

Somalia: Central and South

Floods update II

Heavy rains and flooding have continued to compound an already fragile humanitarian situation in the southern and central parts of Somalia, worsening conditions for communities who recently endured a long period of drought (OCHA 25/05/2018). The floods have resulted in the destruction of homes, critical infrastructure, latrines, and the loss of livestock and crops. There is need for shelter and NFIs, as well as WASH assistance.

IMPACT



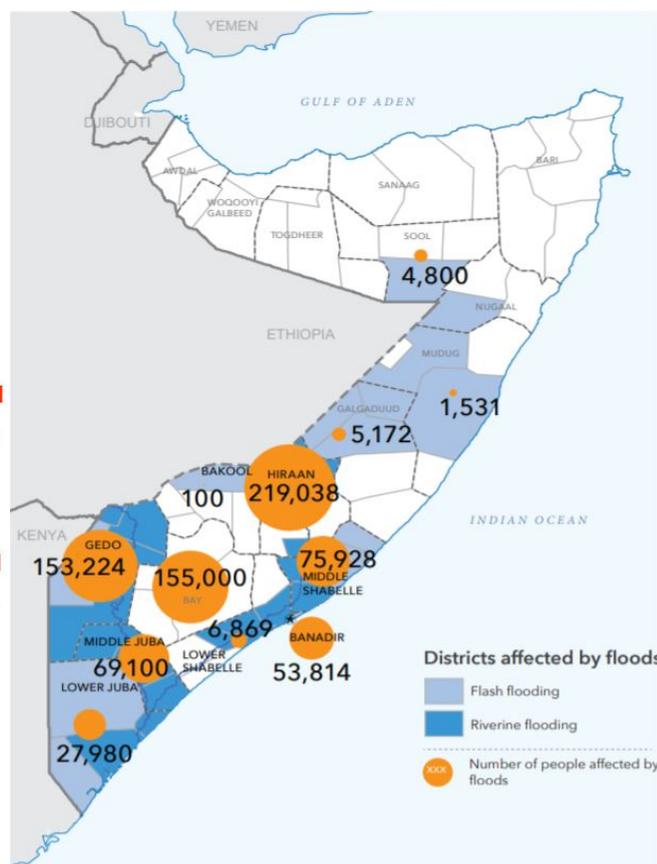
NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE



Limitations

Difficult to accurately assess to what extent the scale and scope of need has changed since the publication of the last ACAPS update on 9 May.

Affected people by region



Sources: OCHA 24/05/2018

Anticipated scope and scale

River levels along the Juba and Shabelle are expected to decrease in the coming days. The upper, middle and lower reaches of Shabelle remain under moderate risk of flooding owing to the current high water levels, while along the Juba there is minimal risk of flooding in the forecast period (SWALIM 24/05/2018). The number of cases of AWD/cholera is expected to increase through June (OCHA 24/05/2018). Where significant flooding may continue through June, it is expected that the spatial extent of flooding would increase, and the possibility of replanting crops would decline. The timing of the off-season (recession) Gu production would also be further delayed (FSNAU 24/05/2018).

Key priorities



+220,000
people displaced



WASH
Latrine damage widespread and high risk of water contamination



AWD/Cholera
is active in the affected regions

Humanitarian Constraints



Heavy rains and flooding have damaged supply routes making access to several key locations possible only by air and by boat. The two main roads connecting Gedo with Mogadishu and Kismayo are inaccessible (OCHA 25/05/2018). Insecurity and capacity limitations also make access to severely affected areas challenging.

Crisis impact

Heavy Gu season rains resulted in the drastic increase of water levels in the Shabelle and Juba River basins, leading to severe flash and river flooding across central and southern Somalia with Bay (South West State), Gedo (Jubaland), Hiraan and Middle Shabelle regions being the worst affected (OCHA 24/05/2018). 500,120 people were affected by the recent floods of whom 214,596 were displaced by riverine flooding; while areas with flash floods have seen 272,436 people affected and 15,004 displaced (OCHA 24/05/2018). Hirshabelle State has been the most affected in the recent floods in the central parts of the country, with 305,828 people affected, of whom 145,852 were displaced (OCHA 25/05/2018). As of 15 May, a large influx of flood-affected IDPs into Galmudug State coming from Beledweyne district in Hirshabelle has put a strain on humanitarian capacity in Galmudug State. The heavy rains have affected areas already experiencing high levels of vulnerability from drought and conflict. Since the start of the flooding conditions have worsened in overcrowded Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) settlements as most of the affected areas host large numbers of IDPs. For example, the Banaadir region hosts more than 497,000 IDPs - the highest number in the country- while an estimated 246,000 IDPs are in Baidoa (OCHA 25/05/2018). Active transmission of AWD/cholera is currently posing serious health risks to flood affected populations, particularly in Banaadir region (Somali Ministry of Health 20/05/2018).

Sectoral needs

WASH: Most people in Beledweyne district in Hiraan region take their water from open wells, which have been filled with contaminated floodwater and latrine overflow. With no other choice, families continue to drink from these wells (Relief International 14/05/2018). Banaadir region has one of the highest concentrations of IDP settlements where access to safe water and proper sanitation was limited prior to the flooding (Somali Ministry of Health 06/05/2018). The heavy rains and flooding in Banaadir have resulted in extensive damage to latrines, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks (OCHA 25/05/2018; OCHA 24/05/2018). In Kismayo district in Lower Juba, affected communities especially in Farjano IDP settlement are using contaminated water from open water sources (Somali Ministry of Health 20/05/2018).

Health: The destruction of 2,500 latrines and ensuing contamination of water sources in Galgadud, Dolow, Dhobley, Baidoa and Afgooye has already led to a surge in water and vector-borne diseases in areas already grappling with an AWD/cholera outbreak since December 2017 (OCHA 24/05/2018). New outbreaks of AWD/Cholera have been reported as a result of the heavy rains and flooding in the central and south of the country. As of 20th

May, active transmission of AWD/cholera was reported in Kismayo district in Lower Juba, Afgoye in Lower Shabelle as well as in 13 districts of Banaadir region (Darkenly, Daynile, Hodan, Madina, Waberi, HamarWeine, Hamarjabjab, Heliwa, and Wardigley, Kaaran, Yaqshid, Howlwadag Shangani districts) (Somali Ministry of Health 20/05/2018). The cholera outbreak is expected to spread in the coming weeks due to contamination of water sources by flood water.

Shelter: Heavy rains and flooding have resulted in the destruction of IDP shelters in South West State, Jubaland and Galmudug state, many of which were located in low-lying areas prone to flooding. Most of the improvised IDP shelters in Banaadir region, which hosts approximately 497,000 IDPs, have been destroyed, drastically increasing shelter needs in the region (OCHA 24/05/2018). Around 400 families are sleeping outside or under makeshift shelters on the outskirts of Ba'adweyne, 200km south of Galkayo, Mudug region, after floods inundated their homes in low-lying areas (Radio Ergo 28/05/2018).

Food: Road access to rural villages in Xudur and Tayeeglow districts in Bakool region is restricted and supply routes damaged, significantly increasing the cost of food and making access to food by flood affected populations difficult. Similar increases in the prices of food and commodities are being experienced in Gedo region due to access constraints (OCHA 25/05/2018).

Livelihoods: Previously drought-affected populations are in need of assistance to protect their livelihoods, enable local food production, and prevent the adoption of negative coping mechanisms (OCHA 17/05/2018). Nearly 50,000 hectares of cropland has been inundated and 500 metric tons of household grain stores damaged, potentially worsening food consumption gaps and limiting agricultural wage labour opportunities among poor households in rural and urban areas. In Jubaland, at least 2,000 farmers lost crops that were almost ready for harvesting, with additional farming infrastructure such as irrigation pumps damaged. In Beledweyne, crops as well as food supplies in local shops have been lost due to the floods (OCHA 24/05/2018). Many flood affected populations have lost other sources of income, as gravel quarries and other business centres were either damaged or under flood water (Radio Ergo 28/05/2018).

Education: An estimated 10,000 students have no access to education as floods have destroyed schools and educational material. Schools in Baidoa are strained due to an influx of IDP children, whose families have relocated in search of humanitarian support. There is need for the creation of additional learning spaces as well in Afgoye due to the increase in IDP children in the area (OCHA 17/05/2018). Schools in Hiraan region are yet to

open, delaying resumption of national examinations halted on 20 May due to the weather conditions (UNAMIS 23/05/2018).

Nutrition: Already high malnutrition rates (13.8% GAM and 1.9% SAM) are projected to worsen in the coming weeks and months in affected areas because floods are a risk factor for the outbreak of communicable diseases such as AWD/Cholera and malaria, which are some of the underlying drivers of malnutrition (OCHA 24/05/2018).

Humanitarian and operational constraints

Health Cluster funding shortfalls continue to hamper the delivery of lifesaving health services to the most vulnerable people, including children and IDPs (OCHA 17/05/2018).

Response capacity

Local and national response capacity

The Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADMA) and authorities in Banaadir, Jubaland and South West State have appealed for urgent humanitarian assistance. A National Flood Committee composed of 22 members from the Government and Civil society to be chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister has been established to coordinate flood response (OCHA 24/05/2018).

The Federal Ministry and State level MoH in coordination with Health cluster partners are working to respond to the active outbreaks of disease as a result of the floods as well as prevention measures (Somali Ministry of Health 20/05/2018).

Local NGOs are working to provide humanitarian assistance and also educate populations on disease prevention and flood risks (Radio Ergo 28/05/2018).

International response capacity

UN agencies and INGOs are present providing shelter and NFIs assistance, health, and WASH assistance, particularly to IDPs and other vulnerable communities.

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.

The extent to which food stocks have been damaged or lost is unknown.

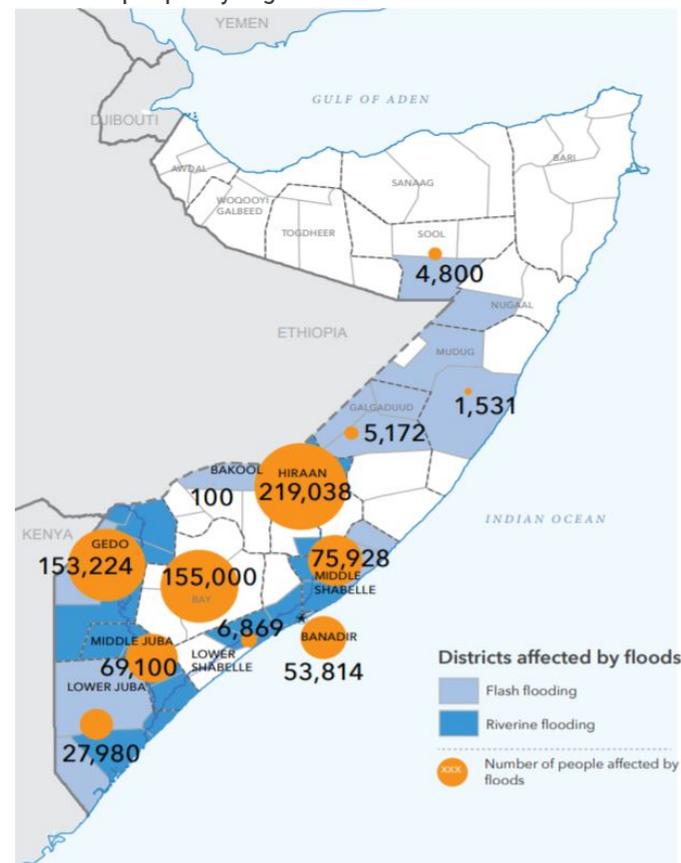
Lack of information on service provision at site level UNHCR 14/05/2018

Inadequate information on the needs of previously flood displaced people who have returned to their homes.

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).
- A lack of adequate land registration, as well as the communal nature of land ownership and dynamics around clan protection, may result in escalations of intercommunal conflict related to livelihoods and land (OCHA 24/05/2018).
- Vulnerable communities dependent on subsistence farming are unwilling to depart from their villages, even when flooded, due to a fear of losing communal land and other assets (OCHA 24/05/2018).

Affected people by region



Sources: OCHA 24/05/2018