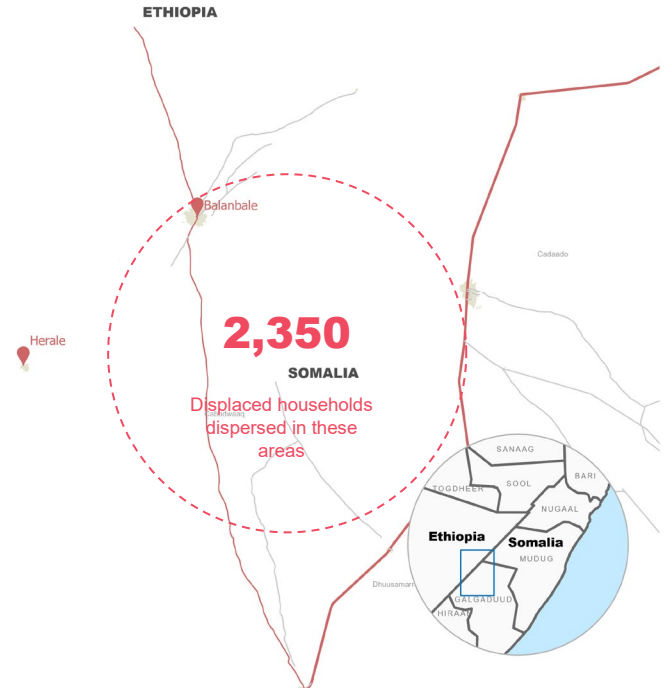
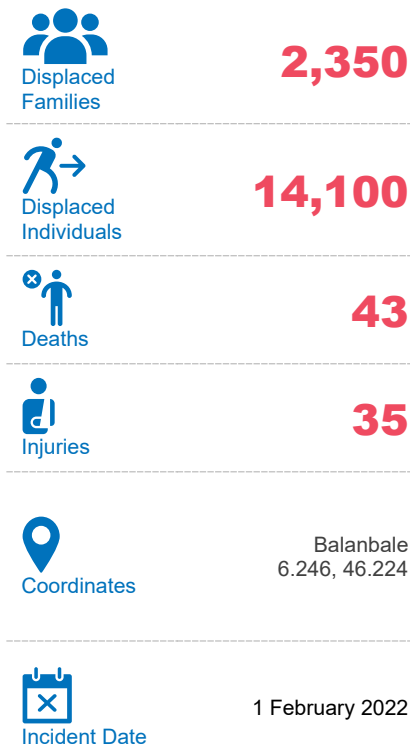


## Some 14,100 displaced due to clan conflict in Galgadud region.



### Background

The Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) has observed a noticeable trend in the increase of violence in Balanbale district. On 1 February, two days of clan conflict broke out in the outskirts of Balanbale. Both clans, Marihan and Habar-gidir, were seeking pasture and water for their livestock due to the prolonged drought. Competition over limited resources has revived pre-existing tensions between the two clans. The ensuing conflict has led to the displacement of approximately 14,100 individuals (2,350 households), as well as 43 deaths and 35 injuries. The families have been displaced to the following locations: Oodale, Qeydar, Ina-Cabaade, Balanbale, Turbi, Hodale and Kahadhaale. Many displaced families fled by foot, while others fled using public transport, paying higher fares of about US\$ 25 per person as compared to normal daily transportation costs of US\$ 5 per person.

#	Affected Settlements	Arrival Villages	Households
1		Oodale	630
2		Balanbale	430
3		Hodale	415
4	Harale and surrounding villages	Qeydar	165
5		Ina-Cabaade	210
6		Turbi	250
7		Kahadhaale	250
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,350 (Approximately 14,100 individuals)</b>	

The Harale area, located at the border of Somalia and Ethiopia, is dominated by pastoralists from Galmudug state and remains a conflict-prone area. It has been an important pastureland for the two pastoral clans, and therefore the lack of pasture and water due to drought has led to conflict. Balanbale and Oodale villages, among the several locations to which the displaced families fled, are located 55km and 40km from the incident area, respectively. So far, the displaced people have not received any assistance and there are no active projects currently implemented by the humanitarian agencies including the UN and NGOs in the affected areas.

According to PRMN monitors, some of the newly displaced households are hosted by relatives, while others have taken up shelter under trees in open areas. Even though the tensions between the two clans remain high, the fighting has subsided over the past few days. However, there are currently no peace talks initiated between the fighting clans as well as no efforts from the government to remedy the current tension. The ongoing conflict is therefore expected to further exacerbate the existing dire humanitarian situation in the entire region as communities in Galgadud are still struggling to recover from the residual impacts of the ongoing drought situation.

## Protection Issues

- **Child protection concerns:** Communities interviewed by PRMN monitors have reported incidents of children being recruited into clan militias, while others have been forced to flee to nearby towns. As a result, it is estimated that children may have been separated from immediate family members
- **Heightened protection risks:** Women and girls dominated families are reported to have been sleeping in open areas with no privacy, dignity or physical protection. Numerous unconfirmed reports already indicate that sexual abuse has been rampant in these settings and is expected to escalate further if the situation is prolonged. Urgent humanitarian intervention is required to mitigate current risks and address identified protection gaps.
- **Heightened vulnerabilities:** The numbers of civilian casualties have been on the increase, with some families being reported as trapped in between the fighting with no viable escape routes. Transportation costs have also been inflated and limit movement. One civilian from a minority clan lost his life in the fight while working as a herdsman in the conflict area.

## Urgent Needs



Food



Emergency Shelter



Non-Food Item



Communal Latrine



Safe Drinking Water



Treated Mosquito Net



A displaced Mother taking her remaining goat to the new makeshift shelters.



Mothers and children fleeing from the conflict by foot

The PRMN (Protection & Return Monitoring Network) is a UNHCR-led project which identifies and reports on displacements as well as protection risks and incidents underlying such population movements. On behalf of UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 38 local partners in the field in Somalia (South Central regions, Puntland and Somaliland) undertake data gathering (primarily through interviews with affected communities and key informants) and monitoring at strategic locations.

To request further details on displacement, please contact [SOMMOPMN@UNHCR.ORG](mailto:SOMMOPMN@UNHCR.ORG)

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