

This report is produced by OCHA Somalia in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA in New York. It covers the period from 24 to 30 August 2011. The next report will be issued on 6 September 2011.

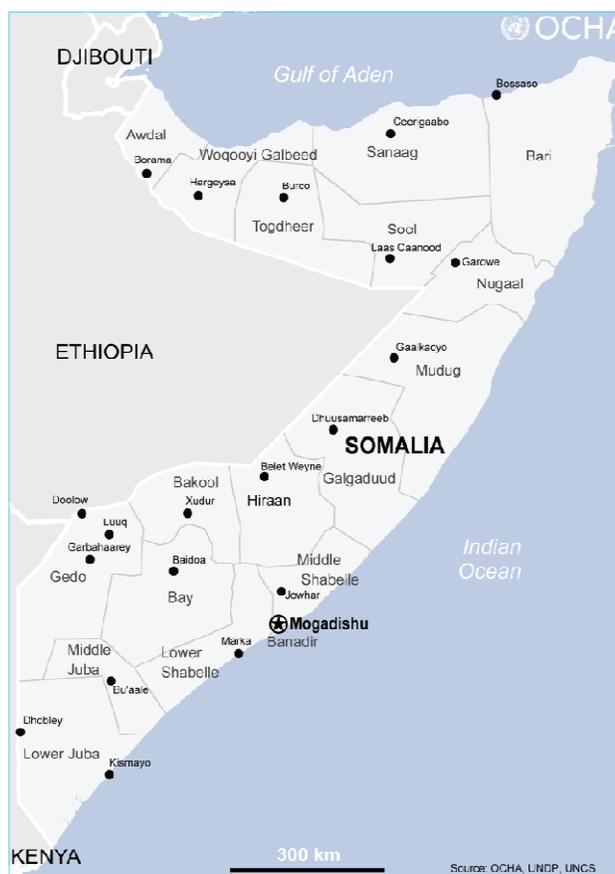
I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Internal displacement in Somalia is decreasing: the number of people moving to Mogadishu decreased from 28,000 in July to just over 5,000 in August to date.
- Communicable diseases continue to spread. Of particular concern is the 53 per cent increase in acute watery diarrhea to 635 cases that has been reported in Kismayo, Lower Juba region.
- The situation is likely to deteriorate over the coming months given current levels of malnutrition and mortality, in combination with the likelihood of increasing prices and a harsh dry season.
- New nutrition figures for southern Somalia are expected soon.

II. Situation Overview

According to UNHCR, the number of people fleeing their homes in Somalia is decreasing. There has been a significant drop in the number of people arriving in Mogadishu. Between 1 and 26 August, just over 5,000 displacements were recorded into the city, compared to nearly 28,000 in July, indicating a daily average decrease from 1,000 in July to 200 in August. A decrease has also been noted in the number of daily arrivals of Somali refugees at Kenya's Dadaab camps (from 1,500 to between 1,000 and 1,200), as well as Ethiopia's Dollo Ado camps (from 1,000 to 250).

The reason for this decrease appears two-fold. First, donations from the Somali diaspora and mobilisation by local and host communities in July and August to assist the affected populations during the month of Ramadan may have enabled people to remain where they were. Added to this, international and local humanitarian organisations are now better placed to deliver aid to famine-affected populations in the regions of Bay, Gedo, south Bakool and Hiraan, particularly in areas along the Kenyan and Ethiopian borders. This has helped to reduce pressure on Mogadishu as a destination to seek aid. Second, UNCHR is receiving reports that Al Shabaab is continuing to place restrictions on the movement of people in areas under its control, particularly the movements of men, most notably in the Lower Shabelle and Bay regions. This has prevented large population movements, especially from Lower



Shabelle, into Mogadishu.

According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) and Somalia Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), Gu rainfall (April to June) cereal production in southern Somalia is the lowest in 17 years and represents only 19 per cent of Gu 2010 production and 32 per cent of the Gu five year average. The situation is likely to deteriorate over the coming months given current levels of malnutrition and mortality, in combination with the likelihood of increasing prices and a harsh dry season. By August/September, almost all regions of southern Somalia could face famine. FSNAU is expected to release new information on malnutrition in southern Somalia soon.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response in Southern Somalia



FOOD ASSISTANCE

Needs: Severely reduced food access, acute malnutrition and high levels of crude mortality rates require urgent food intervention. According to the Food Assistance Cluster, 3.7 million people across Somalia are in need of food aid, 2.2 million of whom are estimated to be in the south.

Response: Humanitarian actors are currently assisting 1.77 million people (48 per cent). WFP and cluster partners are scaling up interventions to reach an additional 900,000 people in southern Somalia through general food distributions and the provision of food vouchers. General food distributions are ongoing in Mogadishu, Gedo and Lower Juba regions to assist the resident population and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in transit.

Gaps & Constraints: The security situation and access remain the main challenges at the moment. WFP has partial access to the central area but still no access to the south, except for Mogadishu, Gedo border areas, Lower Juba (Dhobley) and Bakool (Ceel Barde) regions. WFP is closely monitoring the security conditions and continuously reassessing any possibility for access. Several logistical constraints are considerably impacting food delivery times, most notably the clearance times in Mombasa port, the main corridor for WFP's food commodities, and the lack of jet fuel in Mogadishu.



NUTRITION

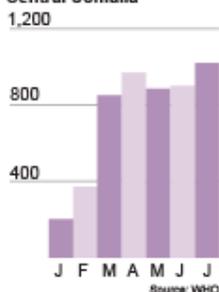
Needs: Latest figures from FSNAU show a 15 per cent increase in the number of malnourished children, from 390,000 children to 450,000 children, of which 190,000 suffer from severe acute malnutrition. An estimated 336,000 children, representing 75 per cent of all malnourished children, are in the south. The number of acutely malnourished children represents almost a third of all the 1.5 million children under five in Somalia. In addition, reports from select nutrition centers in southern Somalia indicate that there are growing numbers of children between the ages of five and ten years also suffering from acute malnutrition. Reports from a number of centers indicate that 30 per cent of admissions children are from 5 to 10 years.

Response: UNICEF and partners have 800 feeding centres across Somalia assisting 35,000 children per day, including 500 in southern Somalia. Since early August, the Nutrition cluster has reached approximately 160,000 people with different types of interventions. 70,000 people have been provided three meals a day in Gedo and Lower Juba region. In addition, 80,000 people received blanket supplementary feeding in Lower Shabelle region last week. Further, 9,819 children are undergoing treatment in outpatient therapeutic care across Somalia, mainly in the south. The Somali Red Crescent Society, with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), recently launched four new outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes in clinics in the regions of Bakool and Gedo. With the opening of these new programmes, Somali Red Crescent feeding centres are now present in all of Somalia, including all areas most affected by malnutrition.



HEALTH

Suspected measles cases reported in South and Central Somalia



Needs: The Health Cluster aims to assist 2.6 million people with access to primary and/or basic secondary health care services, as well as vaccinate 518,000 children under five years of age and 296,000 women of child-bearing age. There is great concern regarding the high number of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) cases in Kismayo, Lower Juba region. Compared with last week, the number of AWD cases has increased by 53 per cent to 635 cases. An increase in the number of confirmed cholera cases in Mogadishu has also been noted. Since January 2011, 5,061 AWD/cholera cases and 211 related deaths have been recorded at Banadir Hospital in Mogadishu, of which 3,659 (72 per cent) of the cases were of children under the age of five. In addition, the number of measles cases continues to increase, and dengue fever cases have been identified in Mogadishu and the Galbeed region of Somaliland.

Response: Mass measles campaigns have been completed in IDP camps in Mogadishu (reaching 88,000) and six border districts in Gedo (65,000). Campaigns are currently ongoing in Mogadishu and Galgaduud region, targeting 700,000 and 218,000 children respectively. In response to the increase of AWD in Kismayo, two additional diarrheal disease kits and 15 cholera beds have been dispatched to Kismayo General Hospital, as well as funding for the rehabilitation of 15 toilets to improve human waste disposal. Each kit can treat 100 severe adult cases and 400 moderate AWD cases. Three mobile teams are also providing basic medical treatment, targeting about 15,000 people in Afgooye corridor.

Furthermore, mobile clinics supported by WHO are operating in IDP camps in the Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, and Banadir regions.

Gaps & Constraints: The lack of access to conduct vaccination activities in the region continues to impact negatively on the health of children. Additional mobile clinics are urgently needed to provide basic health care services to the many people living in IDP camps in the major towns and in remote villages who are unable to reach the health facilities for treatment.



WATER SANITATION HYGIENE

Needs: The WASH Cluster aims to reach 2.8 million people with emergency water by the end of 2011, including 1.3 million with emergency sanitation.

Response: To date, the WASH cluster has provided emergency water to 1.4 million people in southern Somalia. The cluster is preparing for the upcoming October to November rains and the possible AWD/cholera outbreaks which could devastate already vulnerable communities. In light of this, the Cluster's AWD/cholera preparedness and response plan has been updated and agencies are already scaling up to reduce the risk of these two diseases in all high risk and medium risk districts. Partners are already responding to AWD/cholera outbreaks in Mogadishu and other locations. Supplies of chlorine and essential items for hygiene and storage of water are being distributed. Already 217 water sources and 58 water point outlets are being chlorinated and benefiting 483,200 residents and IDPs in Mogadishu. In addition, household hygiene supplies, including water purification tablets, soap and buckets, enough for 48,000 households (288,000 people), are being distributed at existing feeding centers for malnourished children. Radio messages with focus on preventing the spread of diseases have been developed and are being played on radio stations in affected areas.



AGRICULTURE & LIVELIHOODS

Needs: Significant below-average crop production and mass migration of livestock in search of pasture are leading to an urgent need for agricultural assistance. The Agriculture and Livelihoods Cluster aims to provide access to improved agricultural assistance to 2.6 million people in Somalia this year, which is 70 per cent of the 3.7 million people in crisis nationwide – the number of people the cluster estimates it will be able to reach. The cluster is targeting 2.24 million for immediate cash and food assistance by end of 2011.

Response: The Agriculture and Livelihoods Cluster continues to respond to the emergency through various interventions, including distribution of food vouchers, cash for work and cash relief programmes. Since mid-July, 193,158 people have benefited from food vouchers and 47,850 from cash relief programmes. In addition, 219,048 people have benefited from cash for work since January 2011.



EDUCATION

Needs: According to the Education Cluster, of the estimated 2.3 million children between five and 17 years of age in south and central Somalia, an estimated 1.8 million are out of school because of internal displacement and insecurity. This number is expected to increase dramatically because of the drought and famine, but will only be known when schools open in September. By the end of 2011, the Cluster aims to assist about 879,000 learners and teachers through interventions such as increasing access and retention of school-age children into formal and non-formal education facilities; resuming school feeding programmes in the south; building capacity of teachers; providing basic teaching and learning materials; and rehabilitating and constructing learning spaces with WASH facilities.

The Education Cluster conducted a rapid needs assessment in south central Somalia from 30 July to 3 August. School feeding was ranked among the top three priority needs in every region except Bakool, followed by learning materials and teacher incentives, as well as additional learning spaces. There is currently no school feeding programme at any of the 589 schools visited through the assessment. Between 76 per cent and 100 per cent of teachers are expected to return to work in September in Galgaduud, Gedo, and Middle Shabelle, but only 26-50 per cent are expected to return in Bay and Lower/Middle Juba.

Response: Registration of children is underway at 132 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in IDP settlements in Bakool, Banadir, Bay, Lower Shabelle, and Middle Shabelle. Sites were identified this week for the establishment of a further 80 CFSs in Mogadishu and the Afgoye Corridor. Meanwhile, UNICEF is developing plans to implement measles immunization, hygiene education, and other health activities for 300,000 school children.



EMERGENCY SHELTER & NFI

Needs: The Emergency Shelter and NFI Cluster is targeting 1.8 million people this year through the provision of emergency assistance packages (EAP) and temporary/transitional shelter across Somalia.

Response: During July and August, the Cluster has provided every newly displaced household with an EAP consisting of plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, blankets, jerry cans and kitchen utensils. From March to July, UNHCR has distributed 34,655 EAPs across southern Somalia, assisting 207,930 people. During August, 1,790 EAPs have been distributed in Gedo region, 950 in Middle Juba and 1,815 in Cabudwaaq IDP settlements and poor host communities in Galgaduud region (reaching a total of 27,330 people). In addition, EAPs for 30,000 people have started to be distributed in the Mogadishu area.



PROTECTION

Response: A total of 130 vulnerable women in Afgooye Corridor and Mogadishu continue to receive material assistance and temporary accommodation, while another 130 female GBV survivors in Jowhar are receiving scholarship including accommodation in the Vocational Training Centre (VTC). Fourteen community centres for women in Afgooye were rehabilitated and will be equipped with four counselors who will provide psychosocial support to GBV survivors. Peer groups that were formed among the IDPs continued to air messages on sexual gender based violence (SGBV) awareness on local radio stations in Lower and Middle Shabelle. The programme aims to create awareness of SGBV in IDP camps.

Eighteen child friendly spaces that will cater for 1,500 students were constructed, of which five are in Baidoa and 13 in Afgooye. Training for 189 beneficiaries of protection through livelihood programme from eight IDP settlements and host communities in Gaalkacyo took place from 22 to 27 August, prior to disbursing funds. Altogether 1,450 people will benefit from two vegetable gardens and four honey farms that were established for GBV survivors in Halabokad IDP settlement in Gaalkacyo.

IV. Other regions

Puntland: The numerous reports of newly arrived IDPs from south and central Somalia into Puntland remain a growing concern both to the humanitarian community and the local authorities. If not addressed in time, the increase in the number of IDPs might exacerbate the humanitarian crisis while imposing additional pressure on existing poor and vulnerable IDPs. The humanitarian community in Garowe recently found that there were 2,216 families comprising 13,296 people in 11 settlements.

Field reports also indicate an increase in the number of malnourished IDP children, particularly among new arrivals into Puntland. Food insecurity is now a serious problem for the IDPs and urban poor in Puntland. FSNAU reports that the malnutrition rate in Puntland IDP settlements is critical, with global acute malnutrition rates in Gaalkacyo IDP settlements at 20.3 per cent, Bossaso 24 per cent and Garowe 18.7 per cent. Food, livelihood, health and nutrition remain priority areas for intervention.

According to FSNAU and FEWSNET, although rangeland, water and livestock body conditions have slightly improved, a food security crisis persists following the impacts of three successive seasons of below normal rainfall, which have led to a considerable reduction in livestock assets and increased pastoral destitution.

Somaliland: Population Movement Tracking partners in Somaliland report an increase in the number of new arrivals from south central Somalia due to the current drought and famine. According to FSNAU and FEWSNET, the food security situation in the northwest regions of Somalia has deteriorated, primarily as a result of drastic livestock asset losses during the harsh dry season from January to March, limited milk production and increased debt levels. The herd size of small ruminants in these livelihoods is estimated to decline to 45-55% of baseline levels by December 2011. These losses will further erode access to food during the coming three months.

V. Funding

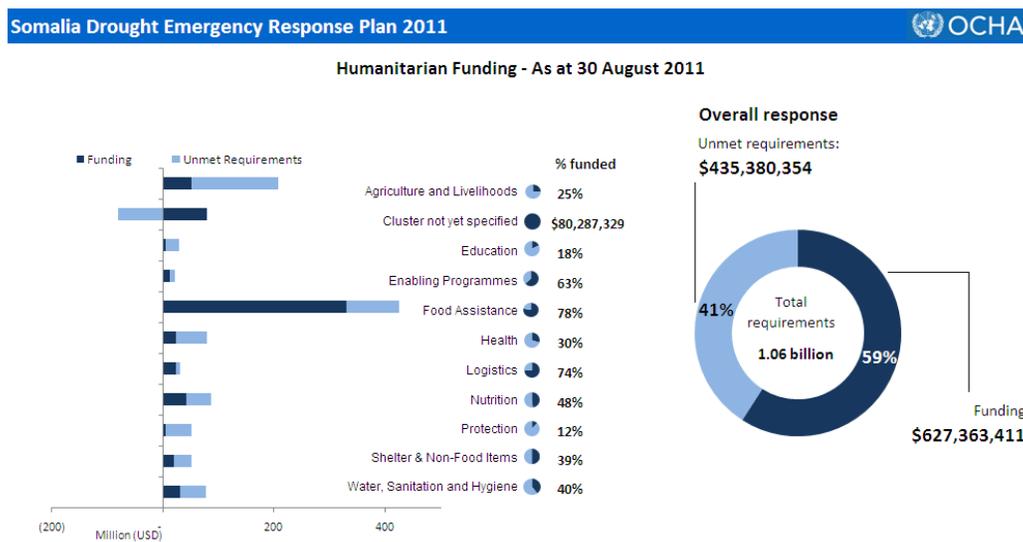
- The emergency revision of the Somalia Consolidated Appeal has been completed and can be downloaded here: http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Full%20Report_123.pdf
- Somalia's CAP of \$1 billion is currently 59% funded at about

1 Billion
requested (US\$)

59%
Funded

\$627 million. Over \$435 million are still required to meet the needs of the affected population.

- African Union (AU) leaders convened a pledging conference in Ethiopia on 25 August and pledged more than \$350 million dollars towards the Horn of Africa drought and famine relief effort.
- Food interventions are 78 per cent funded, WASH 40 per cent, Nutrition 48 per cent, Health 30 per cent and Livelihoods 25 per cent.



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (<http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing fts@un.org.

VI. Humanitarian Giving

To make a donation through the United Nations, please consider one of the following options:

1. Support the Appeal for the Horn of Africa
2. Give to the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
3. Give to the Pooled Funds in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia
4. Give to OCHA's response to the Horn of Africa Crisis

For details on how to make a donation, please consult the "OCHA Guide to Humanitarian Giving" on the OCHA website: <http://www.unocha.org/crisis/horn-africa-crisis>

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