

UNICEF SOMALIA

Flood Update

7 November 2023

Situation Update

The 2023 Deyr (October to December) seasonal rains have intensified, with heavy rains reported across Somalia, with a growing number of women, men and children estimated to be at risk particularly in Puntland (81,000), Galmudug (83,000), South West (212,000), Hirshabelle (638,000) and Jubaland states (607,000)¹. Global climate models have confirmed the presence of El Niño conditions and a positive Indian Ocean Dipole, which are likely to influence enhanced rainfall and flooding in most parts of the country. The Somali government has declared a national state of Emergency

Gedo Region (Jubaland)

Heavy rainfall has been experienced during the last week in parts of the Gedo region resulting in the destruction of houses and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH) facilities as shallow wells have been swept away by floods. Communal latrines collapsed and hundreds of families have been displaced. Dollow and Luuq districts local administration has started evacuating residents to high-level grounds. Snakes and crocodiles heighten the fears of affected families and communities. Five persons lost their lives in Elwaq and Garbaharey districts due to the collapse of their houses, drowning and falling into a shallow well. In Luuq all WASH facilities have reportedly been destroyed.

Dollow

An Area humanitarian Coordination Meeting on the Humanitarian Access Situation was held on 19 October 2023 followed by a second meeting on 30 October 2023 in Dollow. Humanitarian Inter-Agency Actors meeting in Dollow has been planned for 6 November 2023 and organized by the Deputy Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Humanitarian Director of Jubaland in coordination with OCHA and including humanitarian partners and district administration from Dollow, Luuq and Belet-hawa.

Luuq

A Rapid Assessment of the current situation has been carried out by Gedo regional cluster Leads, implementing partners, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management regional focal point, Ministry of Health and the Local Authority on 4 November 2023.

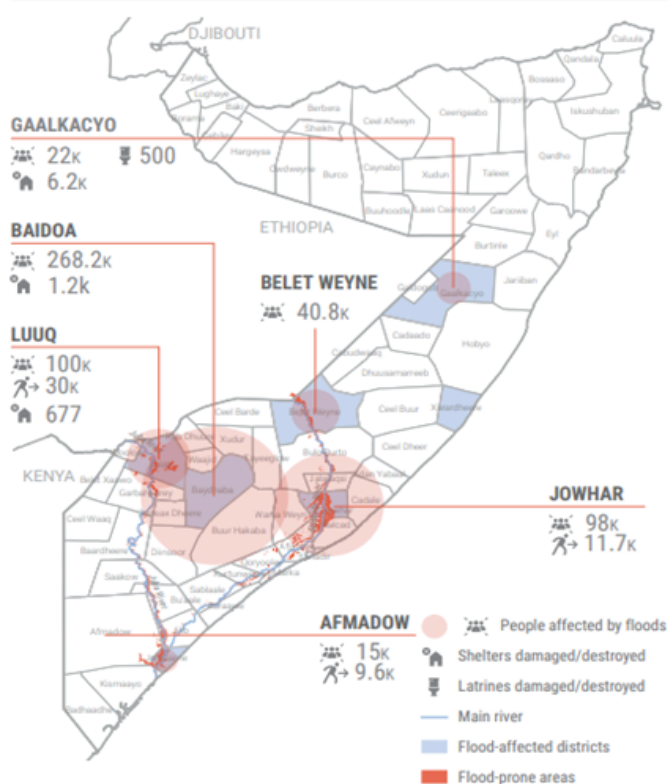
- All the learning institutions have been closed due to current heavy rains and floods while schools are also affected by the floods and damaged.
- Shallow wells in Luuq are submerged, there is no water supply resulting in consumption of untreated water by the flood-affected population.
- 500 flood affected households have received hygiene kits from UNICEF with implementing partner Somalia humanitarian relief action (SHRA).

Rapid Assessment in Luuq on 4 November 2023

Households Affected		Households Displaced		# of Latrines damaged	# of Shallow well affected
-17,500		(10,500)			
Host Community	IDPs	Host Community	IDPs		
11,683	6,817	4,283	6,817	847	28

SOMALIA Flood situation snapshot

FLOOD SITUATION MAP



Bardhere

The flooding has affected access through small bridges within town and this has led to loss of livelihoods to vulnerable communities in the district. The main sources of livelihood for the town have been destroyed (Suuq Yare) including food stocks in the stores.

Elwak

Soma-Action International Fund has conducted Rapid Assessment on the current situation in Elwak on 4 November 2023 and established 3,000 affected people from 500 households. There is limited access to healthcare services posing significant risks to the well-being of the community.

¹ UNOCHA Flash update, November 2023

Hiraan Region (Hirshabelle)

Beletweyne: On 21 October 2023, Beletweyne experienced heavy and prolonged rainfall that caused unexpected flash floods in the lowland areas of the town, causing damage to WASH infrastructure, food stocks, domestic properties, and shelters of 6,800 households (40,800 individuals). The floods also affected the sanitation and hygiene conditions of the affected communities, especially in the displaced persons sites where 45 percent of latrines were either damaged or filled with flood water. A multi-cluster rapid assessment by local authorities and humanitarian partners was conducted on 23 and 24 October 2023

Baidoa, Bay Region (South-West)

After its first heavy rainfall on 5 October 2023, Baidoa has continued to experience regular occurrence of moderate-to-heavy rains which lasted between 1 to 2 hours daily, resulting in flash floods and impacting heavily on the local population, especially the displaced. An initial camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) cluster assessment revealed that 164 internally displaced persons sites with a total population of 15,750 households (estimated 94,000 individuals) were inundated by the floods. Overall, response activities have been delayed in Baidoa because of delays in the identification of relocation sites and an initial lack of clarity on the actual number of households impacted by the floods. Partners are awaiting for go ahead from the Government and the Camp Coordination and Camp Management cluster to support immediate evacuations and first line multi-sector response.

Baidoa received heavy rains on the 4 of November until the morning of the 5 of November with an estimated 384,000 displaced, 1,077 latrines damaged. According to the WASH sub-cluster, over 600 water sources inundated.

The WASH sub-cluster response is anticipated to include emergency water supply targeting 81,000 people (22 per cent of the target); hygiene kits distribution targeting 87,000 people (23 per cent of the target) and latrines construction reaching 22,000 people (6 per cent of the target).

The WASH sub-cluster has updated that water sources targeting only protected sources with elevated tanks managed by water utility companies. There is scaled-up hygiene promotion focusing water treatment at household level, acute watery diarrhea (AWD)/Cholera awareness. Household level water treatment through distribution of water treatment tabs is being coordinated through Ministry of Water and Energy. Key challenges in Baidoa include access, roads to the affected sites are either damaged or in-accessible. Partners are working establishing safe delivery points. Immediate priorities for the WASH sub-cluster include engagement with National Health cluster to reactive AWD/Cholera taskforce; re-programing of WASH project to be aligned with the current needs.

Galmudug

The WASH cluster conducted its monthly online WASH cluster coordination meeting with the participation of 18 WASH partners and government officials. An estimated population of 1, 235 households in North Galkayo are at a risk of being affected by the flash floods. An inter- agency assessment was conducted on 31 October and 1 November 2023 and is pending publication.

UNICEF AND PARTNERS RESPONSE**Coordination**

- UNICEF has availed funding support for the Ministries of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADMD) of the three El-Nino hotspot states, with the objective of strengthening their capacity to effectively coordinate and monitor response operations.
- UNICEF multi-disciplinary teams are deployed to affected locations with over 80 per cent of planned deployments are in effect in 8 prioritized districts. UNICEF Rapid response teams (RRTs) are participating in coordination forums and collaborating with OCHA and other partners in conducting initial rapid assessments in areas where flash floods have been recorded.
- For UNICEF, active partners in the UNICEF prioritized districts have been oriented on floods preparedness action and response, daily reporting mechanism has been activated.
- UNICEF contributed to area multi-sector Rapid Needs Assessments (RNA) in three states. The situation is dynamic. More assessments are anticipated in the same areas to keep abreast with developments.
- IDP Registration: operationalization of service provision is in line with inter cluster coordination group approach to support registered vulnerable households at identified affected sites.
- Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) Framework: UNICEF is in on board with a proposal to improve arrangements for a Somalia rapid response framework, as per the integrated response framework within this El Nino response. In Beletweyne, UNICEF is supporting OCHA to set-up a functional Rapid Response Mechanism that will work closely with UNICEF's Rapid Response Teams (RRTs).
- Week beginning 5 November, an orientation meeting was conducted with UNICEF partners from middle Shabelle on the reporting tool for the El nino response. UNICEF conducted onsite monitoring and visits to displaced person sites and health facilities providing a response to the IDPs from the flash floods.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion (WASH)

- In Baidoa, UNICEF partners Golweyne Relief and Rehabilitation (GRRN), Mandhere Relief and Development Organization (MARDO) and Deeg-Roor Medical Organization (DMO) are currently conducting water point chlorination, hygiene promotion and distribution of aqua tabs.
- 1,402 people were reached with improved drinking water through the chlorination of 42 shallow wells. 3,071 people receive hygiene promotion key messages on safe practices during floods including 27 persons living with disabilities (17 male and 10 female).
- Pre-positioned WASH supplies enough for 5,900 households at the Baidoa regional supply hub. Additional 18,000 kits pre-positioned by other partners with the WASH cluster.
- In Jubaland, UNICEF WASH partner have distributed hygiene kits to 500 households from five of the most affected IDP camps in Luuq. In Baadehere 1,500 Contingency hygiene kits were approved for HIRDA partner, and delivery is in progress.
- In Beletweyne, 1,713 people affected by floods were reached with hygiene messages.

Nutrition

- In Baidoa, UNICEF partners DMO and MARDO screened and admitted 145 (49 male and 96 female) for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)
- Infant and Young Child feeding (IYCF) knowledge was provided to 108 caregivers (34 male and 74 female).
- There is a sufficient supply of ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF) prepositioned at the UNICEF warehouse in Baidoa.
- In Hirshabelle, UNICEF has distributed supplies to Nutrition partners – WARDI and Save the Children International (SCI), as part of preparedness actions for the El-Nino.
- In Jubaland, Supplies delivery is being facilitated for UNICEF partner Rainwater Association of Somalia (RAAS).
- In Beletweyn, 422 children 0-59 months were screened for severe acute malnutrition while 17 children 0-59 months with SAM are on treatment and 840 pregnant and lactating women received education on infant and young child feeding.

Health

- In Baidoa, 119 children from flood affected households received measles vaccines, while 2,090 accessed emergency healthcare services at UNICEF supported facilities. UNICEF is currently supporting a Cholera Treatment Centre (CTC) in Bayhaw and Bay Regional outpatient department with the State Ministry of Health in addition to two health centers with partners MARDO and HIDIG.
- In Hirshabelle, integrated emergency response teams have been established as part of preparatory arrangements that will facilitate the provision of emergency healthcare services (outpatient consultation, mental health and psychosocial support, Immunization) to floods-affected internally displaced persons and the host community members at five assessed evacuation sites.
- In Beletweyne District, UNICEF is currently supporting fixed health facilities (3) and mobile teams (5) are active in partnership with WARDI. Three mobile teams (RRT) are operational and supported by State Ministry of Health. Children were vaccinated for measles (117) and 1,705 of affected population was reached with emergency health care services (ANC, OPD, PNC, Vaccinations).
- In Bulo Burte District, a fixed health facility operated by WARDI and a mobile team (RRT) run by the State Ministry of Health is providing health services.
- Jalalaqsi District is maintaining two health centers and two mobile teams with partner HIDGI.
- In Jowhar District, UNICEF is supporting a CTC and one mobile team in collaboration with the SMoH.
- Balcad District has a mobile team active and operated by SMoH.
- In Dollow District, UNICEF is supporting two health centres and one outreach with Trocaire
- UNICEF is two Health centres (Kabasa and Kaharey) with implementing partner HDC.
- In Luuq District, UNICEF is supporting health centres (3), a peripheral health unit (PHU) and one outreach centre with Trocaire.

Social and Behaviour change (SBC)

- 270 Radio key messages on El-Nino preparedness and response were aired through 18 local FM radios in Central South Region – this covers all El-Nino hotspot areas.
- UNICEF collaborated with 18 local radios doing live emissions of the messages daily for three times a day, airing 702 spots in Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Banadir, Jubaland, and SWS reaching close to 5.2 million people across FMS and Banadir (which includes 1.2 million people at of El Nino impacts).
- 40,000 bulk messages have been disseminated that contain mainly precautions targeting riverine communities susceptible to flooding are also being disseminated to caution society about the dangers associated with flooding and the risks involved in establishing settlements along riverbanks.
- 13,200 information, education and communication materials such as posters, hygiene booklets, and flyers for El-Nino preparedness were printed and distributed in high-risk districts, particularly focusing on Hirshabelle. This was done in partnership with the Ministry of Health in Hirshabelle.
- 250 stakeholders and influencers from target districts, including community leaders, traditional/religious leaders, teachers, women, and youth groups, were actively engaged in advocacy and sensitization sessions.
- 150 community social mobilizers were trained in the El-Nino preparedness response package. These mobilizers conducted house to house visits to raise awareness about the potential risks associated with heavy rains. 46,501 individuals (23,233 males and 23,268 females) were reached and provided with integrated messages on El-Nino preparedness and response as part of the social and behavior change package. The activities will continue until the end of December 2023.