



The Impact of Drought on Protection Concerns in IDP sites

Shabelow 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 Shabelow IDP settlement, comprising a total population of 60 households.

Methodology

Information for this site-level assessment was collected between 24 January and 16 February and is comprised of 51 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

- Respondents reported the need for a perimeter fence in order to prevent militia from accessing the site, with FGD respondents reporting the risk of forced recruitment by armed groups in the area.
- Restricted movement was reported outside the settlement and within the site at night, with half of assessed households reporting that men and boys experience insecurity outside the site.
- Sixteen percent (16%) of assessed households reported experiencing direct violence in the three months prior to the assessment, most commonly perpetrated by community leaders and local militias.
- For women, the risks are highest when using latrines at night due to the lack of lighting and when collecting firewood away from the site. Insecurity at latrines for women and girls was reported by 78% of assessed households.
- Inadequate shelters were also cited as a source of insecurity with almost all households (93%) reporting that women and girls feel unsafe in their own shelters. Twenty-two percent (22%) of households also reported multiple families sharing one shelter.

Child protection

- Since the start of the drought, the number of child-headed households has reportedly increased. Out of the households reporting family separation, half reported it as voluntary and the rest as accidental.
- Child-headed households are reportedly unable to access assistance and services in the site, leading them to resort to begging or engaging in high-risk activities to cope and meet their basic needs.
- In FGDs, boys were reported to be working as shoeshiners in the city, in construction work, breaking stones or, in some extreme cases, voluntarily joining militia groups to access income. Adolescent girls reported taking part in physically dangerous activities such as begging or cutting stones for construction.

- School drop-out rates for girls were reported to be on the rise, as a result of increased incidents of early marriage.

Sexual and gender-based violence

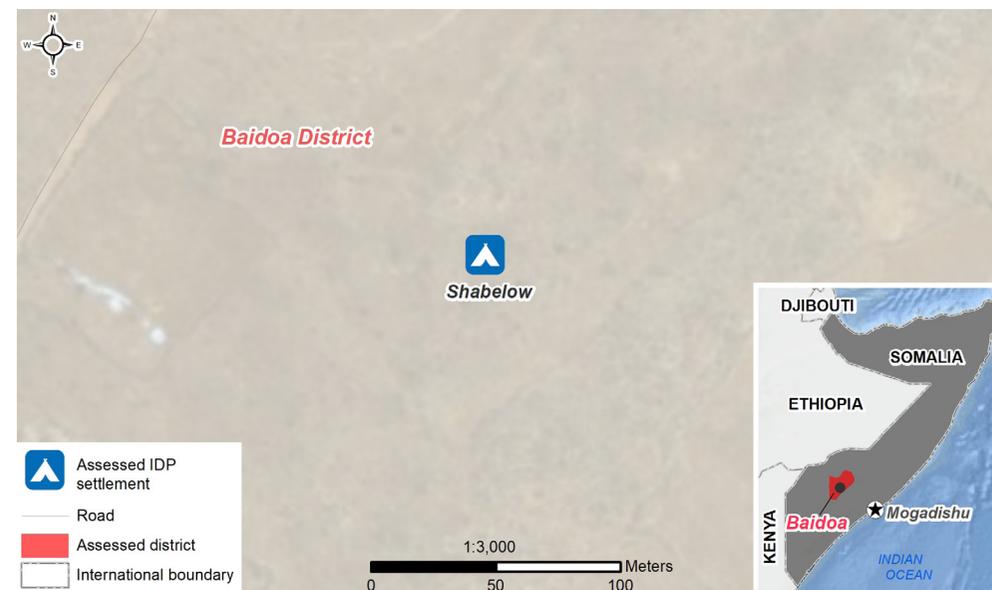
- FGD respondents indicated that women have become more vulnerable to the risk of domestic violence in the site due to a shift in household dynamics since the start of the drought. As with girls, a growing proportion of women are working outside the home, whilst men struggle to find employment. The prevalence of domestic violence may be one of the reasons for the high percentage of households indicating women do not feel safe in their shelters (93%).
- When able to work, men often engage in high-risk jobs and/or travel long distances in order to find to find

work.

Gaps and availability of protection services

- Some healthcare services were reportedly available for victims of SGBV, mainly through the provision of medicine. However, some participants reported no services being available, also suggesting a lack of information about existing services.
- No mental healthcare services, women-friendly and child-friendly spaces were observed to be available in the site.

Assessment coverage



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

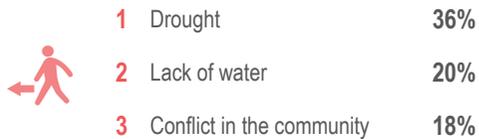


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Displacement

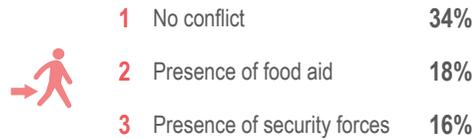
Push factors

Top three reported reasons for leaving previous location:³



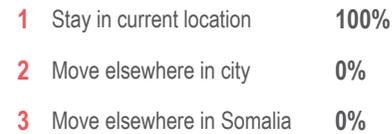
Pull factors

Top three reported reasons for coming to current location:



Intentions

Reported future intentions of IDP households:



Multiple displacements

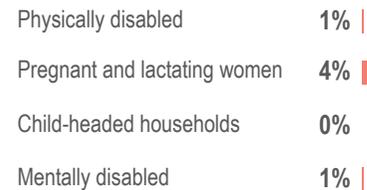
Average number of times households have been displaced before arriving in current location:



Demographic composition

Household vulnerability

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

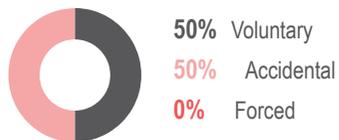


Family separation

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



Separation voluntary, accidental or forced:⁵



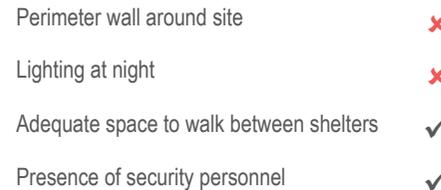
Top three reported reasons for child separation:⁶

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 6% 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 (92% reported inadequate access to food):⁸



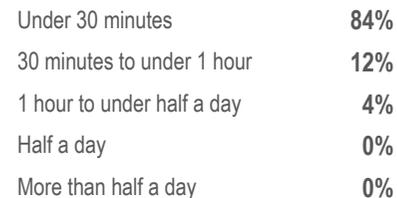
Latrine conditions

Observed latrine features in site:



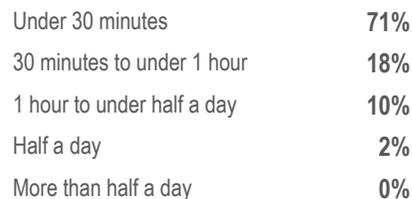
Latrine distance

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



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:



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

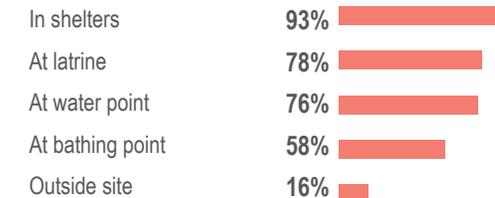


Unsafe areas

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



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



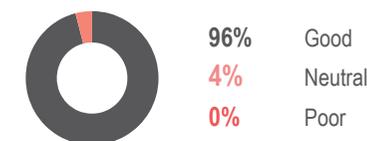
Gender-based violence

Prevalent security concerns for women:¹³



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.

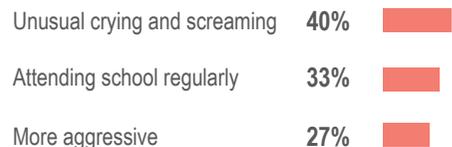


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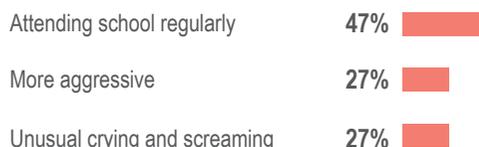
Child Protection

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:

56%



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



7% Yes
93% 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
100% No
0% 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

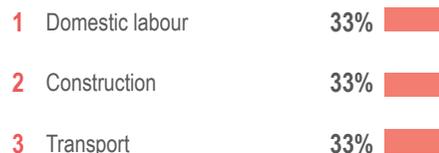
Children engaged in paid work

Reported proportion of children engaged in harsh or dangerous work¹⁵:



7% Yes
92% No
1% 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

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 36%.
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.