

HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian partners have reprogrammed assistance to avert the most acute crisis, but humanitarian funding is not commensurate to needs.
- Three-fold increase in suspected measles cases.
- Over 3,000 violent incidents with humanitarian access implications for communities and aid workers were recorded in 2014.

FIGURES

# of people in humanitarian emergency and crisis	1m
# of people in stress	2.16m
# of acutely malnourished children under age 5	218,000
Source: www.fsnau.org (Aug-Dec 2014 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\$)

933 million

requested for 2014 (US\$)

44% (409m)

(reflects reported funding on FTS as of 20 Jan 2015)

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



A woman collects firewood in Kurtunwaarey in Lower Shabelle. Credit: UN Photo/Tobin Jones

In this issue

Post-harvest outlook P.1

Measles cases triple P.2

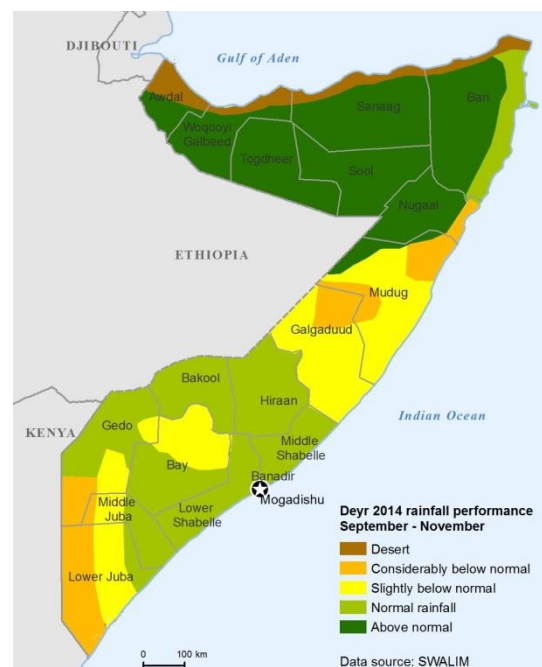
Volatile operating environment P.3

Funding requested for 2015 P.4

Seasonal rains help slow down deterioration

Good rains and reprogrammed humanitarian aid help avert worst crisis

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia remains among the largest, most protracted and complex emergencies in the world today. The October-December Deyr rains and humanitarian assistance have contributed to slowing down the deterioration. Based on the preliminary post-harvest outlook, acute food insecurity is expected to persist in most parts of Somalia although slight improvements are anticipated in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of the country. As a result of largely normal Deyr rains, near average crop production is expected in the main cereal producing regions of Lower Shabelle and Bay, which normally account for over two-thirds of the Deyr cereal production in southern Somalia. Among the most vulnerable are the 1.1 million internally displaced people. Detailed post-Deyr findings by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit, managed by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, and FEWSNET will be released at the end of January.



Source: SWALIM

For more information on the FAO Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit's report see: <http://bit.ly/1DM3bxF>

Targeted funding has helped delay breaks in humanitarian assistance

Based on early warnings, humanitarian partners have reprogrammed assistance to avert the most acute crisis, but humanitarian funding is not commensurate to needs. Continued targeted advocacy and funding received towards the end of 2014 helped the World Food Programme (WFP) delay the most significant breaks in food and nutrition assistance that had been projected for January. However, ration cuts had to be implemented during the last months of 2014. Close to 600,000 vulnerable Somalis will be at risk of no longer receiving critical assistance from June, nearly 350,000 as early as February. The UN Children's Fund, UNICEF, is continuing to raise funds to cover the shortfall that they experienced last year, which has left 1.5 million people without primary healthcare services, including 300,000 children under 5 years of age. UNICEF expects to restart some of the services as soon as resources are secured.

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 2014)	0.68/10,000 /day
Under-five global acute malnutrition rate (FSNAU 2014)	14.9%
% population using improved drinking water sources (UNDP 2009)	30%

CLUSTERS

Lead or co-lead organizations

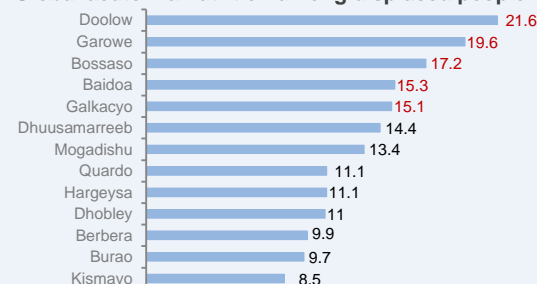
Education	UNICEF SC-Alliance
Food security	FAO/WFP
Health	WHO Merlin
Logistics	WFP
Nutrition	UNICEF CAF/DARO
Protection	UNHCR DRC
Shelter	UNHCR UNHABITAT
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF Oxfam GB

High levels of acute malnutrition persist

Malnutrition levels in 10 of 13 surveyed settlements of concern

High malnutrition levels prevail in 10 of 13 settlements where internally displaced people live, according to the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit, managed by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Critical levels of global acute malnutrition were recorded in five settlements: Baidoa in Bay, Doolow in Gedo, Garowe in Nugaal, Gaalkacyo in Mudug and Bossaso in Bari regions. Serious malnutrition levels were found among displaced people in Mogadishu in Banadir, Dhobley in Gedo, Dhuusamarreeb in Galgaduud, Qardho in Bari and Hargeysa in Woqooyi Galbeed regions.

Global acute malnutrition among displaced people



Source: FSNAU November 2014 nutrition assessments. The WHO emergency threshold for GAM is 15%.

Compared to findings in May and June, the nutrition situation has improved among displaced people living in settlements in Mogadishu, Kismayo, Dhobley and Dhuusamarreeb in southern and central regions and Burao and Berbera in the northwest. In the capital where alarming levels of malnutrition were reported six months ago, increased humanitarian assistance can be attributed to the improvement as nutrition activities were scaled up. The situation has deteriorated among displaced people in settlements in Baidoa, Bossaso and Hargeysa. Humanitarian assistance need to be scaled up to reach more children in terms of screening and referral, treatment and rehabilitation, vaccination, micronutrient supplementation and de-worming to reduce morbidity.

Three-fold rise of suspected measles cases

Outbreak response activities to curb the deteriorating trend

Measles remains a public health concern with 10,279 suspected cases reported in Somalia in 2014, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). This is a three-fold increase compared to 3,189 cases reported in 2013. In mid-2014, outbreaks of measles were confirmed in several regions, with the most affected areas in Banadir, Lower Juba and regions in Puntland. To mitigate the risk, WHO and UNICEF received US\$1.45 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund and \$300,000 from the Common Humanitarian Fund to conduct outbreak response campaigns in the most affected regions. More than 82 per cent of the half a million children targeted children were reached. In late 2014, an outbreak was reported from Baidoa in Bay region, and response was conducted by local health authorities supported by WHO and UNICEF. The outbreak response targeted more than 47,000 children under five and reached more than 80 per cent of the target.

Immunization coverage low due to poor routine immunization system

It is estimated that only 30 per cent of children under one year are vaccinated against measles through routine immunization services. In some areas in southern and central regions where insecurity have prevented vaccination of about half a million children for the past five years, measles immunization is as low as 15 per cent. Increased population movement in relation to conflict and overcrowded settlements where displaced people reside has further increased the risk of infection. Vaccination coverage is far below the 95 per cent coverage considered necessary for the control and prevention of measles outbreaks. Nation-wide measles campaigns are planned for 2015 targeting children between nine months and 15 years.

Efforts continue to curb wild polio outbreak

In 2014, five cases of polio were reported, an encouraging reduction from 194 in 2013, which was Somalia's first polio outbreak in six years. The latest case was reported in

New material on the OCHA Somalia website:

Civil-military guidelines:

<http://bit.ly/1LOPy6t>

Humanitarian Snapshot:

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

HC remarks at launch of the Humanitarian Response Plan:

<http://bit.ly/1zT114b>

Humanitarian Needs Overview:

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

Humanitarian Response Plan:

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

Resource Mobilization:

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

Pooled fund update:

<http://bit.ly/1C2wrjC>

Funding Snapshot:

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

Over 3,000 conflict incidents with humanitarian access and protection of civilian implications were recorded in 2014.

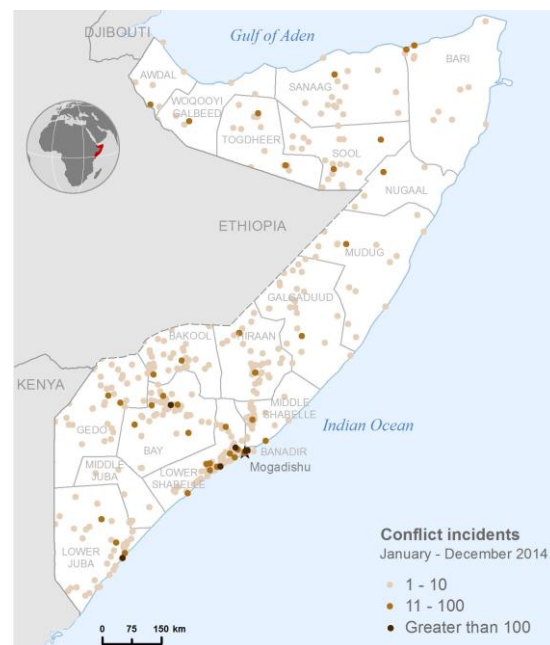
August. A sustained vaccination campaign in accessible areas reached over 90 per cent of children under five and the polio campaign have reached over 4 million people.

Volatile security continues to pose challenges

Most incidents with humanitarian implications occur in southern Somalia

Over 3,000 violent incidents with humanitarian access implications for communities and aid workers were recorded in 2014. Hit-and-run attacks by armed groups increased from mid-November and December saw the highest number of armed clashes since 2012. Compared to 2013, 2014 recorded a 53 per cent increase in attacks in Mogadishu. The majority of the conflict events and fatalities recorded have occurred in the southern part of the country. This increased violence has impacted humanitarian operations due to heightened protective measures and temporary movement restrictions.

The incidents against humanitarian personnel, facilities and assets in November and December and throughout 2014 show that exposure to a number of key threats has remained high. While there have been improvements in preparedness and response, mitigation of risks remain a challenge, particularly in southern and central Somalia where the risks for targeted attacks and collateral impact remain high. In all, 23 incidents were registered including the death of one person in Mogadishu, abduction of four health workers in Cara Case 33 kilometres south-east of Beled Xaawo in Gedo, arrest and temporary detention of four staff in Toos Weyn in Bay, Doolow in Gedo and Hargeysa in Somaliland. On 4 November, a humanitarian worker was killed and six others injured when they were involved in a road accident on their way to a field mission in the disputed Sool region.



Source: NSP and OCHA

Efforts to expand humanitarian access ongoing

Road access severely constrained in 28 districts in southern and central

Aid organizations have continued to explore options to improve humanitarian access in the 28 districts with severely constrained road access in southern and central Somalia. While no sustained access has been secured, road deliveries have been made to some of the hard-to-reach areas in Bay, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower and Middle Juba and Galgaduud regions via access corridors in Puntland and the Kenyan border and through the facilitation of clan elders. Poor roads and airstrips also impact access. Deliveries to Jalalaqsi and Bulu Burto in Hiraan region are affected by poor roads of about 120 kilometres. Most air fields/strips in major towns are of poor quality, requires rehabilitation or are too small for larger cargo aircraft to land. For Bulu Burto in Hiraan region, where road access is currently severely constrained, air access is only possible by helicopters.

Civil-military guidelines agreed with aim to strengthen coordination

On 24 November, the Somalia Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination Guidelines for Humanitarian Actors Engagement with the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) were launched. The guidelines establish agreed principles and practices for constructive civil-military relations between AMISOM and humanitarian partners operating within the same environment in Somalia. The guidelines will help ensure better, mutual, understanding and implementation of the respective mandates.

Visit us online:

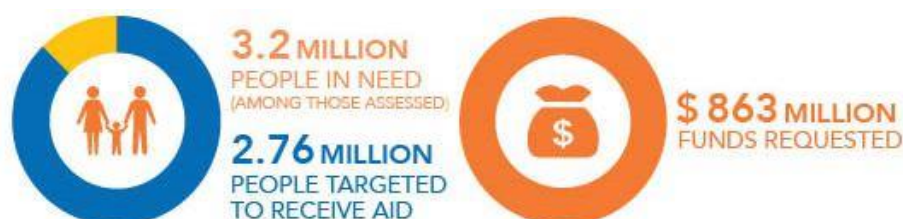


Humanitarian strategy set out for the year

Aid organizations requests US\$863 million to meet humanitarian needs

The 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan requests \$863 million to address humanitarian needs of 2.76 million Somalis assessed to be in need of humanitarian aid. In line with the three-year (2013-2015) humanitarian strategy the response plan is focusing on life-saving assistance, improved protection and strengthening resilience activities. Aid workers will work to enhance linkages between humanitarian and development programmes through the two frameworks for Somalia: the Humanitarian Response Plan and the Somalia "New Deal" Compact. The New Deal is a Government-led development framework, which is expected to pick up in 2015 and address some of the underlying drivers of the humanitarian crisis. This will require concerted efforts at all levels, to ensure that all stakeholders make best use of limited resources and maximize the complementarity between different programmes, including as it relates to various resilience initiatives, durable solutions for the displaced, as well as sectors such as health and education.

The 2015 humanitarian response plan is focusing on life-saving assistance, improved protection and strengthening resilience activities.



Funding to sustain emergency response critical

Humanitarian needs continue to outpace available funding

Despite the multiple competing crisis in the world in 2014, Somalia received US\$621 million in humanitarian funding according to what is reported to the online Financial Tracking System; about \$409 million of this amount is against the humanitarian response plan, covering 44 per cent of the \$933 million request for humanitarian activities. But available funding is not commensurate to the needs.

Emergency reserve funding allocated to fill urgent gaps

The pooled funds have been critical to the response in 2014, contributing over 20 per cent of funds received against the Humanitarian Response Plan. Allocations from the CHF represented US\$57 million, while the CERF contributed \$21 million.

In December, the CHF allocated \$3.3 million to the WFP to improve access to food in four districts (Baidoa, Garbahaarey, Kismayo and Garowe) where overland food delivery had been a challenge. About 16,200 households will be provided with cash vouchers to boost their purchasing power to access food in the readily available functional markets, and in turn decrease their level of malnutrition. In addition, an increase in the purchasing capacity of affected people through cash and voucher transfers should provide incentives for local traders to supply markets with needed commodities. This in turn shall improve local economy and integrate local markets with national and regional markets. About \$190,000 was also allocated to the UN Department of Safety and Security to conduct security risk assessments critical for humanitarian operations in Somalia. The fund will further provide emergency medical and mass casualty incident response.

Somalia received US\$621 million in humanitarian funding in 2014.

About 16,200 households will be provided with cash vouchers to boost their purchasing power.

For further information, please contact:

Cecilia Attefors, Reports Officer, attefors@un.org, Tel. (+254) 733 770 766

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