project has reached 50,435 vulnerable people.



Participants at a community hygiene promotion training in Las'anod, Sanaag. Photo: NRC.

KSRelief, established in May 2015, provides humanitarian aid and relief to those in need outside Saudi Arabian kingdom's borders. As of 31 May, KSRelief has supported 62 humanitarian projects in Somalia worth over US\$206 million. Most of these projects are in the food security and health sector. In Somaliland, KSRelief is providing funding to UNICEF to support the strengthening of three Child Protection Committees, awareness-raising on child protection issues through radio clips, child protection training for 100 people and training and startup kits for 40 adolescents in Sool and Sanaag regions.

“Online marketing skills have changed my life”

The rising number of youth unemployment is one of the significant problems in Somaliland. Abdiaziz, 25, from New Hargeisa village in Hargeisa, lives with his family. Along with other youth, Abdiaziz was identified and registered for NRC's integrated

project that was designed to provide protection solutions to displacement-affected communities and to improve their livelihood status. The project is funded by KSRelief.

Abdiaziz was placed in the service solution group, a digital training vocational centre. Abdiaziz's passion was to learn a skill that could help him earn money to sustain and support his family. "I chose to learn a web development course, which I thought was the best marketable skill in the market," he said.

In December 2020, Abdiaziz started the three month's course and after completion, he got an internship opportunity from the Somaliland's Ministry of Agricultural Development. He also developed an application called "Caawiye" which means "helper".

The Caawiye mobile ticket service is a small business start-up that helps people to book their medical appointments via mobile phone. It comprises a mobile application that customers install on their mobiles, and a call center for those who may not have a smartphone and can call 3031 to get their tickets. Abdiaziz earns between US\$150-200 per month from his online business services. He is delighted to contribute to his family livelihood and thrilled because the business is growing. Abdiaziz is grateful to NRC and KSrelief for supporting him.



Abdiaziz at work. Photo Sawsan Abdilahi/NRC

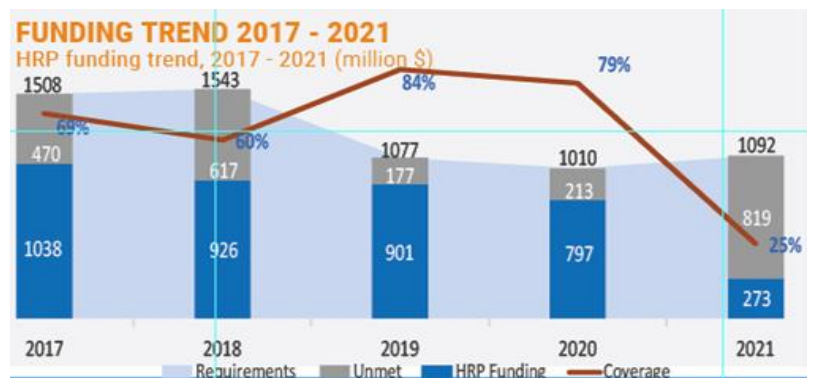
FUNDING UPDATE

Collective assistance in the face of growing needs

Funding requirements in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) have generally been in line with the number of people in need over the past years. This includes internally displaced people and people in humanitarian emergency and acute food and livelihood crisis. While funding requirements and the humanitarian strategy in the HRP have been adjusted to the changing humanitarian situation in Somalia, funding provided in 2021 has not changed with the same level of flexibility.

At almost mid-year, the 2021 HRP funding remains critically low and insufficient to address the alarmingly high needs across Somalia.

Without early funding, more Somalis will suffer, and progress achieved over the last decade will be lost. Humanitarian partners will be forced to stop essential programmes, including food assistance, nutritional activities, effective health care provision and livelihood support. Already food rations and some health services have been scaled back due to insufficient funding.



Early contributions by donors in the first quarter of the year 2021 facilitated the rolling out of a first standard allocation of US\$ 13 million in March 2021 complemented by two CERF allocations. These three pooled fund allocations represent 25 per cent of the overall HRP funding to date. In addition, the SHF is planning a reserve allocation of US\$26 million to respond to water shortages in locations severely affected by prolonged drought and also address the destruction caused by floods in Belet Weyne and Jowhar. Timely and predictable contributions are crucial as they provide enough time to prioritize funds tactically and in a complementary manner with other available funding.

For further information, please contact:

Ogoso, Erich Opolot | Head of Communications | ogoso@un.org | Tel. +254 720 766 587.
Mursal Ali | Public Information Officer | mursalali@un.org | Tel: +252615679998/ +252619150457

OCHA humanitarian bulletins are available at www.unocha.org/somalia | www.reliefweb.int