

National - Food Security and Livelihoods Overview

Somalia Joint Multi Cluster Needs Assessment

August 2018

Background and Methodology

Prolonged drought conditions have contributed to a rapid deterioration of the humanitarian context in Somalia, since early 2016. Caused by four successive seasons of below average rainfall, drought has resulted in substantial livestock herd depletion and a reduction in cereal production, while cereal prices have risen to well above the average, resulting in reduced household access to food and income¹. Additionally, above average rainfall in the first half of 2018 caused severe flooding across parts of South Central Somalia, and coastal areas in Puntland and Somaliland, causing further waves of displacement and destruction of agricultural land². Parallel to these climatic trends, insecurity and the presence of

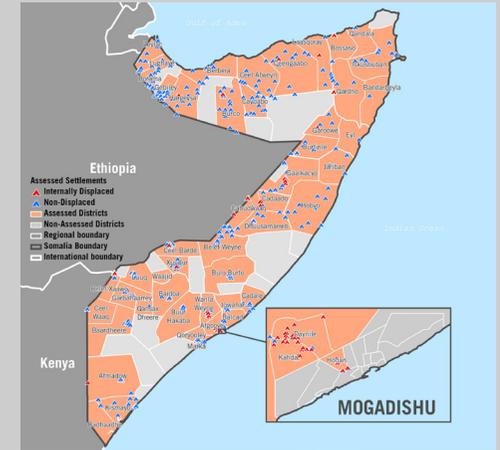
active armed groups continue to limit humanitarian access, most notably in the South Central region of Somalia. In light of this evolving context, the need for integrated and harmonised information systems to support both immediate and long-term humanitarian response is ever more crucial, particularly through comprehensive assessments and mapping activities.

To address these information needs, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), in partnership with REACH conducted a Joint National Multi-Cluster Needs Assessment (JMCNA) across Somalia³. Households were sampled for statistical representativeness stratified by non-displaced and internally displaced person

(IDP) households at the district level, with a 92% confidence level and a 10% margin of error.

This factsheet presents analysis of data collected across the country between 30 June and 12 August 2018. A total of 10,256 non-displaced and 3,012 IDP households were surveyed. Findings relating to non-displaced households are representative with a 95% confidence level and a 1% margin of error while those relating to IDP households are representative with a 95% confidence level and a 2% margin of error.

This assessment was made possible through collaboration by 44 partners, particularly during data collection.



Food Access

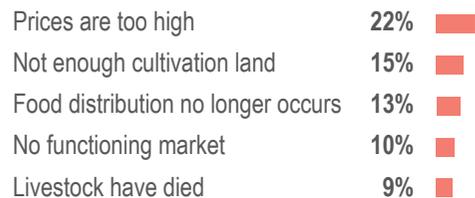
Adequate access to food

48% of **non-displaced** households reported inadequate access to food

77% of **IDP** households reported inadequate access to food

Barriers to access

Top five reasons reported by **non-displaced** households for inadequate access to food^{5,7}:

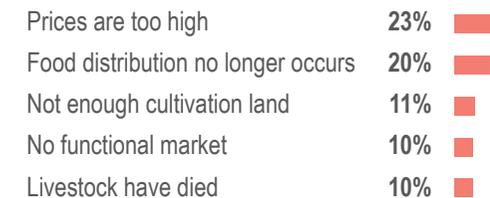


Food prices

Proportion of households reporting that the amount they spend on food has increased in the six months prior to the assessment:



Top five reasons reported by **IDP** households for inadequate access to food^{5,7}:

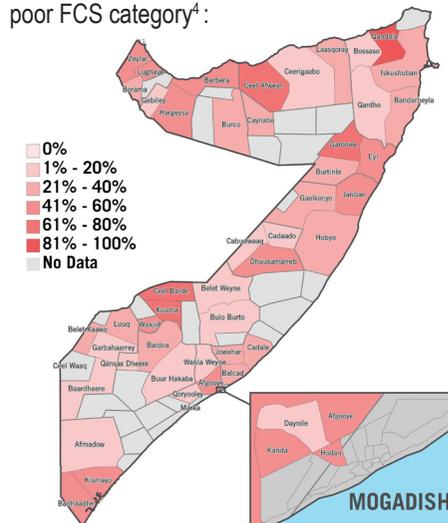


Food Consumption

Food Consumption Score (FCS)

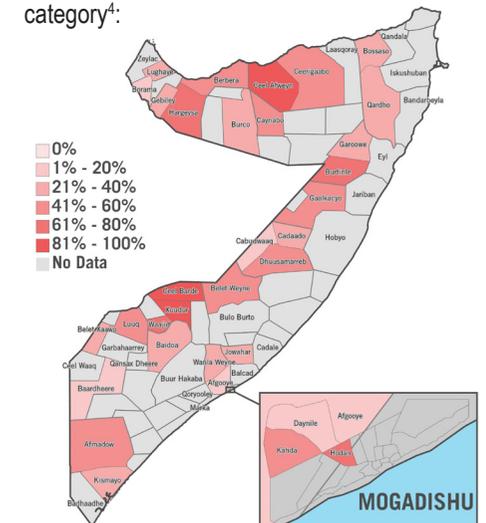
28% of **non-displaced** households were categorised as having poor FCS⁴

Proportion of **non-displaced** households in the poor FCS category⁴:



42% of **IDP** households were categorised as having poor FCS⁴

Proportion of **IDP** households in the poor FCS category⁴:



National - Food Security and Livelihoods Overview

Food Coping Strategies and Food Sources

Food coping strategies

Average number of days that **non-displaced** households reportedly used food coping strategies in the seven days prior to data collection:

Eat cheaper, lower quality food	2
Borrow food from relatives	2
Reduce number of meals a day	1
Reduce portion sizes	1
Adults skip meals so children eat	1

Average number of days that **IDP** households reportedly used food coping strategies in the seven days prior to data collection:

Eat cheaper, lower quality food	3
Borrow food from relatives	2
Reduce number of meals a day	2
Reduce portion sizes	2
Adults skip meals so children eat	1

Food sources

Proportion of households reporting that their food source has reduced in the six months prior to the assessment:

Non-displaced	44%
IDP	53%

7 average number of days that cereal stocks will last, as reported by **non-displaced** households

4 average number of days that cereal stocks will last, as reported by **IDP** households

1. Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit. 2017. Climate update: September 2017 monthly rainfall and normalised difference vegetation index (NDVI).
2. OCHA. 2018. Somalia Flood Response Plan 15 May - 15 August.
3. The first JMCNA was conducted in 2017 by OCHA, in partnership with REACH.
4. The Food Consumption Score is a composite score based on dietary diversity, food frequency, and the relative nutritional importance of different food groups, designed to indicate household levels of food insecurity. It is used to categorise households into three groups: poor, borderline or acceptable food consumption.
5. Households could select multiple responses.
6. Twenty-four percent (24%) of non-displaced and 7% of IDP households reported owning livestock.
7. Findings relating to subsets of a population may have a lower confidence level and a wider margin of error.

About REACH

REACH facilitates development of information tools and products that enhance capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. All REACH activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. For more information, you can write to our in-country office: somalia@reach-initiative.org or to our global office: geneva@reach-initiative.org.

Visit www.reach-initiative.org and follow us @REACH_info.

Livelihoods

Livelihood sources

Three most commonly reported income sources of **non-displaced** households⁵:

Day labour	33%
Subsistence farming	18%
Business	13%

48% of **non-displaced** households reported losing one or more income sources in the year prior to data collection

Three most commonly reported income sources of **IDP** households⁵:

Day labour	43%
Subsistence farming	13%
Humanitarian assistance	11%

56% of **IDP** households reported losing one or more income sources in the year prior to data collection

Livelihood coping strategies

Most commonly reported livelihood coping strategies by **non-displaced** households in the 30 days prior to data collection⁵:

Borrowed money	22%
Sold livestock	22%
Spent savings	9%
Reduced other expenditures	7%
Sold household items	6%

Most commonly reported livelihood coping strategies by **IDP** households in the 30 days prior to data collection⁵:

Borrowed money	24%
Sold livestock	15%
Migrated	11%
Sent family members elsewhere	9%
Reduced other expenditures	8%

Pastoralism

53% of **non-displaced** households which reportedly own livestock⁶ indicated death of livestock in the 6 months prior to data collection

67% of **IDP** households which reportedly own livestock⁶ indicated death of livestock in the 6 months prior to data collection