

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 16,000 people have been displaced due to heavy rains and localised flooding.
- Humanitarian partners support the most vulnerable households through the agricultural lean season.
- Urgent boost in funding needed to sustain crucial response.

FIGURES

# of people in humanitarian emergency and crisis	731,000
# of people in food security stress	2.3m
# of acutely malnourished children under age 5	203,000
Source: www.fsnau.org (Feb-June 2015 projection)	
# of internally displaced people	1.1m
# of Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa and Yemen	1m
Source: UNHCR	

Humanitarian Appeal

FUNDING

863 million

requested for 2015 (US\$)

21% (177 million)

260 million

Total humanitarian funding received for Somalia

(reflects reported funding on FTS as of 25 May 2015)

Source: <http://fts.unocha.org>



A hot meal centre in Mogadishu provides daily meals to the most vulnerable and food insecure people. Credit: WFP/Elfi Klabunde

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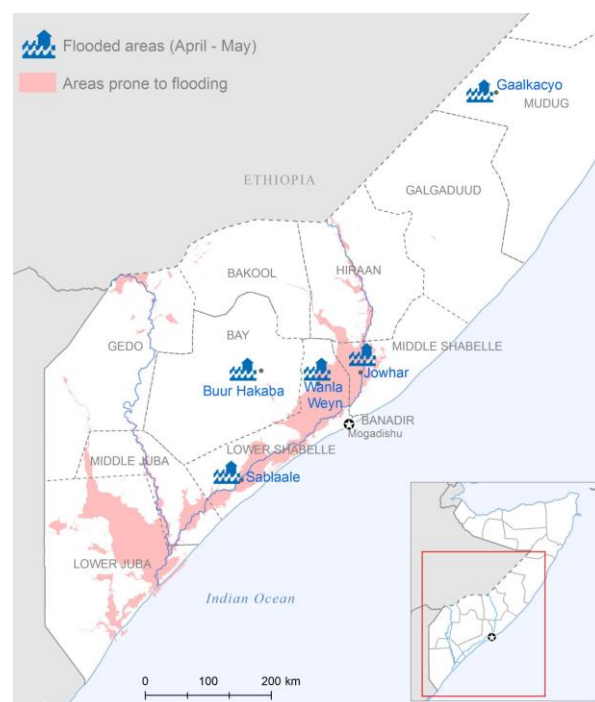
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Localised flooding as rainy season progresses

Humanitarian aid workers respond to displaced communities

The seasonal *Gu* rains started in April in most southern and central regions and in late March in northern parts of the country. The rains have been good in terms of amount and distribution, except for pockets in the north-west, according to the Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM). The rains have improved water and pasture availability for pastoral communities, but also led to flooding. So far, over 16,000 people have been displaced by floods. In Lower and Middle Shabelle regions, the floods were caused by high water levels in the upper stream of Shabelle river and led to the displacement of 13,500 people, while flash floods due to heavy rains in Gaalkacyo in Mudug region displaced 2,700 people. The floods have also destroyed about 6,800 hectares of farmland.



Reported flooding and flood prone areas. Source: SWALIM

Food, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, emergency shelter and household items were identified as the immediate needs in Mahaday district in Middle Shabelle. The area is prone to flooding in the rainy season due to lack of maintenance of the river embankment. WASH partners are providing 1,100 hygiene kits and 7,000 sandbags to plug the breach in the river embankment. The response also includes 88,000 sandbags for locations prone to floods breaches, provided by the ICRC. Immediate needs in Gaalkacyo in Mudug include chlorination of contaminated wells and water treatment in households; pumping out flooded latrines; household items for displaced people; food aid; malaria medication and mosquito nets.

District	Population (UNDP 2005)	Displaced people	
Bay	620,562	120	
Mudug	350,099	2,700	
Shabelle Hoose (Lower)	850,651	5,430	
Shabelle Dhexe (Middle)	514,901	8,046	
			Total: 16,296

Source: SWALIM confirmed numbers of people displaced by flooding by third week of May. Displacements can be temporary.

BASELINE

Population (UNDP 2005)	7.5m
GDP per capita (Somalia Human Development Report 2012)	\$284
% pop living on less than US\$1 per day (UNDP/World Bank 2002)	43%
Life expectancy (UNDP-HDR 2011)	51 years
Under-five mortality (FSNAU 2015)	0.52/10,000 /day
Under-five global acute malnutrition rate (FSNAU 2015)	12%
% population using improved drinking water sources (UNDP 2009)	30%

CLUSTERS

Lead or co-lead organizations

Education	UNICEF SC-Alliance
Food security	FAO/WFP
Health	WHO Merlin
Logistics	WFP
Nutrition	UNICEF CAFDARO
Protection	UNHCR DRC
Shelter	UNHCR UNHABITAT
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF OXFAM

Road blockages remain the biggest access challenge in parts of Bakool, Bay, and Hiraan regions.

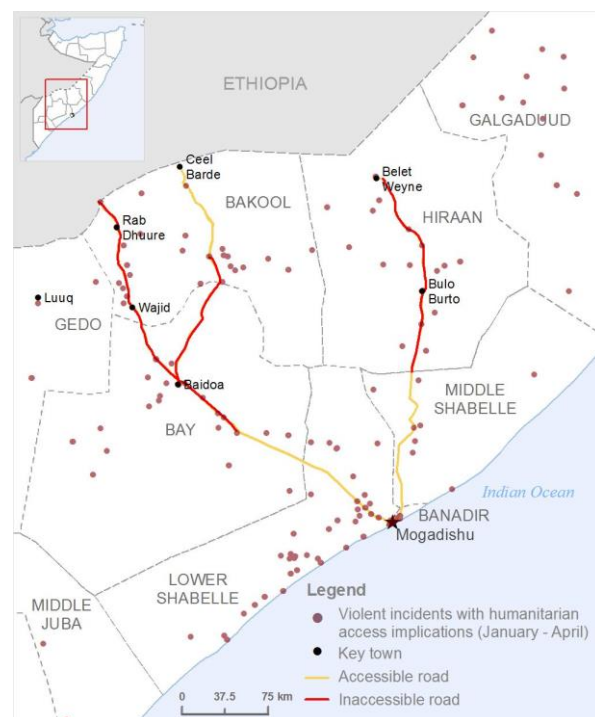
Fragile food security during the lean season

Vital humanitarian assistance to get people through the hunger gap

April to June is the lean season for households who rely on farming, since stocks from the previous harvest in February are running out. During this period, aid workers step up activities to help people get access to food and support their livelihood activities. Without vital humanitarian assistance, households currently teetering on the edge of food insecurity could become food insecure. In April alone, over 400,000 people were supported to strengthen livelihoods to prevent them from slipping back into crisis, and over 300,000 people were reached with emergency food assistance. Over 100,000 children received critical nutrition support in the same period. So far this year, over 300,000 people have been reached with temporary or sustainable access to water.

Lack of sustainable road access remains challenging

Intensified conflict and blocked road access for the past half year has limited trade and labour opportunities in parts of Bakool and Hiraan regions. In April, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) issued an alert about deteriorating food security in these areas. Road blockages remain the biggest access challenge in parts of Bakool, Bay, and Hiraan regions. The most severe blockage is imposed on Bullo Burto town in Hiraan where a nutrition assessment by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit in April indicated that malnutrition levels remain critical and over the global emergency threshold of 15 per cent. The town is hard to reach and the World Food Programme is delivering essential humanitarian supplies by air, including nutrition and medical supplies in support of partners to Bullo Burto. FEWS NET reports that the March price of red sorghum in Ceel Barde was 50 per cent higher than last year, while the price in the rest of southern Somalia increased by 5 to 20 per cent. In Bakool region, the volume of the supplies is unusually low although some commercial goods have been trickling into Ceel Barde, Rab Dhuure and Waajid districts. Air movement of cargo to Waajid was disrupted in late April and early May due to insecurity.



Humanitarian access constraints Source: NSP and OCHA

Conflict, displacement and loss of livelihood for care providers in the first four months of the year has led to a steep increase in reports of separated and unaccompanied children. Almost 3,800 children (2,086 boys and 1,699 girls) have been identified as separated and unaccompanied since the beginning of the year, compared to 708 children identified in the same time period in 2014. Less than half have been reunited with their families or placed in interim care. Most of the cases are reported from southern and central Somalia. About 1,400 children (943 girls and 466 boys) received psychosocial assistance, medical and legal aid in the first four months of the year.

Children most vulnerable in conflict settings

Recent reports indicate more children are separated and unaccompanied

Conflict, displacement and loss of livelihood for care providers in the first four months of the year has led to a steep increase in reports of separated and unaccompanied children. Almost 3,800 children (2,086 boys and 1,699 girls) have been identified as separated and unaccompanied since the beginning of the year, compared to 708 children identified in the same time period in 2014. Less than half have been reunited with their families or placed in interim care. Most of the cases are reported from southern and central Somalia. About 1,400 children (943 girls and 466 boys) received psychosocial assistance, medical and legal aid in the first four months of the year.

Children are at high risk of forced recruitment into armed groups and also exposed to sexual exploitation and abuse due to conflict. Between January and April, 291 cases of

New material on the OCHA Somalia website:

Funding snapshot

<http://bit.ly/1HsMcRe>

Humanitarian Dashboard:

<http://bit.ly/1Lz9BUI>

Humanitarian Snapshot:

<http://bit.ly/1L1VIOZ>

Web story:

The UN has a big role to play

<http://bit.ly/1UISUw>

recruitment and 75 cases of sexual violence were reported, compared to 370 cases of recruitment and 30 cases of sexual violence reported in the same period in 2014. Over 1,000 cases of grave child rights violations were reported by the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting affecting 819 boys and 186 girls. The incidents mostly involve allegations of recruitment and use, killing and maiming of children by non-state armed groups and military forces.

Child protection partners have assisted and provided services such as family tracing and unifying families, psychosocial support, legal aid, awareness raising, interim care, and capacity building to over 17,000 children so far this year, but needs outstrip available funding. The volatile security situation in parts of southern and central Somalia has also impaired timely and adequate response to child protection needs.

70,000

children every year
die before their fifth
birthday

203,000

children are acutely
malnourished

4 of 10

children attend
primary school

3,000

children need
tracing and
reunification

900

children associated
with armed forces
and groups in need
of reintegration

Sources: UNICEF, FSNAU, Protection Cluster

*Children are at high risk
of forced recruitment into
armed groups and also
exposed to sexual
exploitation and abuse
due to conflict.*

*Forced evictions create
new needs requiring a
multi-sectoral response.*

Forced evictions increase protection risks

Internally displaced people continue to live in precarious conditions

This year has seen a surge in forced evictions in Mogadishu, with about 40,000 people reportedly forcibly evicted in the first quarter, up from the 25,700 reported in January and February, according to the UN refugee agency, UNHCR.

Most of the estimated 369,000 displaced people in Mogadishu are dispersed in over 400 spontaneous and unplanned settlements and public buildings. Many people live in makeshift shelters, which increase protection risks. Forced evictions create new needs requiring a multi-sectoral response, especially due to the destruction of humanitarian investments such as WASH facilities and health and education services. In the absence of clear land policy and security of land tenure, provision of basic services is difficult in the new settlement areas where displaced communities relocate to. The most pressing gaps in response have been reported from Aladala, Aslubta, Beelo and Maslax in Dayniile district and from Ikashi in Hodan district in Mogadishu.

Since the establishment of the Federal Government of Somalia in September 2012, a large number of Somali diaspora have returned to Mogadishu. The injection of diaspora resources into the city has led to increased job opportunities and access to basic services such as schools and health facilities. However, it also resulted in an increase in land prices, which in turn is one of the reasons for the increase in forced evictions of displaced communities, as private landowners repossess their lands and properties. Evictions also continue as authorities are taking over public buildings, which displaced communities have occupied for years.

The humanitarian community continues to engage relevant authorities to ensure the movement of displaced communities are conducted in a manner consistent with international laws and standards. Humanitarians are also engaging with development partners to find durable solutions through return and reintegration activities.

Land tenure initiative in Baidoa help families break protracted displacement

For the first time in Somalia, 500 displaced families in Baidoa in Bay region have received land titles, which allow them to become owners of the land they occupy. Most of the displaced communities have lived on the land from four to eight years. The land tenure protects them from evictions and allows them to rebuild their future and to focus on their livelihood, improve their access to health, education and other basic social services. The durable solution is part of a pilot project by the Norwegian Refugee Council, with funding from the Somalia Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF).

For more information on the pilot project see: <http://bit.ly/1Aawdu6>

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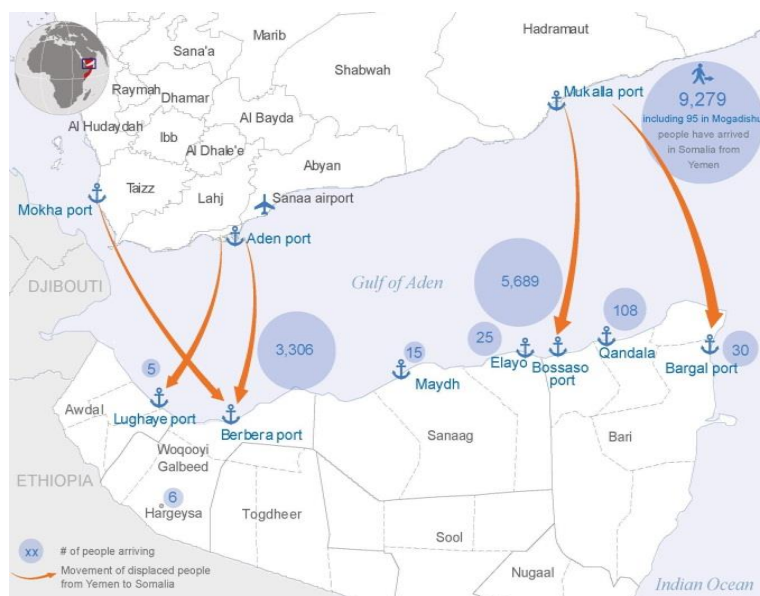


People continue to flee Yemen to Somalia

Over 9,000 people have arrived since the conflict erupted in late March

The day after the start of the five-day ceasefire, a boat arrived in Bossaso in Bari region carrying about 1,700 people.

The volatile situation in Yemen has led to a continued influx of people to Somalia in April and May. On 13 May, the day after the start of the five-day ceasefire, a boat arrived in Bossaso in Bari region carrying about 1,700 people, according to UNHCR. The number of arrivals has risen to over 9,000 people. The vast majority are Somali nationals, many of whom have refugee status in Yemen. Humanitarian partners continue to provide assistance to



People fleeing Yemen conflict to Somalia Source: UNHCR

people hosted at the reception centres. The Federal Government of Somalia in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) organized an evacuation flight on 18 May for 95 people to Mogadishu. Of these, about 50 people needed support and were registered by IOM and UNCHR. All arrivals were vaccinated against polio and 13 people were provided with essential medication.

Boost in funding needed to sustain response

Humanitarian plan funded at 21 per cent a third into the year

Given the low contributions to the humanitarian appeal, it is crucial to address the CHF funding gap.

Humanitarian partners struggle to raise sufficient funds for the US\$863 million Humanitarian Response Plan. With \$177 million reported on the online Financial Tracking System, 21 per cent of the requirements for this year have been met. While competing emergencies globally may have impacted contributions to Somalia, unfavourable exchange rates have also had an impact. There is a drop of about 20 per cent in the overall value of contributions related to exchange rates against the US dollar. Funding to humanitarian activities outside of the Humanitarian Response Plan reached \$83 million, bringing the available humanitarian funding to \$260 million so far in 2015.

There is currently a \$6 million gap to complete the first standard allocation of \$30 million for the CHF and two reserve allocations made this year totalling \$1.3 million. The standard allocation strategy target projects for internally displaced people in seven settlements with high malnutrition rates, and six areas with increased access in southern and central Somalia that had the highest vulnerability indicators among affected people. Given the low contributions to the humanitarian appeal, and the pooled fund's strategic nature to address urgent needs it is crucial to address the CHF funding gap.

While Somalia with the New Deal Compact now has a development framework in place to channel investments for development programming, humanitarian needs remain high and a reduction in humanitarian funding could jeopardise recent achievements and undermine peace and state building gains at a critical juncture for Somalia.

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