

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 31 August to 6 September 2011. The next report will be issued on 13 September 2011.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Famine has now been declared in the Bay region of Somalia, bringing the number of affected areas to six.
- 4 million people, more than half of the Somali population, are in crisis countrywide – an increase from 3.7 million people in July. Of these, 3 million people are in the south.
- 750,000 people are at risk of death in the coming four months without an urgent scale up.
- 65,700 cases of pneumonia and acute respiratory infection reported in central and south Somalia since January.
- Limitations on humanitarian access continue to curtail the humanitarian response.

II. Situation Overview

The humanitarian situation in Somalia has deteriorated further, with an increase in the number of people who need assistance. According to the latest report by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU), 4 million people are currently in crisis nationwide, up from 3.7 million reported in August. Out of these 4 million, 3 million are in the south of Somalia. FSNAU has warned that 750,000 people risk death in the coming four months if efforts to respond to the famine are not scaled up. In addition, it warned that unless current levels of response are increased, famine could spread further over the coming. See detailed map on last page.

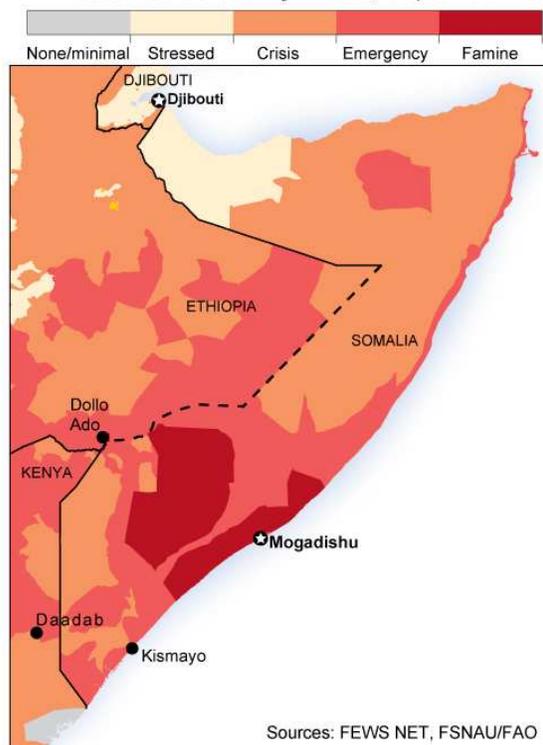
The entire Bay region is the latest area to have famine declared, bringing the number of affected areas to six, along with Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, the Afgooye corridor IDP settlement, and the Mogadishu IDP community, where famine was declared between July and August 2011.

Assuming current levels of humanitarian response remain the same, and October to December rains are average, further deterioration in food security is expected given the very high levels of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and under-5 mortality. FSNAU anticipates famine in agro-pastoral and riverine areas of Gedo and Juba, and agro-pastoral areas of Middle Shabelle and Hiraan by December 2011. FSNAU called for a massive, multi-sectoral response to prevent additional deaths and the total collapse of livelihoods. Most immediately, interventions to improve food access and to address health/nutrition issues are needed, complemented by measures to preserve productive assets. In the medium term, interventions to support and rebuild livelihoods are critical. All humanitarian actors need to step up efforts. Extraordinary measures are essential as it is anticipated that these needs will persist into 2012.

Current health challenges facing the country are exacerbating the situation: Somalia is currently contending with malaria, measles, cholera/AWD and pneumonia. Waterborne diseases are expected to increase with the onset of rains.

Continued limitations on humanitarian access are curtailing the humanitarian response.

IPC Acute Food Security Phase, September 2011



III. Humanitarian Needs and Response in Southern Somalia



FOOD ASSISTANCE

Needs: According to FSNAU's recent assessment, 3 million people are food insecure in southern Somalia, up from the 2.8 million reported in July.

Response: In August 2011, members of the Food Assistance Cluster (FAC) provided assistance to 1.3 million people throughout Somalia. Activities included the provision of food, wet rations, specialized nutritional products for children under five and cash or voucher initiatives to improve household access to food. Areas covered include Awdal, Bakool, Banadir, Bari, Bay, Galgaduud, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower and Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Mudug, Nugaal, Sanaag, Sool, Togdheer and Woqooyi Galbeed.

Gaps & Constraints: In addition to the security situation and access, cluster members also report logistical constraints that are impacting on food delivery times, most notably the clearance times in Mombasa port.



NUTRITION

Needs: According to FSNAU, there are currently 450,000 malnourished children in Somalia, 190,000 of whom suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Of these, an estimated 336,000 children, representing 75 per cent of all malnourished children, are in the south. The highest recorded level of acute malnutrition is in Bay region, where the GAM prevalence is 58.3 per cent. According to FSNAU, mortality rates have reached a high of 15 per 10,000 in children under 5 among Mogadishu IDPs.

Response: The Nutrition Cluster is targeting all malnourished children, aiming to treat an average of 40,000 children per month. Interventions are also targeting acutely malnourished pregnant and lactating women. Throughout August, the Nutrition Cluster assisted 16,247 households (97,482 people) with wet feeding in three transit centres of Dhobley (Lower Juba region), Doolow and Luuq (Gedo region). The wet feeding programme provides beneficiaries three hot meals every day. When the GAM percentage is very high, all pregnant and lactating women and children under five years receive supplementary food referred to as blanket supplementary feeding. 70,000 people have benefited from the blanket supplementary feeding programme in Afgooye, Bakool, Banadir, Bay, Gedo, Lower and Middle Juba, Lower and Middle Shabelle regions. In Bay, an additional site has been set up in Burhakaba to provide blanket supplementary feeding to 2,000 households. In addition, 19,192 children have received micronutrients.



HEALTH

Needs: The Health Cluster aims to assist 2.6 million people with access to primary and/or basic secondary health care services. The Cluster continues to report disease outbreaks in parts of Somalia and IDP camps, which are exacerbated by poor sanitation conditions, safe water shortages, overcrowding and high malnutrition rates, resulting in increased deaths. The rainy season, which starts in October, raises the risk of cholera transmission. Suspected measles cases reported in Somalia have increased six fold since last year, from 133 cases in July 2010 to 1,000 in July 2011. According to WHO, measles hotspots are in Banadir and Lower Shabelle. From the beginning of January until mid-August, a total of 39,009 cases of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) with 642 related deaths were reported for south central Somalia. Cases are concentrated in Banadir (33 per cent of cases) and surrounding regions of Bay, Lower Juba and Lower and Middle Shabelle. The highest number of cases was reported in Banadir region with 13,337 cases in the same period. In addition, 65,700 cases of pneumonia or acute respiratory infections were reported in some regions of south and central Somalia over the same period. The exact number of deaths is unknown due to challenges in death reporting in the country. The prevailing malnutrition and environmental factors such as crowded IDP camps contribute to the high burden of pneumonia cases. Furthermore, 17,761 suspected malaria cases were reported in central and south Somalia during the same period. Dengue fever cases have also been identified in Mogadishu (Banadir region) and Galbeed region of Somaliland.

Response: An emergency measles vaccination campaign (including polio and measles vaccines, deworming tablets and vitamin A supplements) targeting 2.3 million children aged between six months and 15 years is currently underway since July in ten regions of south and central Somalia, including 745,000 children in Mogadishu. A total of 153,000 children have been reached, including 88,000 children at IDP camps in Mogadishu and 65,000 children in six border districts in Gedo. The Health Cluster has also distributed 24 interagency health kits, which can treat 10,000 people for three months, in addition to 20 diarrhoeal kits that treat 500 cases including 100 severe adults. These have been distributed in Bakool, Banadir, Bari, Bay, Mudug, Lower Juba, Lower and Middle Shabelle, Nugal and West Galbeed regions and

contain antibiotics, which can be used to treat pneumonia. In addition, nearly 190,000 women were vaccinated against tetanus in July and August in Gedo and Mogadishu.



WATER SANITATION HYGIENE

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

Response: By end of August, the cluster had supported 1,700,581 people with temporary provision of safe water through chlorination, water access vouchers and water trucking. Of these, 1,456,569 (86 per cent of the total) are in south Somalia. Over the same period, 900,521 received support through sustained water access, of whom 460,670 (51 per cent of those reached) are in southern Somalia. Areas covered include IDP camps and the regions of Bakool, Banadir, Bari, Bay, Galgaduud, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower and Middle Juba, Lower and Middle Shabelle, Mudug, Nugaal, Sanaag, Sool, Togdheer and W. Galbeed. Further, 467,229 new beneficiaries had access to sanitation facilities (latrines) while 1,144,665 people benefited from hygiene promotion and non-food item (NFI) hygiene packages. Meanwhile, a new Emergency Hygiene Promotion Package has been developed, with a special component for Nutrition Centres. The package combines messages covering Health, Nutrition and WASH, including AWD/cholera. As part of efforts to address the need for increased WASH facilities for IDPs in Gedo, a water facility and pit latrines have been set up in the wet feeding centres in Luuq town, while two bladder tanks and sheds were installed in addition to the three latrines recently completed at Doolow wet feeding centre.



AGRICULTURE & LIVELIHOODS

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. Currently, 11,308 households from Bardheere, Luuq, Buurdhuubo, Belet-Xaawo, Doolow are benefiting from food voucher programmes that began in August and will end between November 2011 and January 2012 depending on the organization. These are being run by four NGOs. In addition, an international NGO is providing 1,975 households in Bardheere with cash grants between August and October 2011. This will benefit about 11,850 individuals. An international NGO is assisting 2,034 households in Doolow through cash-for-work programmes between August and October 2011. This will benefit about 12,204 individuals.

In an effort to restore the crop production capacity of farmers, the Agriculture and Livelihoods Cluster has procured agricultural inputs including cereal seeds and fertilizers that are currently being delivered to the field for distribution in September in time for the planting season expected in October 2011. Altogether, 150,833 farming households comprising 904,998 individuals will benefit from the intervention.



EDUCATION

Needs: The Education Cluster reports that, out of the estimated 2.3 million children between five and 17 years of age in south and central Somalia, about 1.8 million were out of school because of internal displacement and insecurity. The rapid needs assessment conducted by the Cluster last month warned that as many as 200,000 additional children were at risk of dropping out as a result of the drought crisis. As expected, since the start of the new academic year on 3 September, Cluster members report increased enrolment in urban IDP schools, and high numbers of dropouts and movement of teachers and Community Education Committees in rural schools due to the drought and resulting population movement to urban areas in search of livelihood opportunities. The next two weeks will be critical for the emergency education response.

Response: On 26 August, the cluster dispatched a total of 217,861 textbooks to Bay, Bakool, Gedo and Hiraan regions. The cluster has also dispatched 304 recreation kits which will benefit 21,000 children at Child Friendly Spaces in Bakool, Banadir, Bay, Gedo, Hiran and Lower and Middle Shabelle. The Cluster notes that schools with feeding programmes are seeing better enrolment compared to those without such programmes.



EMERGENCY SHELTER & NFI

Needs: Out of the estimated 1.8 million people nationwide requiring shelter and/or NFIs, the Emergency Shelter and NFI Cluster is targeting 1,287,490 people this year through the provision of emergency assistance packages (EAP) and 60,000 people with temporary/transitional shelter across Somalia. The number of IDPs in Somalia is being revised downwards based on newly available satellite images.

Response: To date, the cluster has distributed EAPs to 473,760 people (36.7 per cent of the targeted population). Of these, 11,640 distributions were conducted in the week ending 2 September. In addition, 33,138 people received temporary shelter, representing 55 per cent of the targeted 60,000.

Gaps & Constraints: A significant challenge is obtaining reliable and updated IDP population figures to plan against. In addition, financial support for NFIs has been limited hence local partners are relying on contributions-in-kind from the major UN agencies and international NGOs.



PROTECTION

Needs: The recent Education cluster assessment highlighted child protection issues such as child-headed households, abandonment and child separation from family members and street children were identified. Specific child protection assessments will be carried out between 5 and 25 September in order to obtain more in-depth information. The Cluster aims to assist 435,000 children through school-based child protection interventions.

Response: Family tracing and reunification system for the recently displaced and drought affected population is ongoing in the Middle Shabelle, Banadir, Lower Shabelle and Bay regions for about 40,000 beneficiaries. In addition, the establishment of child friendly spaces and/or recreational centres has begun, in line with the findings of the Education Cluster's rapid assessment which identified the need for recreational activities and psychosocial support for 40,000 children.



LOGISTICS

The shortage of fuel in Mogadishu Airport continues and is not expected to improve before the end of the week. This is having a significant impact on aircraft cargo reaching Mogadishu.

IV. Other regions

Puntland: Since the last week of August, a number of people from central and south Somalia have been arrested while trying to enter Puntland. According to field reports, the government of Puntland has made the arrests ostensibly for security reasons. Currently, around 200 people are in custody in police stations in Garowe and are being assisted with food and legal support by an international NGO.

V. Coordination

Following discussions between OCHA and the TFG, OCHA hosted a meeting on 3 September with authorities and Mogadishu Field Cluster Focal Points on humanitarian coordination and response. The aim of the meeting was to agree on coordination mechanisms in order to ensure a more efficient response to the humanitarian situation in Somalia. Participants shared information on coordination mechanisms currently in place for Somalia and looked at ways to improve coordination, needs assessments and prioritisation.

The humanitarian forum has seconded a staff member to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to improve coordination, including coordination between OCHA and OIC.

The 2012 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) has begun. Consultations have already taken place in Somaliland and Puntland. For more information see: <http://ochaonline.un.org/somalia/CAP2012>

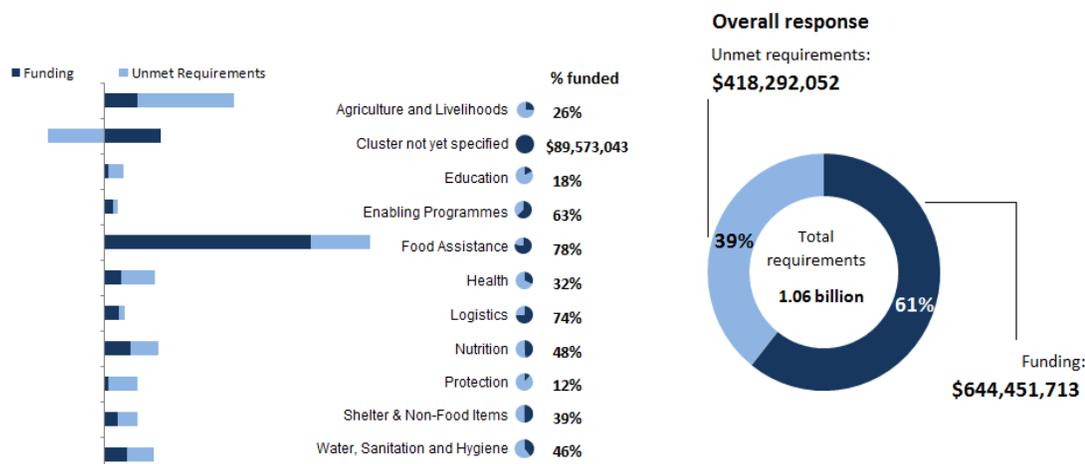
VI. Funding

- 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 61% funded at about \$644 million. The crisis has drawn a great deal of financial support from non-traditional sources such as Islamic countries.
- Food interventions are 78 per cent funded, Logistics 74 per cent, Enabling Programmes 63 per cent, Nutrition 48 per cent, WASH 46 per cent, Shelter and NFI 39 per cent, Health 32 per cent, Agriculture and Livelihoods 26 per cent, Education 18 per cent and Protection 12 per cent.

1 Billion
requested (US\$)

61%
Funded

Humanitarian Funding - As at 06 September 2011



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

VII. 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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