

Humanitarian Bulletin

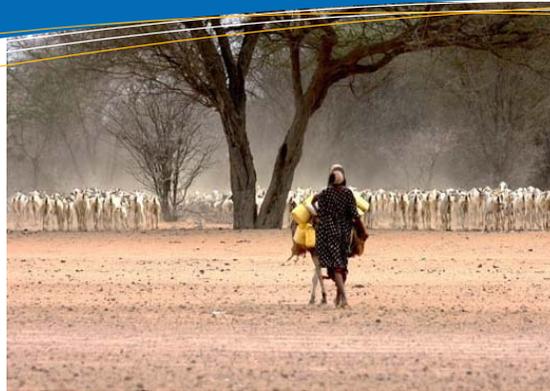
February 2016 | Issued on 19 February 2016 | Focus on drought

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Partners respond to drought
- Food security assessment reveals dire situation
- Finding durable solutions for IDPs remain urgent.



Pastoralists have been forced to move in search of water and pasture
Photo Credit: FAO/Frank Nyakairu

FIGURES

# of people in humanitarian emergency and crisis	1m
# of people in food security stress	3.7m
# of acutely malnourished children under age 5	305,000
Source: www.fsnau.org (July-December 2016 projection)	
# of internally displaced people	1.1m
# of Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa and Yemen	1.2m
Source: UNHCR	

Humanitarian Appeal

FUNDING

885 million
requested for 2016 (US\$)

1% (9.6 million)

\$9.6 million
Total humanitarian funding received for Somalia

(reflects reported funding on FTS as of 18 February 2016)

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

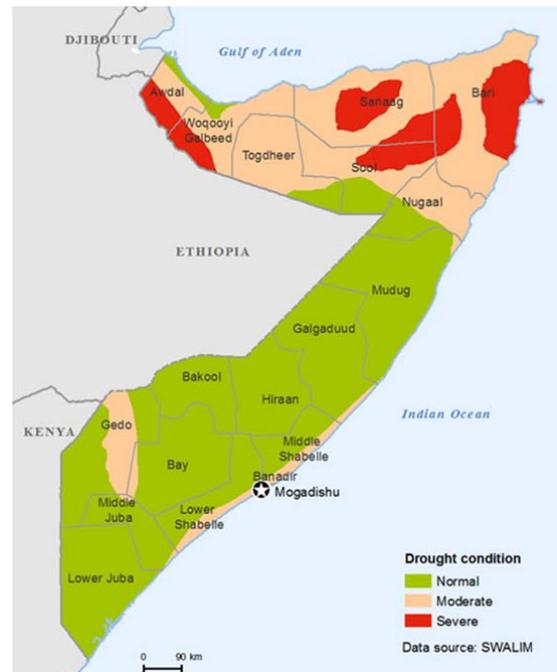
Drought in Puntland, Somaliland

Parts of Puntland and Somaliland continue to experience severe drought conditions which have affected hundreds of thousands of people. These conditions are as a result of two consecutive failed rainy seasons especially in the western part of Somaliland. Bari and Nugaal in Puntland and Awdal, Sanaag, Sool and Woqooyi Galbeed in Somaliland are the most affected areas.

The situation is expected to worsen in the coming months owing to the depletion of available water resources in affected areas, according to the Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM). The next rainy season is expected to start in April.

Authorities in Somaliland and Puntland declared drought and have issued appeals for assistance to an estimated 385,000 people. Funding is needed urgently, as the intensifying drought in Puntland and Somaliland may see many people relapse into crisis. In hard hit areas such as Awdal, Global Acute Malnutrition rates have doubled to 18 per cent. The risk of disease and death related to malnutrition remains high in areas with poor health conditions. Nearly 74,750 and 23,000 children under age 5 in Somaliland and Puntland respectively are acutely malnourished, according to the Nutrition Cluster. The worst affected areas are Bari and Nugaal in Puntland and Awdal, Togdheer, Sool, Sanaag and Woqooyi Galbeed regions in Somaliland.

The depletion of water resources and pasture have triggered livestock migration and increased competition among pastoralists. This is particularly so in southern parts of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions (in Northwest Agro-pastoral livelihood zone) and in parts of Bari, Nugaal, Sanaag and Sool regions. In general, pasture conditions are very



Drought affected areas

BASELINE

Population (UNFPA 2014)	12.3m
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)	13%
% population using improved drinking water sources (UNDP 2009)	30%

CLUSTERS

Lead and co-lead organizations

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

poor throughout northern Somalia with the exception of southern parts of Togdheer and Sool regions (Guban pastoral areas) that recorded relatively good rains towards the end of the previous Dyer season, according to SWALIM. The majority of the people in these areas depend on livestock.

A large number of people and their livestock have already left the worst drought-affected areas for places such as the Hawd and Guban Pastoral Livelihood Zones along the coast of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions. These areas have relatively better pasture and water. Those who stayed behind, in many cases, are forced to stay because they lack the cash to move their animals and are in serious need of assistance.

Partners respond to drought-affected people

Humanitarian partners are providing critical life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable. However, response is hampered by lack of resources to avert further deterioration of the situation.

In Awdal in Somaliland, partners are providing cash to the most affected families. In Puntland, partners have reached an estimated 360,000 people with water trucking in the most affected districts and villages. Four boreholes have been rehabilitated in the drought-affected areas in the region, while rehabilitation of additional boreholes



Communities in affected regions are hard hit by water shortage. Photo Credit: OCHA

is ongoing in both Puntland and Somaliland. Health partners are also supporting health facilities including Outpatient Therapeutic and Stabilization Centres in Somaliland and Puntland to ensure access to primary health care services and the treatment of severely malnourished children. Additionally, some 17 integrated health and nutrition mobile teams have been deployed in Somaliland and six others in Puntland.

Food security partners are providing support to 60,000 vulnerable families including providing in-kind food assistance in areas where markets are not functioning in Somaliland. Nutrition support to prevent and treat malnutrition among pregnant women, lactating mothers and young children in Puntland is also ongoing. Nutrition programmes targeting about 87,000 malnourished children, pregnant and lactating mothers are ongoing in the affected areas in Bari, Nugal, Sanaag and Sool regions. Food security partners have provided meals to some 36,000 school going children in the affected areas. An estimated 30,000 people have also been reached with cash transfers and cash-for-work activities. WASH partners have rehabilitated five berkedes and five shallow wells to benefit an estimated 54,000 people in Bari region. Boreholes have also been rehabilitated in Bari, Karkaar, Mudug, Sanaag and Sool regions benefiting some 102,000 people.

Timely funding is needed if humanitarian partners are to effectively address the needs of the most vulnerable. To date, the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan for Somalia, has received US\$9.6 million or 1 per cent of the \$885 million requested. A Concept Note has also been developed and submitted to the Central Emergency Response Fund seeking additional resources to respond to the drought in Puntland and Somaliland.

Food insecurity and malnutrition dire

Acutely malnourished in need of urgent nutrition support

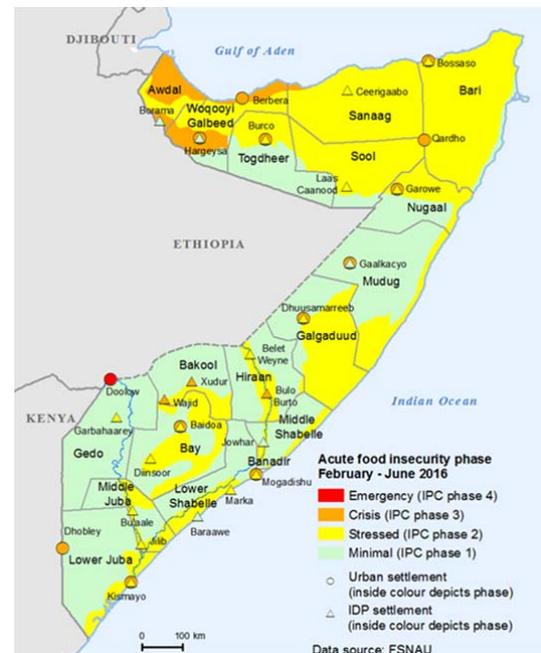
The latest post-Deyr food security and nutrition assessment for Somalia, released on 8 February, by the FAO-managed Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) in collaboration with Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), confirmed an alarming food insecurity and malnutrition situation.

The situation in parts of Somaliland and Puntland where El Niño exacerbated drought conditions is of particular concern. In the absence of timely funding, and intensifying drought conditions in the two areas, the situation could worsen. An estimated 4.7 million people - about 40 per cent of the population- are in need of humanitarian assistance. Of these, 950,000 are acutely food insecure and struggle each day to meet their food needs. Overall, some 3.7 million people will be acutely food insecure through mid-2016.

The situation for internally displaced people is of particular concern. They make up nearly two thirds, or 68 per cent, of acutely food insecure people and are in need of assistance. Malnutrition in IDP settlements remains above the 15 per cent emergency threshold. Bossaso, Doolow, Gaalkacyo and Garowe are some of the towns where IDPs settlements have been most affected.

The latest assessment also indicates that an estimated 305,000 children under the age of five are acutely malnourished including 58,300 children severely malnourished and face increased risk of morbidity and death, if they are not treated.

The acutely malnourished are in urgent need of nutrition and health support between now and mid-2016. Similarly, urgent life-saving humanitarian assistance and livelihood support is required for populations in Emergency and Crisis (IPC Phases 4 and 3) through June 2016. Meanwhile, populations experiencing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) acute food insecurity and who remain highly vulnerable to shocks that could push them back to Crisis or Emergency (IPC Phases 3 or 4) need support to protect their livelihoods and boost their resilience. According to the assessment results, the bulk of those in need of food and nutrition assistance are mainly in Awdal, Banadir, Bari and Sanaag. Other priority groups include poor and vulnerable urban populations in the south central Somalia who have been affected by trade disruption resulting from armed activities in Buldo Burto (Hiraan), Hudur and Wajid (Bakool) and Dinsoor in Bay region.



The prevailing drought conditions and food insecurity situation in the north is expected to worsen at least until the start of *Gu* rains in April.

Seeking durable solutions for IDPs

Consultations held on ending protracted displacement

The Special Advisor to the Humanitarian Coordinator on Internally Displaced Persons, Professor Walter Kälin, completed a two-week mission to Somalia on 11 February. He visited several towns including Baidoa, Bosasso, Garowe, Gaalkacyo Hargeisa, Kismayo and Mogadishu where he met with IDPs and host communities, local authorities and partners.

The Advisor called for strengthened linkages between humanitarian action and development programmes as part of the long-term solution to the problem of protracted displacement.

“Up to now, our actions are limited to providing humanitarian assistance, but this has not helped to solve the problems of the IDPs. We need to move on, we need to find durable solutions for them, we need to invest in housing, in basic services, create employment and only then, we can bring the number of IDPs down. Only then, we can help the IDPs to rejoin the main stream of life to become full citizens of Somalia again,” he said.

An estimated 305,000 children under the age of five are acutely malnourished. These include 58,300 children under age 5 who are severely malnourished and face increased risk of morbidity and death, if they are not treated.

There is need for strengthened linkages between humanitarian action and development programmes

The visit is part of a nationwide consultation process to draw up a durable solution strategy for IDPs in Somalia. Part of the aim is to engage development actors in finding durable solutions for IDPs through return, resettlement or local integration. National and local authorities as well as the private sector and civil society will be engaged in an effort to find the most appropriate and sustainable solution for protracted displacement.

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