

Somalia: Somaliland (Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed)

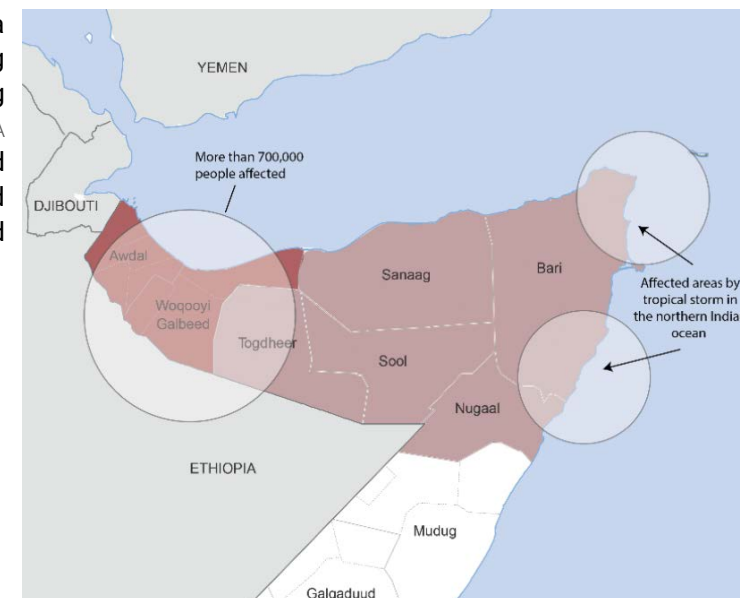
Tropical Storm Sagar – Update I

Tropical Cyclone Sagar with winds between 110 -115 km/h formed in the Gulf of Aden between Yemen and Somalia on 19 May. It made landfall on the northwest coast of Somaliland as a Tropical Storm with 56 km/h winds, resulting in a year's worth of heavy rains and flooding (ADAM 19/05/2018). The storm caused extensive destruction, including loss of livestock and crops, destruction of homes and critical infrastructure, and mass displacement (OCHA 23/05/2018; OCHA 20/05/2018). Damage to livelihoods, especially the death of livestock, the key source of income and sustenance for a majority of the pastoral populations residing in this region, is likely to aggravate existing food insecurity. Current outbreaks of AWD/Cholera also pose a health risk to affected populations. There is urgent need for WASH, shelter and NFIs, food and health assistance (World Vision 24/05/2018).

IMPACT



NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE



Source: OCHA 23/05/2018

Key priorities



700,000 (est.)
people affected in Somaliland



WASH
Latrine damage widespread and high risk of water contamination



Food Insecurity
food insecure communities affected

Humanitarian constraints



Access is restricted due to flooding and is hampering aid delivery to affected populations, particularly in rural villages in the Awdal region. Access is possible by helicopter (OCHA 23/05/2018). Conflict in Sool and Sanaag regions is also restricting humanitarian operations.

Limitations

Limited information on specific sectoral needs on a granular level. The number of affected is still uncertain as authorities are yet to establish the full extent of damage caused.

Anticipated scope and scale

The disruptions to key trade routes caused by damaged roads are likely to result in increases in the price of essential commodities in the coming weeks and months.

Crisis impact

Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) described Tropical Storm Sagar as one of the strongest ever recorded in Somalia. The storm produced wind gusts of up to 102 km/per hour and rains of up to 200mm, which severely damaged homes and key infrastructure such as roads, airstrips, schools, and sea ports (Floodlist 25/05/2018). The full impact of the tropical storm is still unknown but the Somaliland government estimates that at least 670,000 people are affected (Government of Somaliland 21/05/2018). At least 25 people have been killed, 12 injured and 27 are missing, according to the disaster management authority NADFOR. Most of the dead were from Baki, Lughaya, and Gargaara in Awdal region (Radio Ergo 29/05/2018). Farms were destroyed and livestock were killed, which is particularly devastating to the majority pastoral populations who rely heavily on their livestock for their livelihoods. Lughaya and Zaylac districts in Awdal region were the most affected, with extensive damage to transport and communications infrastructure (OCHA 23/05/2018).

The levels of food insecurity were already high due to drought, and the Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) had previously appealed for urgent aid for over 600,000 drought-affected people in February 2018 (OCHA 23/05/2018). Lost livestock, damage to farms, losses of food stocks, damage to markets, and loss of other forms of livelihoods is likely to further increase their vulnerabilities and impact food security.

Sectoral Needs

WASH: Affected populations are in need of clean water and hygiene kits (World Vision 24/05/2018). The flooding only increases the risks of waterborne disease, outbreaks of cholera, malaria, amoeba and dysentery (Care International 24/05/2018).

Health: There is need for health assistance but access to some severely affected populations is restricted due to road damage.

Shelter and NFIs: Flood displaced families are seeking shelter in public buildings such as schools, mosques and madrasas and have set up temporary camps. They are in need of various household items, including blankets (World Vision 24/05/2018). Many shelters in IDP settlements have been washed away, displacing several IDP households (OCHA 23/05/2018). Flood affected populations in Gargaara, 20km south of Lughaya district in Awdal region are in need of adequate shelter and are currently camped on higher ground in close proximity to flooded waters (Radio Ergo 29/05/2018).

Food: Supply stores and food markets have been damaged and in some cases washed away. Several trade routes have been disrupted, which is likely to lead to an increase in

the price of food and other essential commodities in the coming weeks and months (CARE International 24/05/2018).

Livelihoods: The government of Somaliland indicates that at least 80% of livestock in some of the most affected areas were killed and about 700 farms destroyed (Government of Somaliland; OCHA 23/05/2018).

Education: At least 33 schools in Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed have either been completely destroyed or had their roofs damaged, restricting access to education for about 25,000 students (Radio Ergo 29/05/2018; Somaliland Education Ministry).

Humanitarian and operational constraints

Roads connecting Lughaya, Abdi-Geedi, Ido-Adays and El-la-helay are impassable due to floods, preventing humanitarian aid workers from accessing the worst affected communities by road (Radio Ergo 29/05/2018). There as well has been significant damage done to sea ports and airstrips (Floodlist 25/05/2018). The only means of access has been helicopter (Radio Ergo 29/05/2018).

The storm damaged critical communications infrastructure, particularly in coastal areas, making communication with these areas difficult. In addition, the lack of extensive assessments of the damage in affected areas makes it difficult to plan adequate humanitarian response (Somaliland Press 23/05/2018).

Renewed fighting on 24 May in Puntland over the disputed regions of Sool and Sanaag is restricting humanitarian access, further aggravating the humanitarian situation (UNAMIS 24/05/2018). In addition, the Puntland Ministry of Security has imposed restrictions on civilian and public transport movement between Garowe and Laascaanood since 21 May (OCHA 23/05/2018).

Response capacity

Local and national response capacity

The Government of Somaliland is providing food assistance to populations in need with the assistance of humanitarian partners. The Ministry of Health, in partnership with humanitarian organisations are also providing health assistance in the form of medical supplies and monitoring for potential outbreaks of disease due to the floods (OCHA 23/05/2018). NADFOR is working on flood response in both Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions in collaboration with local authorities.

International response capacity

Bilateral support is being provided to the affected populations, including by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The UAE, as well as the government of Djibouti have provided assistance with helicopters for humanitarian aid delivery and to survey isolated districts in Zaylac and Lughaya districts in Awdal (OCHA 23/05/2018).

Information gaps and needs

Data on specific sectoral needs is very limited.

The severity of shelter damage is largely unknown across most flood affected areas.

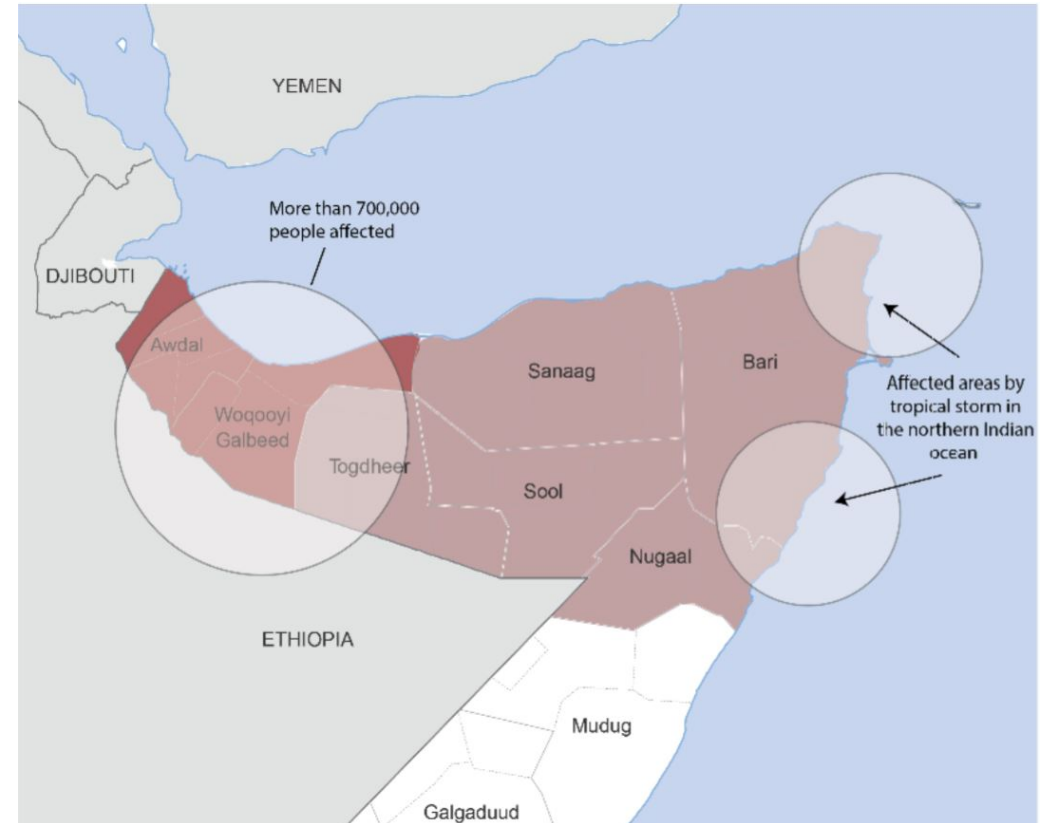
There is no new data available to indicate the extent health needs have grown following the flooding.

Limited information on service provision at site level.

Lessons learned

- Experiences from 2013, earlier and later years illustrate that rights violations and protracted displacement may be triggered by situations of flooding, especially along the fertile riverbanks (OCHA 24/05/2018).
- Populations at risk of being affected by the tropical storm first attempted to salvage whatever property they could before the storm made landfall, delaying their evacuation despite early warnings and preparedness advice aired on radio. Some of the warnings were not adhered to at all. It is also unclear whether the warnings had come too late, giving populations at risk little time to prepare themselves (Radio Ergo 29/05/2018).

Affected areas by Tropical Storm Sagar



Source: OCHA 23/05/2018