



The Impact of Drought on Protection Concerns in IDP sites

Ayaha 4 IDP Settlement, Hargeysa District, Woolqoi-Galbeed Region, Somaliland

Somaliland Drought Crisis
February 2018

Overview

An estimated 761,000 people have been displaced by drought in Somalia since November 2016¹. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are moving from rural to urban centres in search of livelihood opportunities and humanitarian assistance². The uptick in displacement and the increased financial strain that the ongoing drought has placed on households present significant protection challenges, particularly for women and children. However, there has been limited research into the specific vulnerabilities and threats faced by IDPs, and little is understood on the relationship between drought and its impact on protection concerns. Gaps in information have limited the extent to which humanitarian intervention and protection service provision is targeted towards affected populations. In order to address this gap, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Concern, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Plan International, Oxfam and REACH conducted an assessment of 28 IDP sites from across Somalia in January - February 2018. The assessment focused on four key thematic areas: site safety and security, child protection, sexual and gender based violence, and gaps and availability of protection services. This factsheet presents findings from Ayaha 4 IDP settlement, comprising of 350 households.

Methodology

Information for this site-level assessment was collected between 24 January and 16 February and is comprised of 201 household surveys (of a total population of 350 households), 2 key informant interviews with site leaders and 1 site observation. Quantitative findings are strengthened by 12 gender and age-segregated focus group discussions. The household survey sample had a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 5%, meaning findings are generalisable at the site level. Data collected for this assessment is considered representative at the site level only. Findings therefore cannot, and should not, be generalised to the district, region or national level.

Key findings

Site safety and security

- The majority of participants reported feeling safe in the settlement. However, women and children were identified to be particularly at risk of sexual violence at night, while accessing latrines and when leaving the settlement to collect firewood. Six percent (6%) of household respondents indicated experiencing insecurity in the three months prior to the assessment.
- Participants additionally indicated that poor shelter conditions, including a lack of lockable doors, is contributing to feelings of insecurity in the camp, with 27% of households reporting women and girls reporting that they feel unsafe in their shelters.
- Fifteen percent (15%) of households indicated that delivery of aid in the site had resulted in an incident of violence, most notably during food distributions.

Child protection

- Increased financial strain on families as a result of the drought has led to high school drop out rates, with 81% of assessed households in Ayaha 4 reporting an inability to afford school fees. Participants indicated that boys are idle and are adopting dangerous behaviours such as chewing khat. In some extreme cases, boys have reportedly joined gangs and are engaging in criminal activities.
- Children were reported to be increasingly engaging in work outside the home in order to support household income, which has amplified their vulnerability to protection risks. Respondents indicated that a growing number of adolescent men are working as casual labourers, predominantly in the construction and transport sectors, which is both dangerous and physically strenuous.
- Similarly, girls reported increasingly working outside the home, mainly as domestic workers for host community households. This has reportedly resulted in increased incidences of assault from their employers, physical injuries and extremely low payment.
- Although no households indicated the presence of child-headed households in the settlement, focus group

participants did report that the ongoing drought has reportedly resulted in increased family separation. This was indicated to be due to the death of parents, or voluntary separation when parents move to urban areas in search of work.

- Households reported that both girls and boys were observed to have experienced negative behaviour change since the start of the drought, including unusual crying and screaming and more aggressive behaviour.

Sexual and gender-based violence

- As with boys, the majority of participants reported that men in the settlement are increasingly engaging in harsh work as casual labourers, mainly in the construction sector.
- Similarly, women were also reported to be increasingly

working outside the home, predominantly as domestic workers. Alongside the increased risks of SGBV that this creates, FGD participants also indicated that women working outside the home has resulted in higher rates of domestic violence.

- SGBV outside the home, was reported to be common especially when women and girls go to collect firewood and for work.

Gaps and availability of protection services

- No medical, psychosocial support or formal legal services were reportedly available to survivors of child abuse and SGBV in the camp.
- Whilst the availability of a women-friendly space was observed, no child-friendly spaces were available in Ayaha 4.

Assessment coverage



1. OCHA Humanitarian Impacts of Drought. Issue 6 June 2017.
2. US Department of State. Somalia: Drought and Displacement Overview. May 2017.

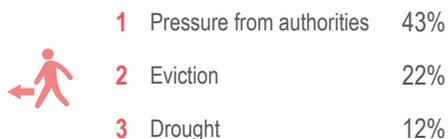


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Displacement

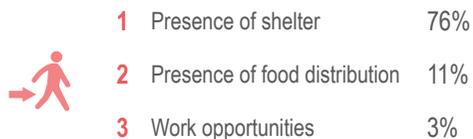
Push factors

Top three reported reasons for leaving previous location:³



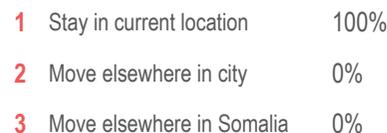
Pull factors

Top three reported reasons for coming to current location:



Intentions

Reported future intentions of IDP households:



Multiple displacements

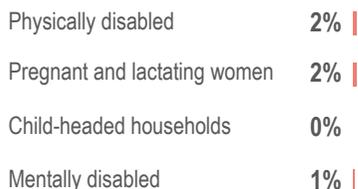
Average number of times households have been displaced before arriving in current location:



Demographic composition

Household vulnerability

Proportion of vulnerable groups of total site population (individuals):

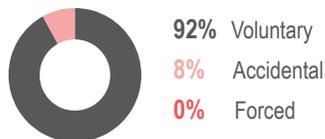


Family separation

Reported number of children separated from their households in the three months prior to assessment⁴:



Separation voluntary, accidental or forced:⁵



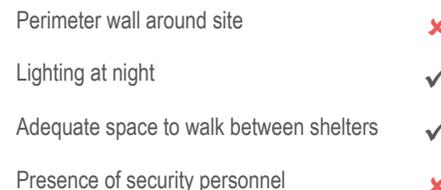
Top three reported reasons for child separation:⁶

Figures too low to be statistically significant

Site conditions (1)

Safety features

Observed safety features of site:



Shelter theft

Proportion of households reporting theft from their shelter in the three months prior to assessment:

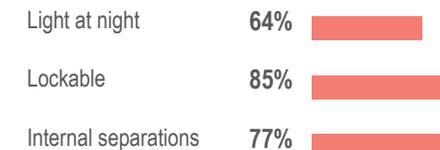


Shelter

Average number of people per shelter:



Proportion of IDP households reporting that their shelter has the following features:⁷



3. Most frequently cited as primary reason (this applies to all figures in the factsheet presenting 'top three reasons').

4. A total of 2% reported family separation.

5,6. Of those households reporting family separation.

7. Households could select multiple responses.



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Site conditions (2)

Shelter sharing

Proportion of households reporting that there are multiple families sharing one shelter:



14% Yes
86% No

Latrine conditions

Observed latrine features in site:

- Light at night ✓
- Gender segregated ✓
- Disabled access ✓
- Lockable from inside ✓

Water point distance

Reported time to reach the nearest water point from the assessed households by foot:

Under 30 minutes	50%
30 minutes to under 1 hour	2%
1 hour to under half a day	20%
Half a day	28%
More than half a day	0%

Coping strategies

Top three reported coping strategies used by households to respond to a lack of food (40% reported inadequate access to food):⁸

Non-working members eat less	44%
Children stay in IDP sites	38%
Send children to work	10%

Latrine distance

Reported time to reach the nearest latrine from the assessed households by foot:

Under 30 minutes	99%
30 minutes to under 1 hour	1%
1 hour to under half a day	0%
Half a day	0%
More than half a day	0%

Proportion of households reporting that distance to water point has increased in the six months prior to the assessment:



27% Yes
73% No

Safety and security

Violence and insecurity in the community

Proportion of households reporting experiencing violence or insecurity in the three months prior to the assessment:

Violence	3%
Insecurity	6%

Top three reported groups causing insecurity, as reported by households indicating insecurity:¹⁰

1 Community leaders	1%
2 Police	1%

Unsafe areas in the site

Most commonly reported areas where men and boys feel unsafe:¹¹

Outside site	67%
In shelters	33%

Most commonly reported areas where women and girls feel unsafe:¹²

Outside site	88%
In shelters	27%
At school	6%
Distribution point	3%

Gender-based violence

Prevalent security concerns for women¹³:

Domestic violence	✗
Forced marriage	✗
Female genital mutilation	✓
Trafficking	✓
Sexual violence/ rape	✗

Relationship with host community

Reported relationship with host community:



69% Good
25% Neutral
6% Poor

8,9,10,11,12. Households could select multiple answers.

13. As reported by community leaders.

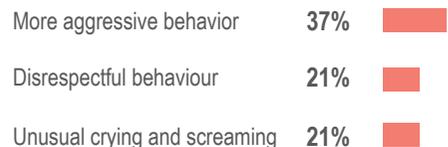


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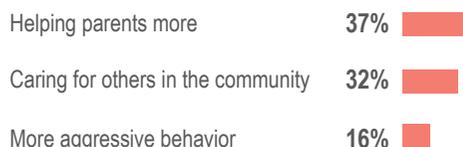
Child Protection

Behaviour change of children¹⁴

Top three reported behaviour changes of girls in the three months prior to assessment:



Top three reported behaviour changes of boys in the three months prior to assessment:



School attendance and drop out

Proportion of school-aged children reportedly attending school:

55%



Proportion of households reporting school-aged children dropped out of school in the six months prior to the assessment:



17% Yes
83% No

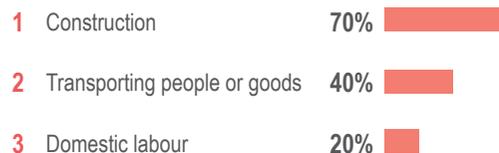
Children engaged in paid work

Reported proportion of children engaged in harsh or dangerous work¹⁵:



6% Yes
90% No
4% Do not know

Top three reported forms of dangerous or harsh work that children are involved in, as indicated by households reporting that children are involved in dangerous work:



Available protection services

Services for women

Available forms of assistance specifically targeting women:¹⁶



Exclusion

Top three groups reportedly excluded from available services:



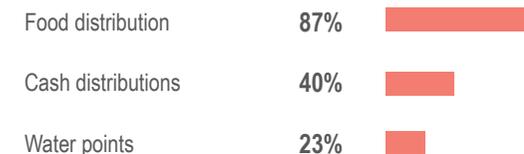
Aid causing insecurity

Reported incidence of violence in site during delivery of humanitarian assistance:



15% Yes
78% No
7% Do not know

Top three reported forms of humanitarian assistance during which violent incidents have occurred, as indicated by households reporting violence during aid delivery:



Mental health services

Reported availability of mental health services:¹⁷

Not available



Child friendly space

Reported availability of child friendly space:¹⁸

Not available



Women friendly space

Reported availability of women friendly space:¹⁹

Available



14. The total proportion of households reporting behaviour change in children was 10%.

15. The total proportion of households reporting children engaged in any kind of paid work was 9%.

16,17. As reported by community leaders.

18,19. As observed by enumerators.