Highlights

- While extensive humanitarian operations are ongoing, with over three million people being reached monthly with life-saving assistance, livelihoods support and protection services, humanitarian needs are expected to persist at current levels through the end of the year. As a result of below average Gu rains, pest infestation and reduced area cultivated, overall cereal production is expected to be 50-60 percent of average, according to the Post Gu Preliminary Assessment Results by Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU).
- Results of nutrition surveys conducted by FSNAU indicate a critical nutrition situation (Global Acute Malnutrition (WHZ) prevalence of 15 per cent or higher) in 9 out of 12 displaced people’s settlements.
- The first ever Somalia Country Humanitarian Forum was held on 19 July, in Mogadishu. The forum will now serve as an information sharing and coordination platform with international humanitarian actors.
- On 15 July, AMISOM handed over the Somali National University to the Federal Government. The handover of the last civilian learning facility occupied by armed actors comes after over 30 years of occupation and is an important step in expanding opportunities for youth.

Situation Overview

Severe drought is expected to continue to deepen till the start of the next rainy season in October and an improvement in the food security and nutrition situation is not likely before December/January, as indicated by the 2017 Post Gu Preliminary Assessment Results issued by FSNAU. The Gu rainy season was late and shorter than normal, and generally poor in most of the country and the temporal distribution was erratic. As a result of below average Gu rains, pest infestation and reduced area cultivated, overall cereal production is expected to be 50-60 percent average this season. Climate model predictions indicate a 45 percent possibility of an El Nino event in late 2017.

Food access remains a challenge among most poor households due to reduced income and high cost of living. The assessment indicates that levels of acute malnutrition remain high in most internally displaced people’s
settlements while mortality remains a concern in some of the settlements. While displacement rates slowed down during the Gu season, reports of renewed waves of movement in June mainly from rural areas that received little rain have been received. Noticeable is the increase in drought and conflict-related displacement in south central Somalia recorded by the UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network. The spike in conflict-displaced people represents a new displacement trend since November 2016. In May and June alone, approximately 50,000 people were displaced due to conflict and heightened insecurity in south central Somalia. Some 70,000 people were displaced due to drought during the same period. More than 28,000 internal displacements were reported in June, a significant decline compared to 46,000 reported in May

Baidoa witnessed a spike in new arrivals with 16,000 people arriving in June - a significant increase compared to 4,700 new arrivals in May. Mogadishu received 650 new arrivals while 9,100 new arrivals were reported in May. Approximately 17,700 people have reportedly returned to their villages of origin, of these, 11,200 returned in June. The returns have mainly happened to villages within Baidoa district as well as Dinsoor and Qansahdhere districts in Bay region. Significant returns in other regions have not been reported so far.

A cumulative 71, 663 suspected AWD/cholera cases and 1,098 deaths (CFR 1.5%) have been recorded from 37 districts across 15 regions in 2017. The trend of cholera cases recorded in the past 27 weeks shows a significant increase compared to cases reported during the same period last year.

Humanitarian Response

Humanitarian partners have continued to massively scale up response between February and June, increasing from just over one million in February 2017 (equivalent to 36 per cent of the number of people in IPC 3 or higher) to nearly 2.4 million in June 2017 (equivalent to 74 per cent of the number of people in IPC 3 or higher). Over 18.5 million heads of livestock have been treated against diseases, benefiting 2.8 million people. Some 145 MT metric tons (MT) of humanitarian aid has been airlifted on behalf of the Federal Government and 198MT on behalf of humanitarian agencies throughout the country.

However, some clusters such as Food Security, Health and WASH have scaled back activities due to lack of adequate funding. Some 2.5 million people were reached with food and safety nets in June down from 2.7 million in May. Much of the food assistance is through cash programming. Scaled up support through the rest of 2017 will be necessary to prevent worsening food insecurity and protect livelihoods. FSNAU projects that if the current level of humanitarian assistance scales back significantly and rising levels of morbidity and disease outbreaks are not controlled, Famine (IPC Phase 5) is possible in the worst affected areas.

Funding

Further resources are required to prevent famine in the second half of the year.

Donors have responded to the call for assistance in the first half of 2017 enabling humanitarians to scale up drought response. A total of US$864 million has so far been contributed for humanitarian response activities. The amount includes $14 million (not included in the graph) multi-year funding for activities beyond 2017.

While famine has been averted so far, thanks to critical investments early in the year, drought conditions are expected to continue to deepen till the start of next rainy season in October. Reprieve from the effects of prolonged drought will however persist till early next year when improvements in the food security and nutrition situation is expected to start being felt.

The momentum in new donor contributions has been declining. New donor commitments per month have declined from about $258 million in March to $26 million by end
of June. This is likely to affect continuity of response till the end of the year.

Despite ongoing response, humanitarian needs far exceed available resources. Funding is already running out for critical sectors such as WASH, leading to reduction in beneficiaries reached. Pipeline breaks in food security and nutrition are expected to start affecting programmes as early as August. It is estimated that at least $100 million is required per month to sustain current levels of response, with a reach of more than 3 million people receiving life-sustaining assistance and livelihood support.

While a $350 million pledged by UK, US, EU, ADB and Gulf donors will boost response (at $100 million per month) until October, a significant gap of $200 million still needs to be covered to support activities implementation till the end of the year. The gap is likely to start taking toll on response if pledged funds delay or do not fully materialize.

Real-time information sharing about the available resources is essential for ensuring the overall efficiency of humanitarian response in Somalia. Donors and recipient agencies are strongly encouraged to inform OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service (FTS – http://fts.unocha.org) of cash and in-kind contributions. Reporting can done through the online reporting form or by e-mailing the reporting template to fts@un.org.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Logistics

Needs
- Access to some areas remains severely limited due to insecurity and infrastructure deterioration.
- The access limitations are impacting the ability of the humanitarians to efficiently and effectively deliver humanitarian relief to populations in need.

Response
- Nearly 99 per cent of logistics transport and storage service requests were completed.
- Some 145 MT metric tons (MT) of humanitarian aid has been airlifted on behalf of the Federal Government and 198MT on behalf of humanitarian agencies throughout the country.
- 444MT of critical supplies have been transported via sea and road on behalf of five humanitarian partners.
- In order to address access limitations, the Logistics Cluster, in collaboration with UNHAS is facilitating an ongoing, scaled-up air response for humanitarian cargo and personnel.
- Three cargo planes are positioned in Mogadishu to facilitate the airlift of critical humanitarian supplies.
- Through UNHAS the Logistics Cluster facilitated air transportation of 23.5MT of humanitarian relief items on behalf of humanitarian partners.
- On behalf of the humanitarian community, the Logistics Cluster, through lead agency WFP, is also facilitating access to sea and road transportation for humanitarian aid cargo. Since February, more than 444MT of critical supplies have been transported on behalf of the Government of Somalia, FAO, UNHCR, UNFPA and UNICEF by road and sea into and throughout Somalia.
- Logistics Cluster is working in support of humanitarians to ensure more efficient prepositioning of emergency items through making available storage facilities in various locations throughout Somalia.

Gaps and Constraints
- Due to road access limitations and deteriorating infrastructure, a number of key operational areas remain only accessible by air while others are completely inaccessible.
Nutrition

Needs
Results of nutrition surveys conducted by FSNAU indicate a critical nutrition situation (Global Acute Malnutrition (WHZ) prevalence of 15 per cent or higher) in 9 out of 12 displaced people's settlements. The 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan indicates that 2.2 million people are in need of nutrition interventions. Of these, the nutrition cluster targets to treat 539,000 moderately malnourished children, 346,000 severely malnourished children aged between 6 months to 5 years and 270,000 pregnant and lactating women. Overall, 1,155,000 beneficiaries are targeted for acute malnutrition assistance.

Response
- Some 392,373 beneficiaries were treated for acute malnutrition in June. This includes 235,184 children under age 5, and 90,079 pregnant and lactating women for moderate acute malnutrition and 67,110 beneficiaries for severe acute malnutrition, a 90 per cent achievement of the total targeted beneficiaries for June.
- 495,315 beneficiaries received nutrition preventive services, 35 per cent of the targeted beneficiaries.

Gaps and Constraints
- Due to increased new admissions at the feeding and treatment centers as a result of deteriorating nutrition situation, supply gaps are anticipated especially for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) products.
- Despite efforts for an integrated approach to curb undernutrition, there is need to strengthen multi-sectoral/multi-stakeholder approach to ensure a comprehensive package at service delivery level.
- Significant parts of rural areas are inaccessible, hampering access to nutrition services.
- Funding gaps are foreseen as from August due to the increased needs as a result of acute food insecurity at the household level.

Health

Needs
Overall trends of suspected cholera cases and deaths in June have slightly declined with an estimated 14,397 suspected cholera cases recorded including 101 associated deaths (CFR- 0.7%) recorded from 30 districts. Overall as of 30 June, 71,663 cumulative AWD/cholera cases and 1,098 related deaths (CR 1.5 percent) have been reported in 2017. The trend of cholera cases recorded in the past 26 weeks has shown a significant increase compared to cases reported during the same period last year.

Response
- Integrated Emergency Response Teams (IERTs) provided medical assistance to 1,140 AWD/cholera patients. Of these, 75 were referred to respective CTCs, CTUs and hospitals within south central.
- Emergency life-saving supplies including 4,000 litres of Ringer Lactate are being delivered to a health centre in Elmacan in Warsheikh district in the south eastern Middle Shebelle to respond to the AWD/cholera outbreak.
- Health and WASH clusters in collaboration with Radio ERGO stepped up AWD/cholera awareness messages in hotspot districts in Banadir region.
- House-to-house AWD/cholera prevention and awareness sessions were conducted along the Afgoye corridor, Banadir region, the epicenter of the latest AWD/cholera epidemic.
- A mass scale up aimed at AWD/cholera prevention in six hotspots districts in Banadir is ongoing. So far, distribution of aqua tabs, ORS and Zinc tabs as well as mobilization in the targeted districts.
- In collaboration with the National Supply Chain /Federal MOH, some twenty staff from public healthcare and emergency facilities in South West State were trained on the proper management of emergency medicines, supplies and other health commodities (Storage, stock management, distribution and dispensing practices. Etc.) in June.
Gaps and Constraints

- Limited funding for the health cluster continues to hamper the delivery of life-saving health services to the most vulnerable people including children and IDPs.
- Inaccessibility to some areas due insecurity is affecting delivery of basic health services to affected communities.
- Additional life-saving support of medical supplies to health facilities, especially in drought and AWD/Cholera-affected areas, is urgently required.

Education Needs

Some 528,000 children in need of assistance to stay in schools due to severe drought. Nearly half of the approximately 766,000 drought-displaced people are school-age children, according to the Protection and Return Monitoring Network. A majority of these children are vulnerable and an increasing number have no access to education. Further scaled up response is needed to ensure the children access education. Baidoa hosts the largest number of newly displaced children with no access to education. Expansion of permanent schools around the IDP settlements in Baidoa is being explored to provide the children with sustainable access to education.

Response

- Lessons from the 2011 drought indicate that many children never returned to school after the long recess. Based on this, Puntland Education cluster partners and the Ministry of Education (MoE) are keeping schools, in severely drought-affected areas, open during school breaks. MoE has agreed that schools will be the most suitable spaces to keep children safe and protected. The children will be engaged in recreational and learning activities and will also be provided with meals and safe drinking water during recess.
- Some 171,500 of the targeted 250,000 children have accessed education services this year through drought response. This includes 108,300 children supported with safe drinking water in schools, 33,800 with school food and 116,500 children with teaching and learning materials.

Gaps and constraints

- A large number of displaced children do not have access to education. Expansion of permanent schools around IDPs settlements is being explored to provide the children with sustainable access to education.

Food Security Needs

- Immediate access to food for populations affected by drought, conflict and disease to prevent the risk of famine. This includes needs of new arrivals from inaccessible areas, in addition to the protracted caseload.
- Livelihoods support to drought-affected populations to protect livelihoods and enable local production. Emergency livestock support to keep animals alive and productive, and ensure the availability of inputs to produce food.
- Appropriate livelihoods support to stressed population in particular to prevent adoption of “irreversible” coping strategies to maintain “survival” in view of growing acute food insecurity.

Response

- Improved access to food and safety net (IASN): Some 2,478,519 beneficiaries (76 per cent of the target) have received various forms of unconditional assistance. WFP has reached about 1.58 million (66 per cent) of beneficiaries assisted, SCI (8 per cent) and other partners (24 per cent).
- In comparison to May, the IASN assistance has reduced by about 280,000 beneficiaries (10 per cent). Most of the regions with the exception of Hiraan, Lower Juba, Mudug, Sanaag and Togdheer, were affected by this reduction. Support to 13 per cent of the targeted population in Middle Juba shows efforts by partners to reach
inaccessible areas. However, Middle Juba, Middle and Lower Shebelle, Woqooyi Galbeed Awdal and Galgaduud area have remained of concern to the cluster given the below 50 per cent level of response of the FSC target threshold.

- About 81 per cent of the total beneficiaries assisted in June received their assistance in the form of cash/cheques or vouchers while the remaining 19 per cent received food (in kind) directly.
- The FSC partners reached some 127,354 beneficiaries (50 per cent reduction compared to May), accounting for nearly 7 per cent of the monthly target. WFP, FAO and CRS contributed 27, 20 and 14 per cent respectively of the beneficiaries assisted in June. Most of the regions except for Sool, Togdheer and Woqooyi Galbeed, were affected by the reduction. Livelihood Assets response across all regions of Somalia is below the FSC target threshold of 50 per cent.
- FSC partners have continued the provision of livestock assets protection and seasonal inputs, although at much more reduced levels. The partners collectively reached some 276,838 beneficiaries in June. Some 106,122 beneficiaries (38 per cent) were assisted with seasonal inputs (mainly seeds), while the remaining beneficiaries received livestock asset protection assistance (livestock treatment).
- Cumulatively some 2,792,890 beneficiaries were reached since the start of the season (January – June 2017) and this accounts for about 87 per cent of the seasonal target. FAO contributed 98 per cent of the total beneficiaries assisted in June.

Gaps and Constraints

- The reduction of assistance is an indication that some partners are running out of funding. The cluster is concerned about the reduced level of response while acute needs continue to increase.
- The level of livelihoods support to the population in 'stressed' IPC phase was not to the degree of need. This gap has persisted and potentially increased the risks of food security deterioration for households and force some of the households to resort to “irreversible” coping strategies.
- Limited humanitarian access had an adverse impact on the response in some of the affected areas, particularly in Middle Juba, Lower Shebelle, Bakool (Tieglo) and Bay (Qasax Dheer, Buur Hakaba. It has contributed to the growing displacements in Baidoa or/and Mogadishu to seek life-saving assistance.

Shelter

Needs

- More than 766,000 drought-displaced people are in need of Shelter/NFI assistance. Most of the displacement is to Baidoa and Mogadishu.
- Over 30,000 people have been displaced due to conflict in Lower Shabelle region.
- Nearly 1.1 million people remain in protracted displacement countrywide. The displaced families are in need of shelter and other household non-food items. Safe and secure settlements are needed to provide vulnerable communities with protected and healthy living spaces and environments, while ensuring sufficient privacy and dignity for the groups, families, and individuals within them.

Response

- In June, 49,200 persons were assisted with emergency non-food assistance. Emergency NFI packages including plastic sheeting, blankets, jerry cans, sleeping mats and kitchen sets. These are core items for daily household use and survival.
- Nearly 18,000 persons have been assisted with Emergency Shelter Kits. An emergency shelter kit includes plastic sheets, supporting poles and a rope for tying down the structure. This provides the most basic shelter which can offer protection from extreme weather.

Gaps and Constraints

- Limited funding is affected the delivery of humanitarian assistance by shelter cluster partners.
- Increased advocacy is required to highlight the need for increased shelter and NFIs to drought-displaced people.
Logistical challenges including flight costs, road inaccessibility, insecurity and checkpoints for the transportation of NFI/Shelter supplies are affecting the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Lack of pre-positioned stocks due to low funding for shelter activities hampers timely response to displaced populations.

Needs
For the fifth consecutive week, new cases of AWD/cholera have continued to decrease as well as the related number of deaths, demonstrating improvements in terms of prevention and case management. These improvements are seen in South and Central regions, Puntland and in Somaliland. Nevertheless, some pre-existing hotspots like Burao (Togdheer) continue to register important numbers of new cases and new hotspots continue to appear, like Badaadhe, Kulbyo and Ras Camboni in Lower Juba this week. Scaling up sanitation assistance, access to chlorinated water and to hygiene promotion activities, including distribution of hygiene kits in IDPs settlements, host communities and in rural area that are still affected by drought, is critical to contain disease outbreaks.

The hygiene and sanitation conditions in the IDPs settlements remain poor with insufficient sanitation facilities and related open defecation. Several water points are dysfunctional due to over-use, forcing IDPs to buy water at prohibitive costs. Additional emergency latrines and garbage disposal pits in IDP settlements need to be built and there is a need to continuously dislodge existing pit latrines. With the upcoming Deyr rainy season rehabilitation of WASH facilities (water points and latrines) remains very critical. The facilities require reinforcement to avoid breakages that would lead to water contamination in flood prone areas and an upsurge of AWD/Cholera cases. The recommended WASH facilities in flood-prone areas should be raised with apron walls and flood proof latrines but due to limited funding the affected populations are at risk of further exposure to water borne diseases.

Response
- Due to lack of adequate funding the WASH continues to show worrying signs of slowing down for the second consecutive month, making it difficult for partners to sustain their response.
- In June nearly 405,000 beneficiaries were reached with temporary access to water, a decrease from 707,000 people reached in May. Similarly, the number of people reached with permanent access to water has decreased from 212,100 in April to 129,000 in May and to 127,000 in June.
- There was a limited increase in provision of safe sanitation infrastructure in June, by 68,700 beneficiaries, which is a decrease when compared to the other months (141,900 beneficiaries in May and 165,600 in April).
- Hygiene promotion activities aimed at containing the AWD/cholera outbreak have reached over 63 per cent (1.6 million people) of the 2.5 million people targeted countrywide. Among these 1.6 million, some 851,300 people have received hygiene kits. Nevertheless, and once again less people were reached in June (194,200) by comparison with May (301,300).
- WASH response towards the AWD outbreak through provision of hygiene kits together with dissemination of hygiene promotion message in Badhadhe, Ceel Waaq, Daynile, Kismayo, Marka, Warsheikh, Dolow, Luuq, Belet Hawa as well as other districts are underway to cover 7,500 households.
- After several weeks of efforts and due to the very complex security situation, hygiene kits have been successfully distributed to 2,000 displaced households in Marka. Similar operation for displaced households in km 50 is on-going.
- Several trainings aiming at mainstreaming Gender-Based Violence issues in the framework of the WASH activities were organized for Wash Cluster partners in Mogadishu and Baidoa.

Gaps and constraints
- Water sources that broke down during the drought period due to overuse require rehabilitation but funding constraints hinder its implementation.
• Based on the number of new arrivals in various IDP camps, there is pressure on the limited WASH resources. There is need to construct additional latrines, provision of safe water, and distribution of hygiene kits. There are no proper waste disposal areas in most IDP camps while poor hygiene practices are observed.
• Open defecation is common in these settlements and landowners have opposed the installation of latrine structures.
• Lack of funding has further limited the cluster’s ability to sustain extensive hygiene campaigns, especially in the rural areas and for (pre-existing) IDP settlements in peri-urban areas. Of the $111.6 million cluster requirements, only 28 per cent ($31.2 million) has been received, leaving a gap of $80.4 million. This has affected the effective delivery of services.
• Additional funding - around $20 million of the funding gap of $80.4 million - is urgently needed for Cholera Treatment Centers support, provision of WASH services in schools, Health Posts and to support the Integrated Emergency Response Team (IERT) approach, this to put an end to the on-going AWD/cholera outbreaks.

Latest Publications

• Updated Logistics Cluster ConOps Map: http://bit.ly/2vN2cPH
• Somalia Humanitarian bulletin 2 June: http://bit.ly/2rYwsL
• The forecast, observed river levels and rainfall amounts are updated on a daily basis and can be found in this link: http://systems.faoso.net/frrims/