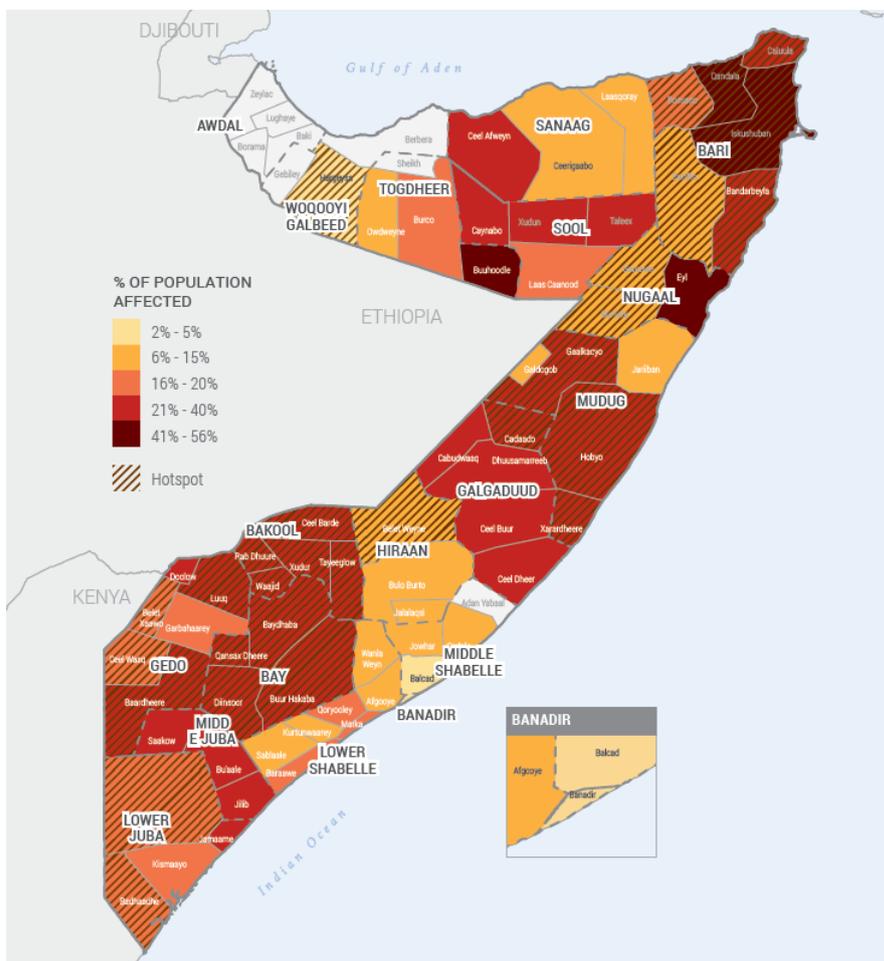


This report is produced by OCHA Somalia in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It provides information on the worsening drought situation in Somalia as of 23 November. The next report will be issued by 23 December 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Somalia is experiencing a worsening drought following three consecutive failed rainy seasons, and is at risk of a fourth consecutive underperforming rainy season in 2022.
- As of 23 November, about 2.6 million people – close to 22 per cent of the population in 66 out of 74 districts across the country are affected by drought and nearly 113,000 people are displaced by drought across the country.
- The lack of access to safe and potable water coupled with poor hygiene and sanitation facilities have heightened the overall risk of water-borne diseases, with an increase in suspected cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea/Cholera and measles.
- The Government and humanitarian partners in Somalia are scaling-up responses and reprogramming activities in order to address critical emerging needs but continue to be constrained by funding and access concerns in some of the affected areas.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Drought conditions have worsened significantly across Somalia following three consecutive failed rainy seasons and a poor performance of the 2021 *Deyr* (October to December) rainy season, according to FAO’s Somalia Water and Land Information Management (FAO SWALIM) [November](#) update. The current season has been erratic, and the situation is likely to become extreme due to projections of below-average rainfall for the remainder of 2021.

As of 23 November, local authorities and humanitarian actors throughout the country have reported severe water shortages affecting more than 2.6 million people in 66 out of 74 districts of the country. This has led to the reduced availability of food and pasture, triggering significant pastoral migrations.

Nearly 113,000 people have been newly displaced by drought so far in 2021, especially in central and southern areas. This has led to the increased risk of resource-driven conflicts.

The inadequate access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities has heightened the risk of disease outbreaks, especially in IDP camps and in areas affected by conflict, including in Galgaduug and Mudug regions. Health Cluster partners have reported an increase in suspected cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD)/Cholera in Afgoye, Baidoa, Marka, and Qoryoley districts in Lower Shabelle. At least 272 suspected AWD/cholera cases were admitted to health clinics across the four districts in October, compared to 155 suspected cases reported in September. Another 22 AWD/Cholera cases with one death have been reported in four drought-affected villages in Jowhar district, Hirshabelle.

Additionally, health partners reported an increase in measles cases in Galmudug, Middle Shabelle and Banadir regions. Measles is endemic, but the numbers are increasing as the drought conditions intensify and the susceptibility to further outbreaks also increases.

In one hospital in south Gaalkacyo, at least 122 suspected measles cases were reported between 10 October and 14 November. Over 80 per cent of the cases are children under the age of 5 and the majority originating from around south Gaalkacyo, including from IDP settlements. Doctors in the Banadir referral hospital have reported a total of 297 cases since September, with 12 deaths under of the age of 5. The majority of the cases in Banadir are the new IDP arrivals.

Communities in areas affected by drought are reporting an increase in commodity prices, including for water, food and livestock feeds. Livestock deaths due to drought and disease outbreaks have also been reported. For example, on average, the price of a 200-liter barrel of water has increased by more than 300 per cent in Galmudug Region as water pans and other seasonal water sources have dried up in most affected areas.

DROUGHT SITUATION BY AREA

The worsening drought conditions have triggered similar trends of water shortages and displacements, increasing overall food insecurity and disease outbreaks across the country. The deteriorating drought situation has compounded vulnerabilities at a time when the number of people who need humanitarian assistance and protection in Somalia is forecast to rise by 30 per cent from 5.9 million to 7.7 million in 2022. Food insecurity continues to deteriorate with an estimated 3.5 million people who are food insecure across the country, according to FSNAU.

In **Somaliland**, the 2021 Deyr rainfall was below normal and short in duration. Rain was only received in the first 10 days of October, according the Ministry of Water Resources Development (MoWRD). Several areas in the eastern regions of Sanaag, Sool and Togdheer are currently experiencing water and pasture shortages. Pastoral movements in search of pasture and water have been reported from nearly 20 villages, including Duruqsi Village in Togdheer Region, towards the Somali region of Ethiopia. MoWRD estimates that more than 70,000 people living in more than 88 villages and IDP sites in regions of Sool, Togdheer, Sanaag and Waqooyi Galbeed need water trucking. Nutrition partners have reported emerging gaps in nutrition services in three villages (Garadag, Hulhul and Ceel-Cade) in Sanaag and Sool regions.

Authorities in **Puntland** declared on 5 October a state of emergency as the severe dry conditions since January have resulted in critical water shortages across the state.

According to HADMA, 70 per cent of Puntland territories

have not received any rains from September to October, which is normally the peak of Deyr seasonal rains. In an Appeal issued on 11 November, HADMA reported that more than 1.1 million people in Puntland have been affected by intense drought conditions for more than one year and need water and food. Overall, Adduun, Coastal Deeh, parts of Northern Inland Pastoralist (NIP) as well as East Golis livelihood zones are the worst affected. The Deyr 2021 rains, which started in October have been moderate but with poor intensity and coverage in parts of Bari and Sanaag regions, while parts of Mudug and Nugaal Bari regions have experienced failed or minimal rains. Abnormal pastoralist movement has been witnessed across Puntland due to lack of water and depleted pasture. Authorities and humanitarian partners in the Highland region (carved out of the larger Sanaag region) have reported that an estimated 12,000 drought-affected pastoral people have moved into Dhahar town and are facing a dire humanitarian situation with most of them joining existing settlements in the region. In Jarriban district, more than 90,000 drought-affected people need water and food assistance. An estimate 60 to 70 percent of rural livelihoods are dependent on pastoralism which is reliant on rain for access to water and pasture.

In **Galmudug**, on 11 November, the Ministry of Water Resources issued an appeal for humanitarian assistance for the worsening drought conditions in the state. According to the Galmudug Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) about 80 per cent of areas in Galmudug are experiencing drought conditions. The most affected areas are in Hobyo and south Gaalkacyo districts of south Mudug and Cadaado district in Galgaduud region, and areas



AFFECTED POPULATION

	# of people affected	% of population affected	# of people displaced
Galgaduud	275K	40%	383
Bakool	170.1K	37%	9,655
Bari	215.5K	31%	11,926
Sool	116.4K	29%	3,944
Mudug	409.2K	28%	4,799
Bay	285.1K	27%	23,364
Middle Juba	92.1K	25%	6,491
Nugaal	114.4K	25%	2,226
Togdheer	145.3K	22%	1,561
Gedo	157.7K	22%	14,010
Lower Juba	220.7K	21%	6,003
Lower Shabelle	192.4K	14%	8,491
Sanaag	40.1K	13%	11,426
Hiraan	42.6K	11%	4,875
Middle Shabelle	68.4K	7%	2,202
Woqooyi Galbeed	30K	1%	925
Banadir	60K	1%	593

controlled by non-state armed actors – including Xarardheere district of Mudug and Ceel Dheer district of Galgaduud region. Pastoralists are migrating along with their livestock to rural areas of Baxdo and Caado kidir villages (about 90km east of Cadaado town) and Caabud Waaq district that received light rains in the last month and in Bitale village, some 50km east of south Gaalkacyo from south Mudug. Parts of the rural areas in Caabud Waaq, Balambale Herale of Galgaduud region, have also received an unconfirmed number of pastoralists along with their livestock from other parts of Galmudug. Demands for livestock feed is on the rise and water prices have risen by 300 per cent from \$2 to \$8 for a 200 litre barrel, depending on the distance, according to local authorities and humanitarian partners. Shallow wells have dried up and four main boreholes are damaged and ceased to operate due to excessive use by livestock and human consumption in Jilable and Bajeele villages of Hobyo district and Bitale and Taorage villages of south Gaalkacyo in south Mudug,

Regional authorities and line ministries in Hiraan, **Hirshabelle** State have appealed for humanitarian assistance for people affected by the drought. Humanitarian partners have reported abnormal pastoralist movements to locations where limited Deyr rainfall has been reported. Health partners have reported an increase in suspected measles cases, especially in Gololey and Bulo Casi in west of Jowhar due to the increased vulnerabilities of the people exposed to the drought in the pastoral areas of the Middle Shabelle.

In **South West State**, around 650,000 people are affected by the drought in the state. Communities have reported severe water scarcity in almost all the regions in the state as water catchments have dried up, and with Bay and Bakool regions most severely affected. The capacity of water yield by the existing boreholes has reduced, resulting in long hours of operations to meet population water needs. According to the MoEWR, as of 10 November, more than 48,030 people living in Wajid, Elberde, Rabdhure districts of Bakool region both in town and 22 rural surrounding villages are experiencing a severe water shortage crisis due to climate change and prolonged drought. Since early August, all functional water sources, especially in Yeed and Rabdhure villages, were depleted including the main water pans, open and protected community shallow wells. The number of families who have lost their livestock is increasing. Significant internal livestock migration in search of better pasture and water is ongoing across the south. In Lower Shabelle, movements of displaced families have been reported from Qorooley, Marka and Barawe. On average, water prices rose from \$2.0 to \$5.0 for a 200 litre barrel of water.

In addition, over 2,000 people displaced mostly by the drought have arrived in Wajid town from 11 villages in the district, as confirmed by local authorities at the end of October. The number of displaced people is increasing and has put stress on the availability of basic services in the town, which has been militarily encircled by Al Shabab for many years.

In **Jubaland**, more than 25,000 people were reported to have been displaced due to drought, majority of them pastoralists that were forced to migrate to urban settlements to seek assistance. According to the Jubaland authorities, four people died due to drought and pastoral communities lost more than 55,000 animals including goats, cows, and camels. Pastoral communities have lost an estimated 60-70 per cent of their livestock, particularly in cattle rearing zones in Lower and Middle Juba regions – a situation that is likely to worsen in the next three months during the Jilaal dry season. According to the Jubaland Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, about 130,000 people need urgent water trucking. Livestock migration and increased competition among pastoralists on the already limited resources has been reported. Forecast for the 2021 Deyr rains indicate a 50 per cent probability of below-normal rains in Gedo and Middle Juba regions and 45 per cent of below-normal rains in larger parts of central and southern regions. The depressed rains are unlikely to mitigate the drought conditions in the areas facing severe drought conditions. Fifty-one per cent of the population in Jubaland State are projected to face Stress (IPC 2) or Crisis (IPC 3) food consumption gaps from October to the end of the year, according to FSNAU.

In **Banadir** region, local authorities and IDPs leaders have reported severe water shortages in IDP sites in Kahda, Daynille, and Garesbaley districts. The impact of new arrivals from drought affected areas in Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Bay and Bakool regions and evictions have also complicated the situation as most IDPs have limited or no access to water and other social services. Overall, close to 6,000 new arrivals have been reported in Banadir due to drought. Meanwhile, according to FSNAU the number of acutely food insecure people in the Banadir region was projected to increase to more than 1.07 million people between October to December) from 711,470 people in September.

HUMANITARIAN PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Humanitarian partners, in collaboration with the authorities, are scaling-up responses through water trucking, repairing boreholes and delivering food and health assistance to address the critical water and food needs, but are hampered by inadequate funding and access constraints in areas affected by conflict. In South West State, the main supply routes are blocked by the Al-Shabaab, posing difficulties for WASH partners in implementing their projects. Supplies of both major hardware components, namely construction materials and hygiene kits, has been challenging due to the high cost of air transport.

Coordination meetings for information exchange and strategic planning for the drought are ongoing across the country. On 10 November, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADMD) organized the Country

Humanitarian Forum (CHF) in Mogadishu, bringing together representatives from different regions affected by the drought, humanitarian organizations and donors to discuss the deteriorating drought conditions in the country.

In **Puntland**, WASH Cluster partners are looking to address the needs for at least 122,000 individuals to cover immediate needs between December and March 2022.

In **Galmudug**, the Ministry of Water Resources is mobilizing two months of water trucking interventions targeting 19 locations in south Mudug and Galgaduud regions. Each location will receive two water tanks vehicles (each with capacity of 10,000 liters) per day, according to the Ministry. On 22 November, the deputy District Commissioner of south Gaalkacyo has informed OCHA that his office, with support from the local communities commenced one-time water trucking assistance, targeting three locations within the district. The assistance comprises of 50 water tank vehicles (each with capacity of 10,000 liters) for drought affected communities in three areas in south Gaalkacyo.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is rehabilitating and upgrading three boreholes with solar power in Toore, Qalqalocan and Haarhaar settlements in south Gaalkacyo. A total of 11,000 people will benefit from the assistance. IRC is also distributing 400 hygiene kits and sanitation in three other locations in south Gaalkacyo as part of the drought response. Mercy Corps plans to rehabilitate a borehole and nine shallow wells in parts of Hobyo and south Gaalkacyo while International Medical Corps (IMC) is implementing rehabilitation activities of two boreholes and provision of two power generators in three villages in Hobyo district, and is planning to distribute 400 hygiene kits to the drought affected communities in Hobyo. Partners and authorities in Galmudug are conducting a joint drought assessment mission in the state between 25 and 29 November to establish the impact and the extent of the drought.

WASH Cluster partners are providing water and hygiene kits in affected areas in **South West State**. Water supply through vouchers has been completed in Hudur, Wajid and Ceel Barde. Construction of emergency latrines and rehabilitation of shallow wells is ongoing. As of 31 October, in SWS, WASH cluster partners provided more than 128,000 people with emergency water supply; 215,000 people with sustainable water infrastructure, as well as sanitation infrastructure and services targeting 5,300 people and hygiene promotion activities and hygiene kits targeting 34,072 people.

In **Banadir** region, WASH partners provided water to at least 52,200 people in Daynile, Kahda, Garasbaley, Hamar Jajab and Heliwa districts and distributed 3,000 hygiene kits. At least 90,000 people have received and participated in hygiene promotion awareness activities in Daynile, Kahda, Garasbaley, Hamar Jajab and Heliwa districts.

FUNDING UPDATE

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has allocated \$8M for the drought response in addition to \$6M allocated through the Somalia Humanitarian Fund.

This year's HRP funding, which seeks US\$1.09 billion, is funded at 69.1 per cent as of 23 November. Significant funding gaps have been reported across sectors, with critical sectors like water, sanitation and hygiene only 20 per cent funded, at a time when access to water is a major challenge across the country.



CLUSTER	FUNDING REQUESTED	FUNDING RECEIVED*	% OF FUNDING RECEIVED
CCCM	\$30.9M	\$3.1M	10%
Education	\$44.6M	\$9M	20.3%
Food Security	\$396.6M	\$248.1M	62.5%
Health	\$91.7M	\$43.8M	47.8%
Nutrition	\$157.5M	\$70.2M	44.6%
Protection	\$106.6M	\$25.7M	24.1%
Shelter	\$58.0M	\$5.3M	9.1%
WASH	\$96.2M	\$27.5M	28.6%

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Background

Somalia has four distinct seasons that comprise the *Jilaa* (dry season) from December to mid-March; *Gu* (main rainy season) starting in mid-March to June; *Haggai* (cloudy season) starting in July until mid-September and the *Deyr* (the secondary rain season) from mid-September to November. However, due to climate change this cycle has been significantly disrupted, with the country experiencing consecutive poor performance/less regular or more intense rainfalls leading to flooding and soil erosion. The dry seasons have reported an increase in the mean temperatures, resulting in crop and pasture damages and drying of rainfed earth dams, shallow wells and boreholes, which are the main sources of water, especially in many rural homes. The 2021 *Deyr* rainfall have been below average to failed in majority of the states, worsening the existing dry conditions in many areas.