

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Progress in harmonizing land tenure for IDPs in Puntland
- Cases of cholera reported as *Gu* rains fall.
- Survey reveals appalling take up of education among IDP children.

## DISPLACEMENT

### IDPs in Mogadishu

# of IDPs in Mogadishu (January 2012)	184,000
# of displacement movements in April	33,000
# of IDPs from Afgooye to Mogadishu (Jan-April 2012)	61,160
# of IDPs returned to homes in Banadir in March 2012	3,800

Source: UNHCR

## FUNDING

### 2012 Consolidated Appeal for Somalia

**\$333 million**  
funded (US\$)

**22%**  
funded (of all requirements)



Qansahley settlement, Doolow, Somalia. (Órla Faqan/OCHA)

## In this issue

[Response in Doolow P.1](#)

[Man jailed for child trafficking P.2](#)

[Hargeisa airfield to close P.3](#)

## Internally displaced populations remain at high risk

### New influx of IDPs to Doolow

An influx of newly displaced families arrived in Doolow in the Gedo region during April after fleeing conflict in Bay and Bakool. Prior to the influx, the estimated number of IDPs in Doolow was 7,600. According to the IDP working group, more than 1,200 newly arrived families have set up home on the periphery of the two biggest settlements, Qansahley and Kabasa. They are in need of shelter to protect them from the *Gu* (long) rains, water, sanitation and food. Newly arrived IDPs in Luuq, Belet-Xawa have similar needs. OCHA Somalia is coordinating the response to the immediate life-saving needs of the displaced.

Refugees across the border in camps in the sister-town of Dolo Ado, Ethiopia cited an increase of violence in Somalia for their movement. However, with number of refugees are now estimated at 150,000, clan tensions in the camps in Dolo Ado, are raising fears of conflict and people are moving back to Doolow.

According to UNHCR figures from March 2012, 260 refugees returned from Ethiopia to harvest or farm their land. Refugees continued to return in April as the *Gu* (long) rains began.

Common areas of concern and an initiative to examine how coordination efforts could be strengthened were discussed at a meeting on 26 April, with OCHA Somalia, Ethiopian UN agencies and NGOs working with Somali refugees in Dolo Ado.

Food Security Cluster (FSC) members continue to monitor the situation in Doolow in order to provide improved access to food and nutritional support to households with malnourished children under the age of 5. Examples of the variety of interventions provided include daily cooked meals, snacks for children in schools, food vouchers to allow people access to food from traders, and a combined assistance package of nutritionally dense products to allow malnourished children under age 5 to recover and a household food support package for the remaining household members who are food insecure.

As the influx stabilises, cluster members will work to identify longer term responses to support IDPs and food insecure households with an emphasis on tools to rebuild their livelihoods.

### Evictions in Mogadishu

The involuntary evictions of 400 IDP families took place on 30 April in Al Adalla and Korsan IDP settlements, located close to Mogadishu airport. Authorities justified this eviction with the need to secure the area for the upcoming conference of the Elders. The IDPs have temporarily relocated to other nearby areas and are expected to be allowed back to the settlements once the conference is finished in two weeks. The Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator received assurances that no further unplanned evictions would take place and that authorities would work with humanitarian partners to ensure that further evictions would be in line with agreed standards and principles.

*Land tenure issues remain critical to the ability of IDPs to access durable shelter. The Shelter Cluster scales up its expertise in this regard.*

### **Land tenure sought for IDPs in Puntland**

Shelter Cluster expertise specializing in housing, land and property rights visited Bossaso, Puntland, to examine different shelter projects in the area. The type of service provided by the Shelter Cluster members, which range from emergency assistance packages to permanent shelters, depend on the security of the land tenure held by the IDPs. Newly displaced IDPs who settle on land without permission usually receive emergency shelter while for those who have freehold agreements the cluster will aim to provide a durable solution in the form of brick housing. Linking the form of shelter to the typology of the land tenure is a key strategy of the cluster. The Cluster is now

As the authorities become more engaged in finding durable solutions for the displaced, the Cluster is looking at ways to harmonize land tenure agreements negotiated by cluster partners in favour of more stable agreements so as to increase the protection of IDPs and ensure a more sustainable donor investment. A full report on the project will be available on the Shelter Cluster's website shortly.

### **Focus on women's vulnerability in IDP setting**

Clusters continue to take steps to address the specific vulnerabilities of women and girls. A recent needs assessment noted women's concern that their *buuls* (temporary shelters) could not be locked, increasing their vulnerability. Cluster partners are now implementing an initiative in Lower Shabelle where retro-fitted lockable doors are being placed in 1,000 households. In addition, 8,259 women's dignity kits, which provide women and girls with the basic necessities required to maintain feminine hygiene, have been distributed in Banadir with the initiative set to increase in the coming months.

## **Poor rain in Somaliland impacts price of water in Somaliland**

On 22 April, a taskforce to assess poor rain in Somaliland shared its findings. The assessment indicates serious rain shortages in Sool, Sanaag and Togdheer, with trucked water selling from US\$1.5 per barrel. In Sool available water is saline and costs between \$6 and \$8 per barrel in some districts. Recent rains ensure that the price of water will reduce to become more affordable for local people. The survey also revealed that seven out of 10 villages assessed in Sanaag lack a health facility. Measles and/or chicken pox was reported in four of the villages with measles reported in four villages in Togdheer and Sool regions and whooping cough, diarrhoea and respiratory diseases in Sool.

## **Cholera prevention measures put in place by WASH cluster partners**

### **Gu rains raise fears of disease outbreaks**

In Balad district of Middle Shabelle Since, 2 confirmed cases of cholera, 76 cases of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and one death were reported. On 26 April, four children all under age 5 were transferred to Jowhar regional hospital for higher-level treatment for severe AWD. In Banadir, cholera cases were reported in Hodan, Qaraan and Shibis and brought to Banadir Hospital for treatment. Cases of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) were also reported in Belet Xaawo, in Gedo.

WASH Cluster partners have been putting in place comprehensive cholera prevention measures. These include the distribution of household chlorination supplies, the chlorination of communal water sources, the distribution of soap and jerry cans and hygiene promotion campaigns to the affected population. Mobile medical teams have been dispatched to provide clinical treatment for suspected cases.

A Global WASH Cluster rapid response team information management specialist has been deployed as part of the Cluster's strategy to meet the challenges posed by the AI

Shabaab ban. The specialist will track outbreaks and response and technically review emergency reserve proposals and supply requests. In addition, an AWD and hygiene promotion expert has also been deployed to support WASH agencies who may be intervening in this area for the first time.

## Concern for Somali children

*Increase in cases of child trafficking and abandonment of children.*

### Children exposed to trafficking

Child trafficking is a protection concern across Somalia. In early April nine children, aged between seven and 14 years, were intercepted by the authorities in Bossaso. The children were placed in temporary custody with a local NGO pending reunification with their families. A man was charged and sentenced to 15 years imprisonment on 15 April after he was found guilty of kidnapping.

The Protection Cluster working group is also concerned over reports of increases in the abandonment of children in IDP settlements and children living on the streets in towns.

There are also reports on the presence of landmines in areas taken over by the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in areas of central and southern Somalia, which present a serious threat to civilians.

### Lack of awareness and resources limits school enrolment

A rapid assessment conducted by the Somaliland education sub-cluster in the Togdheer region between 28 February and 3 March 2012 revealed that most children living in IDP settlements in the Qorilugud and Balidhiig districts do not attend school despite the availability of temporary schools. Just 12 per cent of the 8,432 children attended school with attendance by girls at only 35 per cent.

Low attendance is attributed to the lack of education awareness and lack of funds to purchase learning resources. The Ministry of Education and the Education Cluster are planning to conduct an awareness campaign in the region to convince parents to send their children to school. The Education Cluster is also responding through the provision of teaching and learning kits.

## Hargeisa air field to close for six months

The Logistics Cluster announced that the Hargeisa airport is expected to close in May for approximately six months for upgrade. While official notice has not yet been issued by the authorities, it is expected that larger aircraft will not be able to land during this time. The airport in Berbera may be used for the larger planes.

Smaller aircraft will be able to land on a nearby gravel airfield and any changes to the schedule of United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) flights will be announced in the near future by the Logistics Cluster. UNHAS will face a large shortfall in funding when current funding runs out in mid-May.

In other transport news, the vessel chartered by the Logistics Cluster to deliver humanitarian supplies that sailed from Mombasa on 25 April 2012 arrived in Mogadishu Port where over 420 metric tons of humanitarian cargo was discharged.

The next shipment is scheduled for mid-May and cargo movement requests deadline is 7 May 2012.



A child near an IDP settlement in Mogadishu  
Photo: Órla Fagan/OCHA

## Coordination Updates

On 27 April, the Humanitarian Country Team approved a common strategy for Mogadishu. Clusters and partners will meet in Mogadishu between 6 and 8 May 2012 to develop a related operational plan.

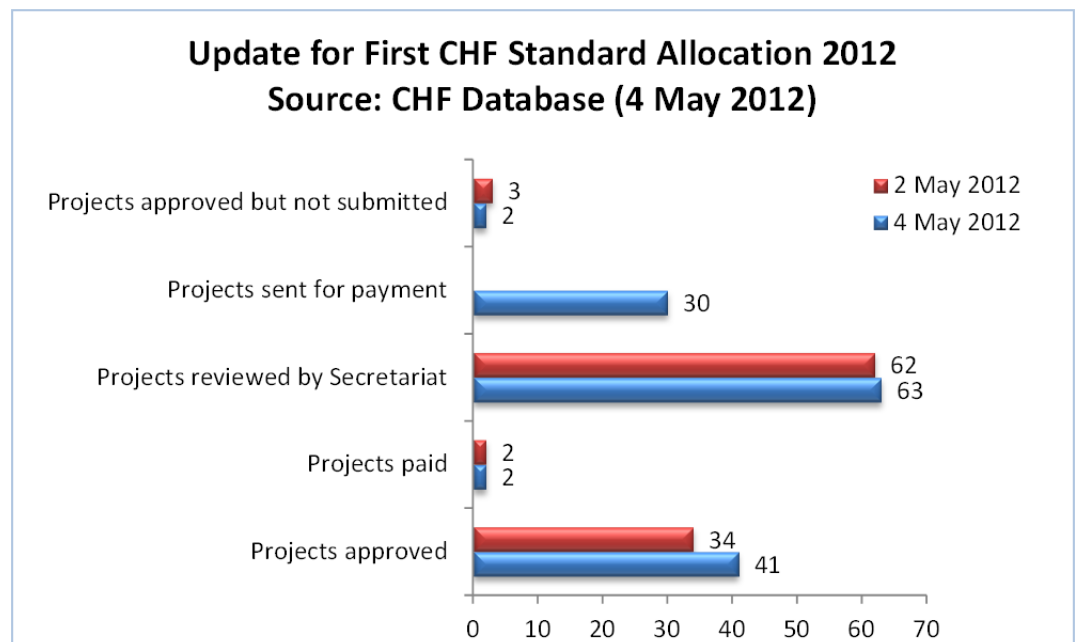
The Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator and the Deputy Turkish ambassador met in Mogadishu on 24 April to explore ways to strengthen cooperation and coordination in humanitarian operations. Geographical and technical/sectorial coordination models will be considered by the two parties and OCHA will attend upcoming Turkish internal humanitarian briefings.

*New measures to support humanitarian access in Somalia*

In efforts to further support humanitarian access in the field, a joint OCHA-UNDSS South Somalia Task Force South has been established. The objective of the Task Force is to establish and maintain an engagement with local authorities to build confidence with security guarantees by the authorities. OCHA Somalia has also established an Access Unit that aims to advise and support on humanitarian access analysis and negotiations.

### The Common Humanitarian Fund update

Out of the 63 approved projects for the First CHF Standard Allocation for 2012, 62 projects have been reviewed with 41 projects approved for payment. The payment process is ongoing and funds for two projects have already been disbursed.



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