

This report is produced by OCHA Somalia in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA in New York. It covers the period from 29 December to 4 January 2012. The next report will be issued on 11 January 2012.

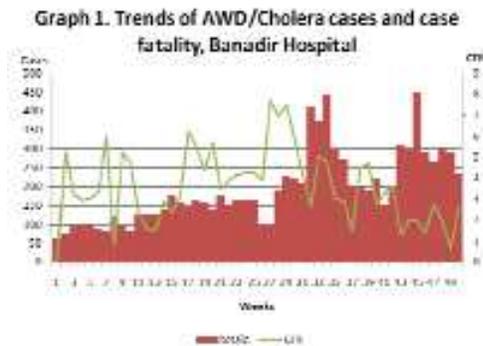
I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Two humanitarian aid workers were shot dead in Mogadishu on 29 December.
- Banadir Hospital reported a reduction in the number of cases of acute watery diarrhoea and measles in November/December compared to September/October.
- Pro-Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and Ethiopian troops took control of Belet Weyne, Hiraan region, on 31 December. This strategic town, which has been controlled by Al Shabaab for the past two years, connects the rest of the southern and central Somalia regions with the northern regions and with Ethiopia.

II. Situation Overview

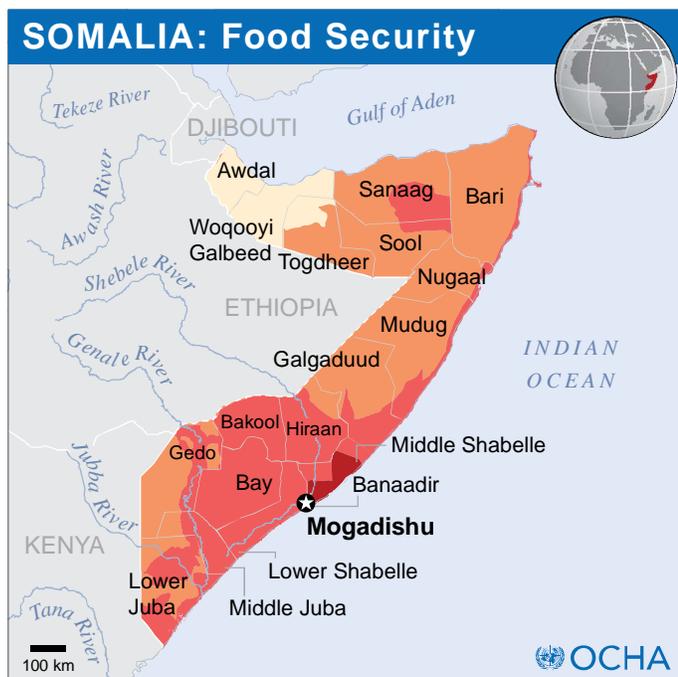
Two humanitarian aid workers were shot dead in Mogadishu on 29 December. The incident was not terrorist-related. A total of five aid workers have been killed in the past two weeks in Somalia.

Banadir Hospital, the largest hospital in Mogadishu, has reported a drop in the number of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and measles cases. In the four weeks from 28 November to 25 December, the number of AWD cases recorded weekly at the hospital was 305, 293, 237 and 147 respectively; while the number of measles cases recorded at the hospital for the same weeks were 31, 23, 17 and 16 respectively. In the September/October period, more than 400 cases were reported on a weekly basis. Data from the various primary health facilities in the city's districts is unavailable, therefore it is difficult to generalize based on figures from Banadir Hospital only.



Pro-TFG forces of the Shabelle Valley State backed by Ethiopian troops attacked and captured the town of Belet Weyne, Hiraan region, from Al Shabaab on 31 December. This strategic town, which has been controlled by Al Shabaab for the past two years, connects the rest of the southern and central Somalia regions with the northern regions and with Ethiopia. At least 20 people, the majority of them combatants, were killed and scores of others were wounded in the fighting. Belet Weyne was one of the main strongholds of Al Shabaab in central Somalia.

The compound of the Norwegian Refugee Council in North Gaalkacyo, Mudug region, was attacked on 29 December 2011, when two hand grenades were thrown over the compound wall. Nobody was harmed in the incident. The motive of the attack is unknown.



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) most-likely outcome for Nov-Dec 2011
 None/minimal Stressed Crisis Emergency Famine
 Map Sources: ESRI, UNCS, UNDP, UNHCR, FEWS NET, FSNAU/FAO.
 The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created on 14 Dec 2011.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response in Southern Somalia



FOOD ASSISTANCE

Needs: The target for humanitarian partners is 4 million food insecure people throughout the country, including 3 million in southern Somalia.

Response: Based on reports from 33 per cent of the 18 Food Assistance Cluster (FAC) members, 644,405 beneficiaries were reached with food assistance in December (as of 25 December). Complete figures will only be available when full reports are submitted, and the number of beneficiaries is expected to increase. However, a decrease in beneficiaries reached compared to the high of 2.6 million reached in October is expected. The projected decline is due to a combination of factors, including limited access caused by insecurity.

During the regional FAC meeting in Mogadishu, on-site school feeding (OSF) was highlighted as one of the key priorities for the region in order to support improved access to education (including children from internally displaced person (IDP) households). OSF will also complement activities of both the education and nutrition clusters. Implementation will only be possible with the requisite funding for 2012.

The FAC is finalizing beneficiary projections for January-March 2012. Indications are that several local partners, particularly in the southern and central regions, will need immediate and flexible funding to address some of the gaps already identified by the cluster in southern and central Somalia.

Gaps and Constraints: As an additional measure to validate the gap analysis and help inform discussions regarding geographical coverage at the district-level, the FAC has initiated a district-level review of response figures involving partners operational in the concerned districts. This review was initiated in response to concerns that interior areas of some districts are not well covered by humanitarian assistance, mainly due to insecurity.



WATER SANITATION HYGIENE (WASH)

Needs: The WASH Cluster targets 3.3 million people with sustained access to safe water and 1.3 million people with emergency sanitation. It also promotes hygiene among the 4.6 million people living in areas with limited access to safe water and sanitation as a means of reducing the risk of AWD/cholera.

Response: New district lead agencies are coordinating the WASH Cluster response to AWD/cholera and flooding at district level to reduce overlaps and gaps. They are responding as per the WASH Cluster Flood Response Guide and the WASH/Health Cluster AWD/Cholera Responsibilities Matrix, both of which are available on the WASH Cluster website.

Gaps and Constraints: As of November 2011, WASH Cluster maps tracking progress and gaps for provision of water per district indicate that significant gaps in response exist in districts in Bay, Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle. Factors challenging response efforts include local conflict and logistical constraints.



PROTECTION

Cluster Population Movement Tracking (PMT) reports show a decline in the number of movements of IDPs in Somalia, with approximately 8,000 movements in November and just over 2,000 during the first two weeks of December, down from 41,000 in October. This is due to a number of factors including increased checkpoints and restrictions on movement imposed on returnees from Al Shabaab-controlled areas, levying of tax on mini-bus drivers and intimidation and arrests of businessmen who wish to return. Furthermore, intensified fighting in the southern regions has prevented many from moving out of these regions. In Mogadishu, PMT reports indicate that lack of livelihood, sanitation and shelter, hidden improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and sporadic fighting, as well as arrests of alleged Al Shabaab suspects by the TFG security forces, have made people reluctant to return to their area of origin. Despite this, over 4,000 IDP returns were reported nationwide in November – including 3,500 IDPs who were reported to have voluntarily returned to Mogadishu. Meanwhile, Al Shabaab reportedly instructed the majority of IDPs in Baardheere district of Gedo region to return to their places of origin – in total, over 2,000 people were reported to have been displaced from the district.



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LOGISTICS

Response: Since October, the Logistics Cluster has transported over 1,117 metric tonnes of humanitarian cargo to Somalia on behalf of 13 organizations (8 international NGOs and 5 UN agencies). The next Logistics Cluster-coordinated sea transport is tentatively scheduled for mid-January, based on Cargo Movement Requests received.

Gaps and Constraints: Mombasa Port remains extremely congested despite normal port operations recommencing after the holiday. Securing a berth for the grain bulk silo currently takes between 14 and 19 days. Trucking (shunting) capacity and dock worker availability continues to remain a serious challenge for port users. As the northeast monsoon winds become weaker, Mogadishu Port expects to receive more dhows but for the moment average berthing time remains one day. Bossaso Port is currently congested, with two vessels at berth discharging commercial cargo. Berbera Port is congested as well, with waiting time averaging four days. Dar Es Salaam Port has no congestion, while Djibouti Port remains congested and is expected to remain busy until the end of January.

An updated Somalia Physical Road Network Conditions Map (as of 21 December) is available at: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a/somalia-physical-road-conditions/download>.

Due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays, some clusters could not supply updates this week.

IV. Coordination

On 28 December, at a meeting in Gaalkacyo, it was decided that, in 2012, the Protection Cluster will focus on training and raising awareness among IDPs in addition to advocacy with and capacity building of rule of law institutions to report and deal with gang rapes.

V. Funding

The Consolidated Appeal for Somalia in 2012, which is requesting US\$1.5 billion, has so far received \$91 million (6 per cent of requirements) for a WFP food assistance project to assist 1.6 million people in need across the country. For more information, see <http://ochaonline.un.org/somalia/chf>.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org.

VII. Humanitarian Giving

To make a donation through the United Nations, please consider one of the following options:

1. Support the appeals for the countries in the Horn of Africa
2. Give to the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
3. Give to the Pooled Funds in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia
4. Give to OCHA's response to the Horn of Africa Crisis

For details on how to make a donation, please consult the "OCHA Guide to Humanitarian Giving" on the OCHA website: <http://www.unocha.org/crisis/horn-africa-crisis>

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