



The Impact of Drought on Protection Concerns in IDP sites

Boodaan 1 IDP Settlement, Baidoa District, Bay Region, Somalia

Somalia 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 Boodaan 1 IDP settlement, comprising of a total population 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, 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

- Whilst all participants reported feeling safe in the site during the daytime, women and girls expressed risk of sexual and gender based violence when collecting firewood away from the site and when using latrines at night.
- Twenty-four percent (24%) of households reported experiencing insecurity in the three months prior to the assessment, the majority of which was linked to the presence of local militias and armed groups.

Child protection

- Since the drought, households' inability to meet their basic needs has led to children dropping out of school in order to work and generate additional family income.
- In FGDs, adolescents reported that it is becoming more common for girls to work outside the home, selling goods at the market or working as house maids for other families.
- Qualitative findings indicated girls being at greater risk of sexual abuse, early marriage and domestic violence whilst boys are vulnerable to emotional abuse and forced labour. Adult FGD participants reported the presence of armed groups around the site who are actively engaging in forced recruitment.
- FGD respondents indicated an increase in child-headed households since the start of the drought, either due to separation of the family or the loss of parents. However, no households reported that they had experienced family separation in the three months prior to the assessment.
- Both adult and adolescent participants reported that child-headed households are frequently exposed to physical and emotional abuse, as well as obstacles to accessing services and resources.

Sexual and gender-based violence

- Before displacement, men worked in agro-pastoral activities, however since these skills are not transferable to the urban context where they are currently displaced, men often struggle to find employment. When working, they are involved in physically strenuous labour, often not

generating sufficient income to sustain their family.

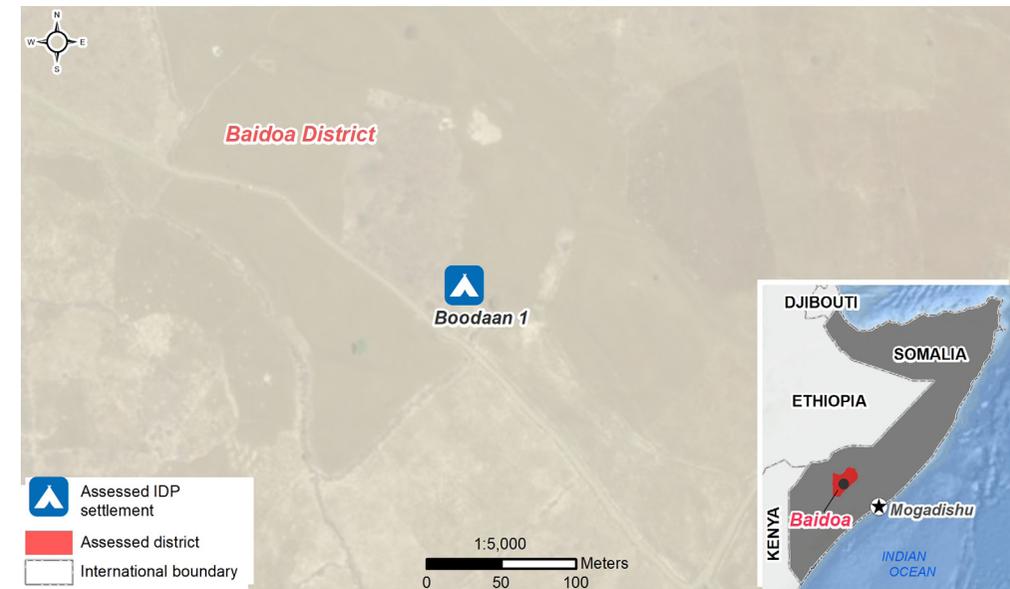
- As a result of this reduced income, women are more commonly working outside the home, sometimes becoming the breadwinners of the family. This shift in balance within the household has been reported by several participants as resulting in tensions and violence within families, as men are unable to fulfil their duty as providers. Community leaders also reported domestic violence to be a prevalent security concern for women in the settlement.
- Women are most often working as house maids for the host community, whilst some have small businesses selling goods in the market. Travelling outside the camp makes women more at risk of being sexually assaulted, especially when coming home at night. Sixty

percent (60%) of households reported that women and girls felt unsafe when travelling outside the site.

Gaps and availability of protection services

- Some healthcare services are available in the site for survivors of SGBV. However, no mental healthcare services or women-friendly spaces were reported to exist.
- When dealing with cases of SGBV, customary law was reported to be administered, through community leaders and religious elders.
- Women participants reported that many women and girls prefer not speaking up due to the social and cultural stigma associated with assault or rape.

Assessment coverage



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

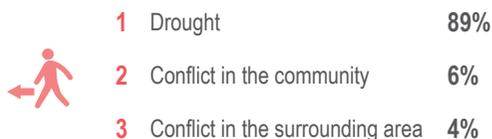


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Displacement

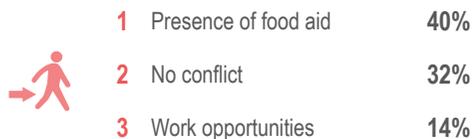
Push factors

Top three reported reasons for leaving previous location:³



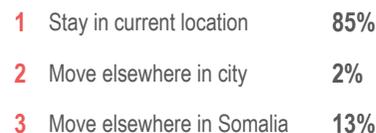
Pull factors

Top three reported reasons for coming to current location:



Intentions

Reported future intentions of IDP households:



Multiple displacements

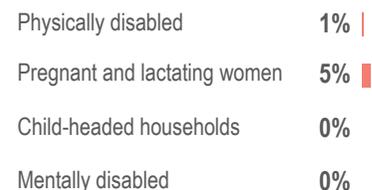
Average number of times households have been displaced before arriving in current location:



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

No separation reported

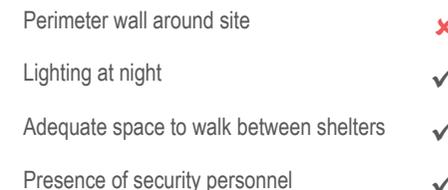
Top three reported reasons for child separation:⁶

No separation reported

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:

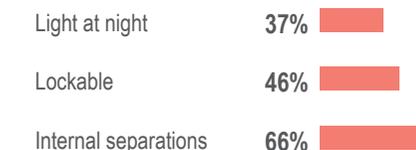


Shelter

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 0% 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:



Coping strategies

Top three reported coping strategies used by households to respond to a lack of food (71% reported inadequate access to food):⁸



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:



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



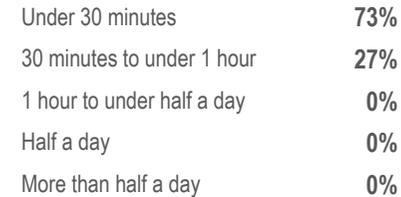
Latrine conditions

Observed latrine features in site:



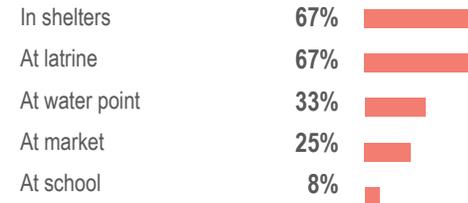
Latrine distance

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



Unsafe areas

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

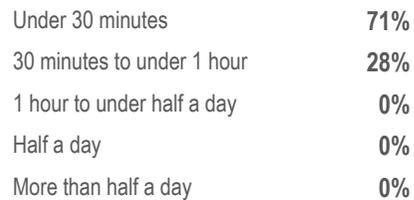


Most commonly reported areas where women and girls feel unsafe:¹²



Water point distance

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



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



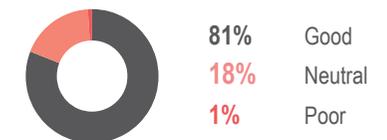
Gender-based violence

Prevalent security concerns for women:¹³



Relationship with host community

Reported relationship with host community:



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:

51%



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

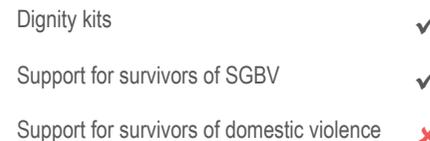


1% Yes
99% No

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:



0% Yes
96% No
4% 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:

No households reporting aid caused insecurity

Children engaged in paid work

Reported proportion of children engaged in harsh or dangerous work¹⁵:



7% Yes
90% No
3% 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:



Mental health services

Reported availability of mental health services:¹⁷

Not available



Child friendly space

Reported availability of child friendly space:¹⁸

Available



Women friendly space

Reported availability of women friendly space:¹⁹

Not available



14. The total proportion of households reporting behaviour change in children was 12%.
15. The total proportion of households reporting children engaged in any kind of paid work was 15%.

16,17. As reported by community leaders.
18,19. As observed by enumerators.