



The Impact of Drought on Protection Concerns in IDP sites

Sahara IDP Settlement, Burco District, Togdheer 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 Sahara IDP settlement, comprising of a total population of 815 households.

Methodology

Information for this site-level assessment was collected between 24 January and 16 February and is comprised of 290 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

- Eleven percent (11%) of households reported theft from their shelters in the past three months. Respondents indicated that the sites' close proximity to Burco town has resulted in outsiders frequenting the settlement, particularly during aid distributions and at night, which was causing tension.
- Respondents reported no access to latrines within the site boundary, forcing community members, especially women and children, to leave the camp premises often, exposing them to further insecurity.
- Another key source of insecurity highlighted by the majority of respondents was the fear of eviction, given that the land the site is on is privately owned.

Child protection

- Male adolescents reported dropping out of school due to the financial strain of the drought and now spend their time idle or involved in casual labour tasks. Findings from the household survey indicated only 9% of school-aged children were in school.
- Similarly, the majority of adolescent girls were reportedly engaged in domestic work rather than attending school.
- Respondents were cautious of sending their children to work in the town, knowing they would be exposed to risks.
- Respondents were either not aware of or reported that there were not any cases of child-headed households in their camp. However, 15% of assessed households indicated a voluntarily family separation.

Sexual and gender-based violence

- The loss of livestock as a result of the drought has put increasing strain on the socio-economic position of households, causing them to turn to ore risky income generating activities, such as selling charcoal. The frustration experienced by men has potentially resulted in higher rates of domestic violence.
- Women reported that they are now collecting firewood and selling milk in order to generate income, which is putting them at risk of SGBV when leaving the site. Fifty

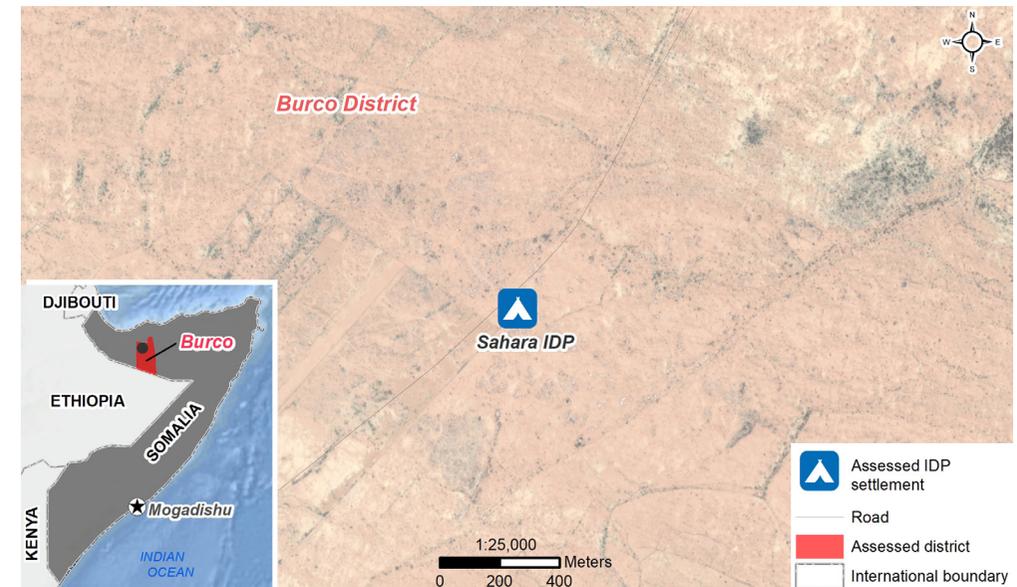
(50%) of households reported women and girls feeling insecure outside the site.

- Domestic violence was reported within households as a response to increased male unemployment and changing household socio-economic roles. Its prevalence was also confirmed by community leaders from the site.
- Respondents reported that cases of attempted rape and sexual violence are higher during the night as shelters are not secure and intruders can easily access the camp.
- As a coping strategy, women chose to go together to collect firewood outside the camp and reported sleeping together in big groups in the night with a male member guarding them.

Gaps and availability of protection services

- Respondents reported no access to protection services, either medical or psychosocial, for survivors of SGBV. This non-existence of services was also confirmed by community leaders.
- The only available mechanism to seek justice was reportedly through the clan elders and customary law.
- To respond to security issues, community members reported guarding the camps themselves.
- It was highlighted by certain respondents that having access to financial resources would enable them to access legal service providers and take perpetrators to court.

Assessment coverage



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

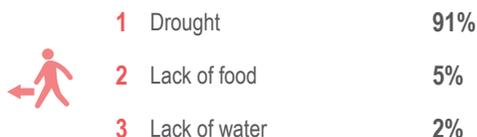


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Displacement

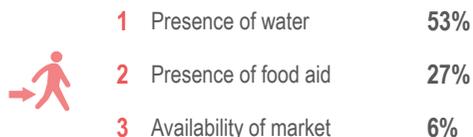
Push factors

Top three reported reasons for leaving previous location:³



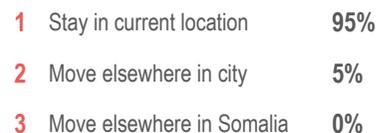
Pull factors

Top three reported reasons for coming to current location:



Intentions

Reported future intentions of IDP households:



Multiple displacements

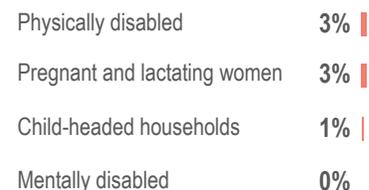
Average number of times households have been displaced before arriving in current location:



Demographic composition

Household vulnerability

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

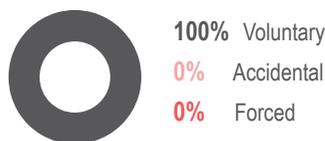


Family separation

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



Separation voluntary, accidental or forced:⁵



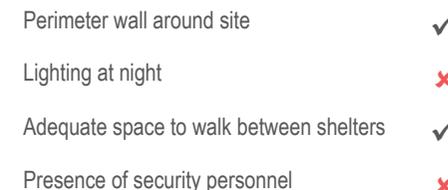
Top two reported reasons for child separation:⁶



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 15% 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:



7% Yes
93% No

Coping strategies

Top three reported coping strategies used by households to respond to a lack of food (76% reported inadequate access to food):⁸



Latrine conditions

Observed latrine features in site:

Light at night	
Gender segregated	
Disabled access	
Lockable from inside	

Latrine distance

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

Under 30 minutes	97%
30 minutes to under 1 hour	3%
1 hour to under half a day	0%
Half a day	0%
More than half a day	0%

Water point distance

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

Under 30 minutes	87%
30 minutes to under 1 hour	13%
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:



19% Yes
81% 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:



Top reported group causing insecurity, as reported by households indicating insecurity:¹⁰

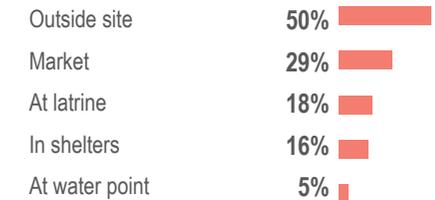


Unsafe areas

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



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



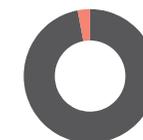
Gender-based violence

Prevalent security concerns for women:¹³

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

Relationship with host community

Reported relationship with host community:



97% Good
3% Neutral
0% Poor

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

13. As reported by community leaders.



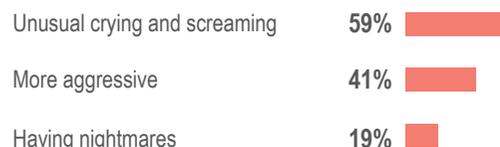
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Child Protection

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:

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

9%

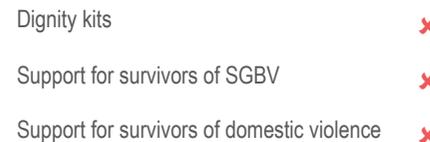


5% Yes
95% No

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:

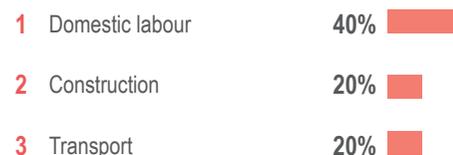
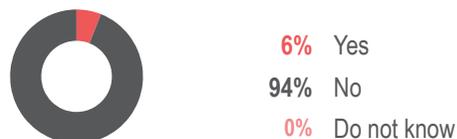
Top two reported forms of humanitarian assistance during which violent incidents have occurred, as indicated by households reporting violence during aid delivery:



Children engaged in paid work

Reported proportion of children engaged in harsh or dangerous work¹⁵:

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

Not 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 4%.

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