

Humanitarian Common Feedback Project

For Accountability to Affected People and Communication with Communities in Somalia for Prevention of Famine

The humanitarian situation in Somalia continues to deteriorate and an elevated risk of famine persists in some parts of the country, only six years after the devastating 2011 famine led to the death of over a quarter million people, half of them children. **Over 6.7 million people are now estimated to need humanitarian assistance. This is more than half of the population of Somalia.**

Led by OCHA, the Common Feedback Project (CFP) was rolled out in March through the Drought Operations Coordination Centres as part of a **collective approach to strengthening two-way consultations** between relief workers and affected communities. Working with humanitarian partners, the CFP is collecting, collating and analysing feedback from multiple platforms to identify key themes and issues being raised by communities, particularly related to ongoing drought.

This second issue of the CFP Bulletin brings together **information from 2,012 respondents**. Organizations continue to use help desks at distribution points, community meetings, focus group discussions, suggestion boxes, post distribution monitoring surveys, SMSs, hotlines and radio broadcasts. Much of the feedback came from Galgadud, Lower Juba and Bay regions. Partners who contributed to the report include Radio Ergo, Abaarah.org, Jubaland's Ministry of Agriculture, Somali Agricultural Development and Co-operatives, Solidarity Group of Jubaland, FAO, HARDO, African Relief Development Initiative and Integrated Youth and Relief Development Association. Partners are invited to contribute to the CFP by contacting Rita Maingi (maingir@un.org) or Tapiwa Gomo (gomo@un.org)

I am in Awdinle and I live in Bay region. There is severe drought that has affected both people and livestock.

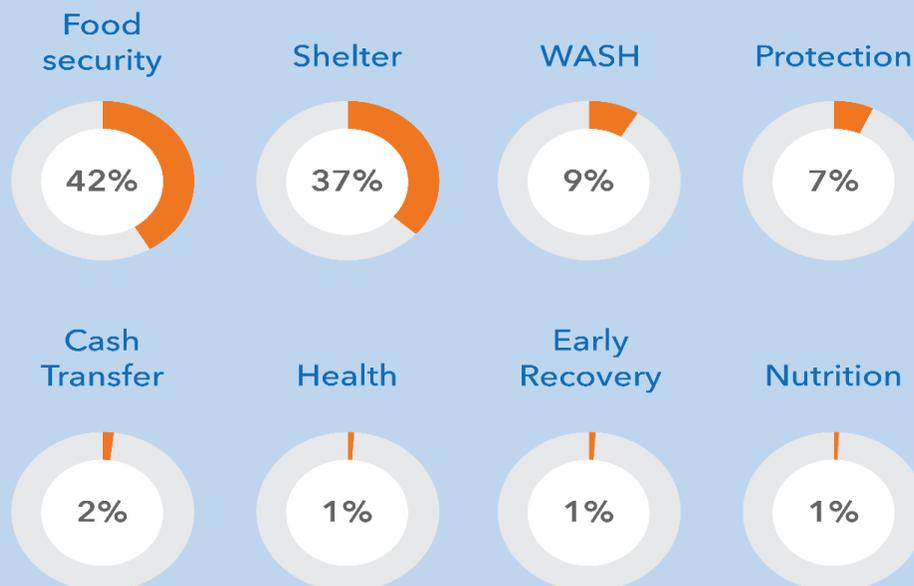
Photo by NRC



Communities have their say

- Most of the concerns raised (42 per cent), were **Food Security-related** with communities expressing the need for short-term food assistance and long-term livelihood support through agriculture and livestock. There were also increasing calls for urgent scale up of humanitarian response.
- With the onset of the rains, **37 per cent** of the respondents, particularly in settlements for Internally Displaced Persons highlighted **need for shelter materials** to protect themselves from harsh weather conditions.
- **Lack of water and calls for water trucking** accounted for 9 per cent, down from 33 per cent last month. The rains may have provided the much-needed respite from the dry season, however, communities continue to highlight Acute Water Diarrhea and Cholera cases, lack of drugs in hospitals and called for more assistance.
- Other issues highlighted were **delays in cash transfers**, accusations of **corruption** in organizations which they claim is affecting aid delivery, **IDPs given preference over vulnerable host communities**, and **people living in areas controlled by non-state armed groups in need of urgent assistance**.
- A recent assessment survey (<http://bit.ly/2pQlxvB>) in Baidoa highlighted that **46 per cent of people interviewed trusted radio as a source of information**, however, **81 per cent said they had no access to radios**. Other sources of information included community meetings (16 per cent) and mobile phones (5 per cent). This means that majority of the households in the 168 IDPs settlements are missing out on important life-saving information. OCHA is working with humanitarian partners to seek ways to augment access to radio receivers, including possible distribution of communal radio receivers.

Priority needs and areas highlighted by communities



2,012 respondents in total

What humanitarian partners are doing to respond to the requests?

- **Health and WASH Clusters:** Radio Ergo worked closely with WHO, UNICEF and Health Cluster partners to produce short audio products summarising the Do's and Don'ts of AWD/Cholera prevention. **These promoted, safe hygiene practices, drinking safe water, prevention of food contamination and use of oral rehydration salts.** The messages were aired every day for a week from mid-May. They continue to be aired every other day until the numbers of AWD decline.
- Messaging and advice on symptoms of measles and how to manage it when one has no access to a health facility including fever management continued to be provided by a prominent doctor from Banadir Hospital. **The radio also amplified the measles vaccination campaigns that were conducted in several places in May.**
- **Gender Based Violence Sub-Cluster of the Protection Cluster:** A radio programme was aired providing legal advice and redress based on **a historic case of five young girls who were raped in Mogadishu and sort legal redress.** A legal specialist provided information on why it is important to seek legal redress, and how to go about it.
- **Food Security:** As more calls for support on food security continue to be received, **Radio Ergo highlighted and interviewed IDP farmers who had received seeds** from the Norwegian Refugee Council in Baidoa and were planting - <http://bit.ly/2qRvECR>

Radio Ergo also continues to air **regular weather and flood alerts** from the [Somali Water and Land Information](#) (SWALIM) Management unit of FAO.

- **Millions of people have been reached with emergency assistance through the clusters and partners in April.** Some 2.7 million people were reached with improved access to **food and safety nets**, 338,651 people received primary and/or basic secondary **health care services**, 386,790 children under age 5 and lactating women were treated for malnutrition and 464,805 reached with **malnutrition prevention services**. Some 212,100 people were reached with **sustained access to water**, over 1 million others were provided with **temporary supply of safe water**, 165,560 people reached with safe sanitation facilities and 502,330 people reached with **hygiene promotion activities**.
- At least 104,400 learners were reached with **education in emergency assistance**, 63,260 with **safe drinking water**, 17,640 provided with food and 70,000 provided with **teaching and learning materials**. More than 21,000 displaced people were assisted with **non-food items** while 34,650 people were reached with **protection services** from January to April.

Hello, I am a mother in Tuloo'ano village in Galgadud. We used to depend on water reservoirs which have since dried up. Now we rely on salt water brought from Guriel which causes diarrhoea on our children. We are living in a rural area of the village and no aid has reached us.

Photo by UNSOM



Community voices

“Although the assistance was limited, **my need for restocking was addressed through the ‘Programme to revive livelihoods systems’**. The interventions were done well, especially UCT and water voucher activities.” 55-year-old man in Dobley, Gedo region.

“some 31-people died from cholera in the last week and 25 are in hospital, **we also need food, shelter and medical assistance.**” The Gadoon District official, Galgaduud Region.

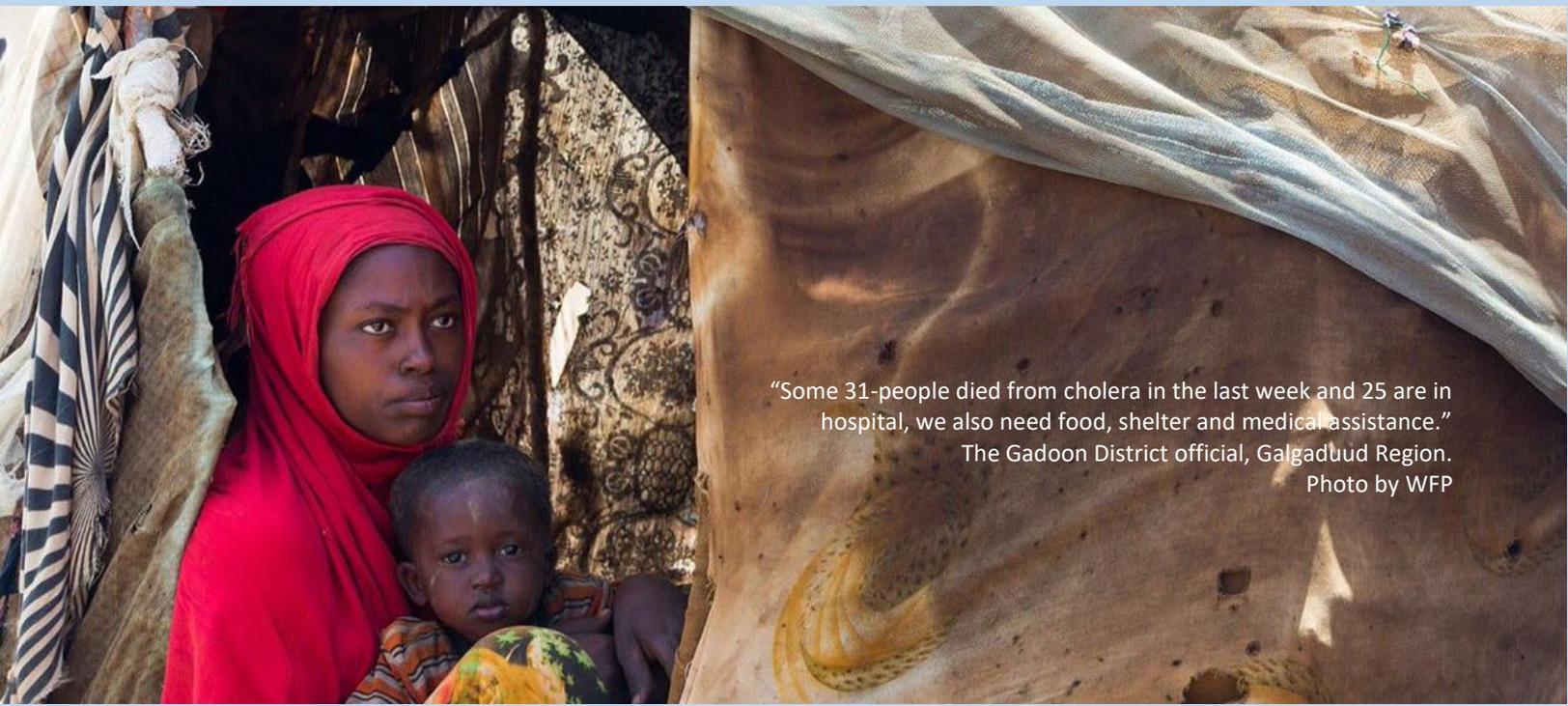
“Drought is biting us in this region, goats died and camels have become weak. People are facing water scarcity and food shortages. **We have not seen aid agencies coming to our area.** We don’t understand why agencies are ignoring us. Does it mean the aid agencies are not aware of our situation or there is corruption stopping them from helping us?” A man calling from Bali Galed in northern Galgaduud region.

“Due to security issues, I cannot disclose my identity. I am in Qosoltire village, 49km north of Haradhere district, Mudug region. This area is controlled by non-state armed groups. **We have been badly hit by the drought and water crises and our animals have all died.** A barrel of water is being sold at 240,000 Somali Shillings while commercial water sellers are charging \$300 for a water tanker and majority of us cannot afford it. We need urgent humanitarian assistance.” Anonymus

“Severe drought is causing havoc in this area but we took a major step in helping each other. **We organized ourselves and those who had wealth supported the poor and worst affected ones. We don't need aid agencies, they are thieves.** They used the money the world donated to us in tourism. They are just tourists jumping from one hotel to another. We survived and we thank God.” A man calling from Kismayo, Lower Juba region.

“Hello. **There is water crisis in this area and people are fleeing to Bardere.** People are suffering and facing harsh conditions as animals are dying at an alarming rate.” A caller from Rahole village, Bay region.

Project supported by:



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The Gadoon District official, Galgaduud Region.

Photo by WFP