

HIGHLIGHTS

- Attack on UN aid workers in Puntland underscores the dangerous and difficult operating environment aid workers face in Somalia.
- Onset of principal rainy season brings relief to dry conditions, but heightens the risk of flooding and disease outbreaks.
- More money transfers organizations shut down further jeopardizing Somali remittance lifeline.



Nearly 2,300 people have fled conflict in Yemen and arrived on the northern coast of Somalia. Credit: UNHCR

In this issue

- Difficult operating environment P.1
- Onset of main rainy season P.1
- People flee Yemen to Somalia P.2
- Slow humanitarian funding P.4

FIGURES

# of people in humanitarian emergency and crisis	731,000
# of people in food security stress	2.3m
# of acutely malnourished children under age 5	203,000
Source: www.fsnau.org (Feb-June 2015 projection)	
# of internally displaced people	1.1m
# of Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa and Yemen	1m
Source: UNHCR	

Humanitarian Appeal

FUNDING

863 million

requested for 2015 (US\$)

11% (94 million)

122 million

Total humanitarian funding received for Somalia

(reflects reported funding on FTS as of 23 April 2015)

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

Attack on UN aid workers in Garowe

Four people killed and several injured in attack on UN marked vehicle

On 20 April, an explosion targeting a UN vehicle in Garowe, administrative capital in Puntland, resulted in the death of four UN staff and two security guards. Several others were injured. The UN's Children Fund, UNICEF, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Somalia, the UN Security Council, the UN Secretary General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the President of Somalia and other key officials issued statements condemning the attack and extended their condolences to the families of those who lost their lives and a speedy recovery to those who were injured and affected.

This attack highlights the dangerous operating environment in Somalia. Attacks on and targeting of aid workers hamper the ability to reach people who urgently need help. Between March and 20 April, 343 violent incidents impacting humanitarian operations and protection of civilians were recorded across the country. Over 40 incidents involved aid workers, which has led to eight people being killed, 14 injured, seven abducted and 20 humanitarian staff arrested or detained in 2015.

Humanitarians are using different ways to reach vulnerable communities

Roadblocks and checkpoints in southern and central Somalia manned by armed actors continue to obstruct the timely delivery of aid. Road access challenges increase the operational and transportation cost for humanitarian agencies delivering food to affected towns. They also augment prices of commercial food as traders transfer the high cost of operating in insecure areas to the consumers. The most affected roads remain Belet Weyne-Mogadishu and Mogadishu-Baidoa-Doolow. The food security situation has reportedly deteriorated in Hiraan and Bakool regions and acute malnutrition has increased in parts of Hiraan, Bandadir, Gedo and the Shabelle regions. To reach people in need, assistance is delivered through different modalities, such as through agreements with local authorities opening up roads, local partners and by air lifts in hard-to-reach areas.

For more information on the seasonal outlook, see FSNAU quarterly brief at: <http://bit.ly/1PJZ6AA>

Main rainy season underway across Somalia

Risk of flash floods in some areas, and water shortages in others

The April-June *Gu* rainy season started across the country in late March. Good *Gu* rains are critical as they usually provide 75 per cent of the annual rainfall and mark the start of the main planting season. The Somalia Water and Land Management (SWALIM), managed by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), forecast this season's rains to be within normal levels, although parts of the country could receive below normal rains. Water shortages experienced in many parts of the country during February and March resulted in significant increases in water prices, according to the FAO-led Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit. While water shortages are common ahead of the onset of the

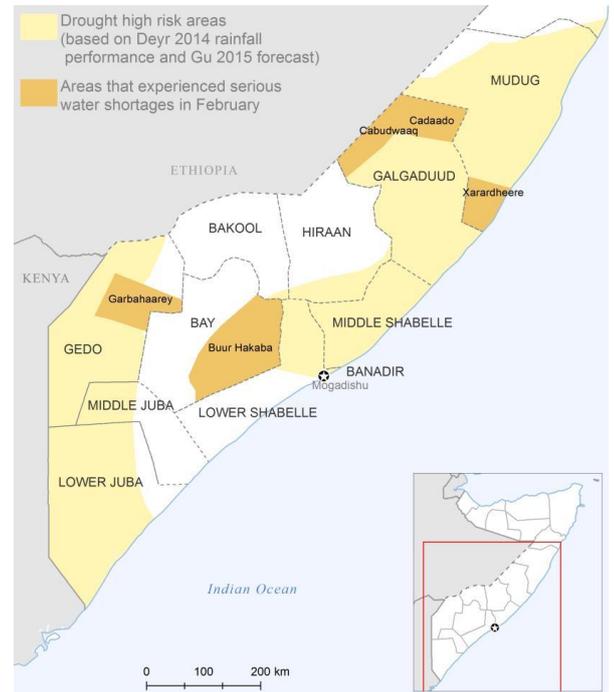
BASELINE

Population (UNDP 2005)	7.5m
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)	12%
% population using improved drinking water sources (UNDP 2009)	30%

seasonal rains, some locations have been of higher concern in March, including Garbahaarey in Gedo, Buur Hakaba in Bay, Cabudwaaq and Cadaado in Galgaduud and Xarardheere in Mudug regions where localised drought was reported.

SWALIM reports that downpours in mid-April in the eastern Ethiopian highlands, where the rivers originate, have increased river levels in the upper reaches and flash floods have been reported from Belet Weyne in Hiraan and Mogadishu in Banadir regions. While information is yet to be confirmed, temporary displacements have been reported.

The transmission season for waterborne diseases begins with the onset of the seasonal rains. Health partners have strengthened surveillance activities and pre-positioned medical supplies to enable rapid response to any outbreaks. Humanitarian partners are also replenishing 10 strategic supply hubs in hotspot areas with hygiene kits for 45,000 families and ramped up hygiene promotion activities by broadcasting sensitisation messages on local radio stations.



Drought high risk areas Source: SWALIM



CLUSTERS

Lead or co-lead organizations

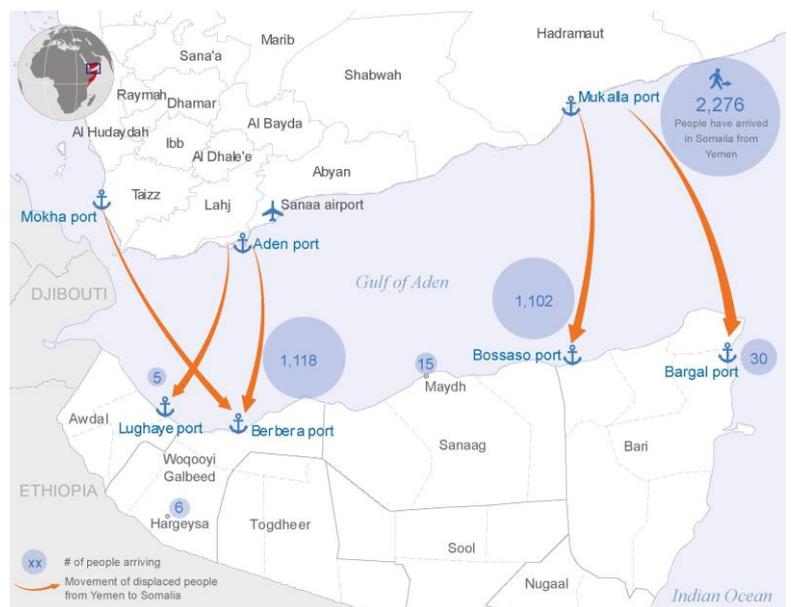
Education	UNICEF SC-Alliance
Food security	FAO/WFP
Health	WHO Merlin
Logistics	WFP
Nutrition	UNICEF CAFDARO
Protection	UNHCR DRC
Shelter	UNHCR UNHABITAT
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF OXFAM

Close to 2,300 people have fled the escalating conflict in Yemen and arrived in Somalia.

People fleeing Yemen conflict arrive in Somalia

Reception centres set up to register and respond to needs of new arrivals

Close to 2,300 people have fled the conflict in Yemen and arrived in Somalia since late March, according to the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, and the International Organization for Migration, IOM. Most people have crossed the Gulf of Aden by boat, while some have arrived by plane. Most of the arrivals are Somalis (2,012) followed by Yemeni nationals. Reception centres have been set up in Bossaso in Puntland, and in Berbera in Somaliland and humanitarian partners are working with authorities to register those who arrive and provide food, medical and psychosocial care, and household items to those in need.



People fleeing Yemen conflict to Somalia Source: UNHCR

To ensure an effective response and continued information sharing, coordination mechanisms have been set up for humanitarian partners at country and local level. The

New material on the OCHA Somalia website:
 Humanitarian Dashboard:
<http://bit.ly/1MSULYG>
 Humanitarian Snapshot:
<http://bit.ly/1I5RkwB>
 Who, does what, where map:
<http://bit.ly/1bdqGH2>

Somali families are losing their only formal, transparent and regulated channel through which to send and receive money.

Health, nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene clusters have received less than 8 per cent while the Food Security Cluster has received 13 per cent of funds requested.

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Federal Government of Somalia has also set up an emergency task force to address emerging humanitarian issues in the wake of the crisis in Yemen and the two coordination bodies met on 15 April to discuss options to support people to their areas of origin. The forced migration of Somalis to their home country is a reversal of a movement that has sent tens of thousands of Somalis to Yemen during the last two decades; 244,000 of whom are registered refugees.

Closure of money transfer services risk lifeline

Up to 70 per cent of remittances received are used to buy food

On 7 April, the Kenyan Government revoked the licenses of 13 money remittance providers based in Nairobi in the wake of the 2 April terrorist attack in Garissa, which claimed the lives of at least 148 people. Remittances from the Somali diaspora act as a lifeline for many families and an estimated 40 per cent of the population depends on them for basic needs such as food and medicine. It has been estimated that US\$1.2-1.3 billion is sent to Somalia from around the world every year – more than the annual humanitarian aid, development aid and foreign direct investment combined. As there is no functioning banking system in Somalia, money transfer organizations are the only regulated way to send money to Somalia. In recent years, as a result of stricter regulatory frameworks and as an effort to curb terrorism, banks have started to close the accounts of money transfer organizations, including in the UK, US and Australia.

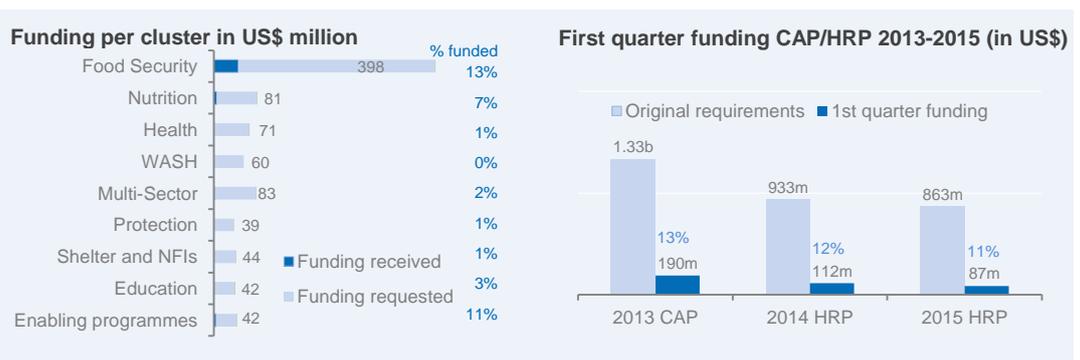
The latest closure of transfer services could add further stress to the already fragile humanitarian situation. Up to 70 per cent of remittances received are used to buy food, and it is feared that a shutdown could have a significant impact on food security. In a statement following Kenya's announcement on money transfer services, 15 non-governmental organizations working in Somalia stressed the importance of remittances and advocated to avoid a disruption of remittances. The aid organizations underline that Somali families are losing their only formal, transparent and regulated channel through which to send and receive money. Aid agencies working in Somalia also risk losing their only means of transferring money to sustain their daily humanitarian and development operations. Aid agencies use the money transfer services to pay salaries, contractors, rent, and to deliver aid activities. Two of the companies used by UN agencies have had their license revoked, but the full impact is yet to be determined as funds are also transferred via other countries.

NGO statement on closure of money remittance providers in Kenya: <http://bit.ly/1FHjr4M>

Humanitarian contributions slow to start

Low funding across clusters affects humanitarian response in Somalia

About US\$122 million has been received for humanitarian activities in Somalia this year, according to the online Financial Tracking Service. This includes \$94 million reported against the \$863 million required to address needs identified in the 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan and another \$28 million reported outside the appeal. With only 11 per cent of requirements met, funding levels per cluster are critically low. To date, health, nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) clusters have received less than 8 per cent while the Food Security Cluster has received 13 per cent of funds requested.



Downscaling humanitarian assistance will have a negative impact on the most vulnerable Somalis.

The low level of funding across all clusters has affected the capacity to respond to humanitarian needs, including new needs as they arise. Response by the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Cluster this year has been done with carry-over funds from 2014. In March, partners did not have sufficient funds to provide water, sanitation and hygiene services and shelter kits to some 6,900 people who were affected by flash floods in seven displacement settlements in southern Gaalkacyo in Mudug region. Further, the World Food Programme (WFP) has had to prioritize assistance in the first quarter. More funding in the next few months is critical, or WFP may be forced to further reduce its assistance to the Somali people and over 250,000 vulnerable Somalis will be at risk of no longer receiving critical assistance as early as June, even more in July. Downscaling humanitarian assistance will have a negative impact on the most vulnerable Somalis who need critical food and nutrition assistance up to the *Gu* harvest in September 2015.

First time risk analysis of all Somali regions

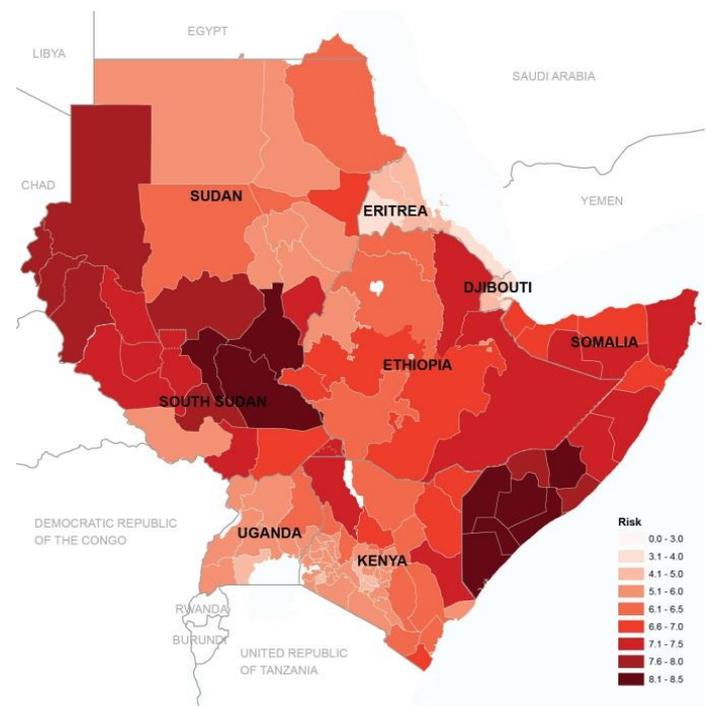
Southern Somalia highest humanitarian risk in greater Horn of Africa

A humanitarian risk index analysis of the greater Horn of Africa shows that people in Somalia are exposed to the highest humanitarian risk. Southern and central Somalia, including Bay, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower and Middle Juba and Lower Shabelle regions, is rated highest in East Africa, together with three conflict-affected states in South Sudan.

Adding to the score are factors such as high level of conflict, natural hazards and a widespread multi-dimensional poverty. Many families are deprived of access to health and education services and live under the most basic conditions. The majority of the 1.1 million internally displaced people also live in these areas.

With these compounding factors of vulnerability, coping capacities to react to new shocks are key for communities' resilience. The risk analysis helps to prioritise the action taken by partners, identify underlying causes and bring together humanitarian and development actors. Discussions on resilience and durable solutions have been stepped up with humanitarian and development stakeholders as the nexus between humanitarian and development needs to be strengthened to address the underlying causes of the humanitarian emergency in Somalia and find sustainable solutions.

The regional analysis of humanitarian risk was conducted by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and OCHA's Regional Office for Eastern Africa between October 2014 and March 2015. The index for risk management (InfoRM, <http://www.inform-index.org>) builds on three pillars: 1) exposure to natural hazard and conflict, 2) socio-economic vulnerability and vulnerable groups and 3) lack of coping capacity. InfoRM is a collaboration of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Team for Preparedness and Resilience, which includes UN agencies and the European Commission.



Source: IGAD/OCHA

Risk analysis helps to prioritise action, identify underlying causes and bring together humanitarian and development actors.

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