



## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia, characterized by both natural and man-made factors, is one of the most complex and longstanding emergencies in the world. Due to decades of poverty, marginalization, armed violence, insecurity, political instability, natural hazards and lack of development, the humanitarian situation remains critical in the country. Prolonged drought conditions have been devastating for Somali communities and continue to drive displacement, while ongoing conflict impacts protection and human rights, reduces resilience and hinders access to basic services.

To address overall migration challenges in Somalia, IOM works closely with the Federal Government of Somalia, regional

authorities, the UN, donor governments and civil society by implementing programmes through three pillars: (1) Preparedness and humanitarian response; (2) Long term recovery and durable solutions; and, (3) Migration governance and development. Since 2006, IOM has delivered frontline services to crisis-affected populations, while steadily developing models and partnerships for longer term recovery and migration governance. With over 350 staff, IOM Somalia operates from a newly constructed main office in Mogadishu and seven field offices, as well as the Nairobi Support Office in Kenya.

# HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Mild to moderate drought conditions were reported in the north of the country in March, as the significantly drier and hotter than normal conditions persisted. The southern areas continued to experience persistent atypical dryness. The dry conditions have adversely impacted livelihoods with further deterioration projected for food security in the most affected areas, particularly among pastoralists. The poor start of the Gu' rains (March to June) and harsh weather during the dry

Jilaal (January - March) season following the poor 2018 Deyr (October-December) rains, has resulted in serious water shortages, earlier-than-normal water trucking at increased prices and irregular livestock migration particularly in northern and central areas. The Shabelle and Juba river levels are extremely low, and the river beds have dried up in some areas. Most parts of Somalia did not receive rainfall in March, although some modest rains were recorded in Gedo, Middle and Lower Juba. (Source: OCHA Humanitarian Dashboard March 2019)

## HIGHLIGHTS (MARCH 2019)



### CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

- 2,327 individual entered into IDP sites in Baidoa, Doolow, and Kismayo
- 258 complaints were received and responded to or referred to partners for services



### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- 119,694 individuals received safe & clean water
- 37,842 individuals supported with emergency water trucking
- 8,514,450 litres of clean safe water provided to populations of concern in Somalia
- 567 latrines constructed in Baidoa
- 49,842 individuals reached through hygiene and sanitation promotion activities
- 2,000 hygiene kits provided to the most vulnerable households



### SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEM (S-NFI)

- 8,082 Individuals received S-NFI kits



### MIGRANT HEALTH DIVISION (MHD)

- 27 static health clinics (24 Primary Health Care Centres, 2 Transit Centres, 1 Migration Resource Centre) supported
- 12,709 children under five years vaccinated
- 26,178 provided with health education
- 3 new health facilities opened



### DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

- 11,235 number of inflows and 12,172 number of outflows were monitored at 8 Flow Monitoring points



### RECOVERY AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS (RDS)

- 9 socio-economic infrastructures completed
- 7 ongoing socio-economic infrastructure projects
- 183,855 individuals supported through completed socio-economic infrastructures



### MIGRANT PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE (MPA)

- 359 Somali returnees and refugees were assisted through AVR



# HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

SAVE LIVES AND ALLEVIATE SUFFERING IN CRISIS-AFFECTED POPULATIONS



## CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

*IOM's CCCM teams improve the living conditions and protection of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in sites and settlements and ensure equitable access to services and assistance of all persons in need in the regions of Kismayo, Doolow and Baidoa.*

### BAIDOA

In Baidoa, the IOM team continued to monitor the entry (1,813) and exit (38) of individuals through four main monitoring checkpoints. Newly arrived individuals reported that they came to Baidoa due to insecurity/conflict or fear due to the presence of non-state armed actors, and in search of access to basic needs such as food, water, health, and education.

So what are the most urgent needs for IDPs in Baidoa? Water, health, shelter and food continue to be problematic for displaced persons, with increased concern about food insecurity (present for 322 IDP sites or 34,345 displaced households) Additionally, concerns exist about access to safe drinking water for 300 IDP sites (33,495 displaced households). Although water is provided by local vendors, most IDPs cannot afford the rising cost.

To assist community leaders in meeting the needs of those residing in IDP sites, IOM delivered a workshop on camp governance which was attended by 72 local leaders (44 females). Community is a critical component of effective governance and IDPs continue to present any concerns (36 in March) to be resolved or referred.

One pressing concern for IOM and community leaders is the ubiquitous danger of fire. On 22 March, a fire broke out in Warir IDP site affecting 30 houses (210 individuals). The risk of fire remains high due to the proximity of shelters, and camp layout and design in Baidoa IDP sites. An urgent

the fire committee was held to try and prevent future fire outbreaks during the dry season.

### BAIDOA RELOCATION

The planning and preparation for the relocation of individuals in Baidoa is ongoing. A critical step in this process has been to identify exactly how many household plots could be accommodated in Barwaqo 4. Following a topographic survey, 900 to 1,000 households will be relocated to this site. This is in addition to the 1,008 household plots planned for Barwaqo 2 (currently underway).

To support the sanitation needs of individuals relocating, IOM has constructed hundreds (294) of pit latrines that are now ready for use. Meanwhile, 1.2km of 2.2km trench was excavated from the IOM borehole to the public site, in order to support a water supply system. Similarly, the construction of two elevated water tanks continued and the hybrid solar panel at the IOM borehole site was completed.

Finally, construction of a police station and the perimeter wall began; and the installation of solar street lights at the public site is ongoing, as part of efforts to ensure public safety.



## DOOLOW

In Doolow, the IOM team continued to monitor the entry (103) and exit (6) of individuals to IDP sites. Those entering IDP sites say they came due to insecurity and ongoing clashes in the Nagelle district of Ethiopia. The total number of people currently residing in the two IDP sites in Doolow is 47,260.

Perhaps the most pressing need for individuals in Doolow is access to water. IOM and partners advocated to resolve the Qansaxley water shortage and it is anticipated that a shallow well will be drilled and water kiosks constructed to meet the needs of residents.

In another important step in meeting the needs of IDPs and community leaders, IOM handed over two information centres, two temporary stores and two water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in Qansaxley and Kabasa. Additionally, the first women groups were formed in each of the two sites to promote the inclusion of women in discussions and leadership positions.

## KISMAYO

In Kismayo, the IOM team continued to monitor the entry (411) and exit (107) of individuals moving through three checkpoints. Communication was a focus this month, with information sessions conducted in Central, Dalhis and Fanole IDP site to increase awareness about what services are available to residents. Furthermore, IOM continues to receive feedback and complaints (105) from different community centres and has responded to each concerned household and/or referred individuals to partner organizations for follow-up assistance.

Finally, in March a cleanup campaign was organized in three main IDP sites to improve sanitation and hygiene conditions for residents.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

*Adequate access to WASH is essential to prevent dehydration and reduce the risk of water-related diseases. Moreover, good hygiene practices reduce the risk of diarrhoea, cholera and other disease outbreaks. The provision of WASH interventions is usually one of the highest priorities following the onset of any crisis, whether sudden or protracted, following a natural disaster or complex situation. IOM Somalia's WASH emergency programmes are focused on the immediate provision of water, sanitation, and hygiene services to affected populations across Somalia.*

In March, drought became a critical concern in Baidoa, South West State, where the population is in need of emergency lifesaving intervention. In response, the IOM WASH team provided emergency water trucking through vouchers in 35 IDP sites in Baidoa, which host 6,307 households (37,842 individuals). A total of 8,514,450 litres of water were provided to these communities.

The IOM WASH team also installed hybrid solar panels at the Bayhaw borehole that serves 700 IDPs in the surrounding area. In future, the borehole will supply water to over 6,000 IDPs relocated by the CCCM team to Barwako sites 2 and 4. Two elevated water tanks (40 cubic metres each) were constructed at the relocation site, in addition to the installation of new water supply systems relocated from the Bayhaw borehole. In support of sanitation services, IOM constructed 567 latrines for IDPs in Baidoa, including 167 latrines for locally reintegrated IDPs with land tenure in 16 sites and 400 latrines in the new relocation sites.

In other areas of Somalia, IOM has provided access to sustainable clean safe water for 119,694 individuals through IOM constructed or rehabilitated sustainable water sources in Gedo, Banadir, Hiiraan, Middle and Lower Shabelle regions. The operation and maintenance of 44 mini water supply systems and 26 boreholes was supported across all the regional states in Somalia. Additionally, IOM continues to support the victims of Kaxda, K13 Mogadishu eviction, through the provision of clean safe water and community mobilization, and awareness sessions on good hygiene practices, reaching a total of 116 households.





## MIGRATION HEALTH DIVISION (MHD)

*The Migration Health Division (MHD) delivers and promotes comprehensive, preventive and curative health programmes which are beneficial, accessible, and equitable for migrants and mobile populations. Bridging the needs of both migrants and IOM member states, MHD, in close collaboration with partners, contributes towards the physical, mental and social well-being of migrants, enabling them and host communities to achieve social and economic development. IOM Somalia aims to deliver basic health care services for migrants and mobile populations who face many obstacles in accessing essential health care services due to a number of factors including the reoccurring drought and continuous conflict.*

The IOM Migrant Health Division (MHD) provided emergency primary healthcare and nutrition services across 27 static health clinics (24 Primary Health Care Centres, 2 Transit Centres, 1 Migration Resource Centre) throughout the country.

Importantly, in March IOM MHD teams partnered with regional Ministries of Health (MOH) as part of community health outreach. As a result, 23,557 individuals participated in consultations, 12,709 children under five were vaccinated and 26,168 individuals were provided with health education. To reach even more individuals, IOM Somalia opened three new health facilities in Deg-elema and Tulo-barwako, near Dhobley.

Finally, IOM provided capacity building training in Hargeisa for the Somaliland MOH team supporting the Yemen return programme. The training, which was also attended by the MPA field team, will enhance the skills of doctors and nurses providing reception and pre-departure medical services.



### FOSTERING INTERNAL COLLABORATION

IOM is capitalizing on its internal expertise to collaborate and integrate various programmes in Somalia. A great example of cross-unit collaboration was noted in May 2019, when a mobile clinic was established by the MOH to serve populations in Lower Shabelle that had been without access to basic medical services for many years. This arose as part of a coordinated effort between IOM's Recovery and Durable Solutions (RDS) and Health Units, who sought to bring technical health expertise to RDS stabilization programming funded by the EU. Leveraging the comparative advantage of each unit has allowed IOM to utilize and integrate specific skills/capacity and institutional arrangements with the government to extend our stabilization programming beyond dialogue and public infrastructure/youth engagement. As a result, within days of opening, the project had already served hundreds of individuals.

Another example is when Health and LHD unit collaborated to deploy diaspora specialist doctors to IOM-supported MOH clinics in extremely remote areas of the Sanaag region. A team of doctors under the MIDA-FINNSOM project provided one week on-the-job mentorship and training to primary healthcare workers on Integrated Management of Childhood Illness in the remote towns of Gar-adag and Huluul (El-Afweyn district), funded by the Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).



## SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEM (S-NFI)

*The Shelter team continues to consult with internally displaced people and local authorities on the provision of shelter and non-food items (NFI) to vulnerable populations. Depending on the affected community's vulnerabilities, assets, capacities, and preferences, identified populations might be provided with transitional shelters or more permanent structures where appropriate.*

In March, the IOM shelter team continued construction of pipeline warehouses, including the completion of 10 feet high walls, a gate and three rub halls. IOM also received the remaining NFIs for contingency stock from the port, and tested the items received for quality, set up required processes for contingency stock accountability, and drafted MoUs that were sent to the IOM legal department.

Meanwhile in Doolow, assessment and verification of new arrivals was completed by the IOM SNFI team with 2,002 emergency kits received from the national contingency stock to be distributed in early April.



## STABILIZATION & TRANSITION

ESTABLISH FOUNDATIONS FOR LONG-TERM RECOVERY AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

IOM supports the Somalia Stabilization Initiative (SSI) funded by USAID/Office of Transition Initiatives. The aim is to provide stabilization assistance to communities living in areas recently recovered from non-state actor control and aims to reduce the risks of destabilizing factors.



## RETURN, RECOVERY AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS (RDS)

*The IOM RDS Unit works to bridge humanitarian, development and peace/state building efforts and operationalize a paradigm shift from aid-agency driven modalities to one where the government and community co-design and lead their nationally aligned and owned programming. The RDS Unit activities promote: durable solutions for returnees and IDPS; increased social cohesion; improved government capacities to lead on durable solutions at FMS and district levels in urban and peri-urban areas. Currently, IOM RDS programming is operational in Jubaland, South West State, and Hirshabelle.*



School girls at the opening of a new school building © IOM 2019

The IOM Return, Recovery and Durable Solutions (RDS) team started trainings and consultations in March in Bulburte and Jalalaqsi (Hirshabelle State). The team also received priority projects for Mahadey (Hirshabelle State) and continued construction in Bulagudud and Gobweyne (Jubaland), with engineering plans developed for projects in Qamqam (Jubaland).

Importantly, on 14 March, the official launch of the Hirshabelle Stabilization Roadmap was held in Jowhar, Hirshabelle State (IOM-RDS representation), While IOM also met with Jubaland State(JSS) government stakeholders to discuss durable solutions in Jubaland. IOM's support in this meeting

contributes to the broader Danwadaag consortium (with NRC, Concern, REDSS) programme, whereby the aim is to support government in their capacity to lead on durable solutions (DS).

The IOM team launched a second Midnimo II project on 19 March in Jowhar, Hirshabelle State. The Midnimo-II project is funded by the UN Secretary General's Peace Building Fund to support Somalia's efforts to address the challenges of displacement. The project has been signed by the Ministry of Internal Federal Affairs and Reconciliation and the Resident Coordinator's Office of Somalia with UNDP, IOM, and UN-Habitat as main UN implementing partners.



## DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION (DDR)

*The DDR Unit works with marginalized youth at risk in Countering/Preventing Violent Extremism (C/PVE) and social cohesion, and supports the Federal Government of Somalia's National Programme for the Treatment and Handling of Disengaged Combatants.*

Production of the film à clef 'Journey of Defection' concluded and was officially launched in Kismayo on 24 March. The film outlines the five stages of the National Programme via the story of a typical low-risk ex-combatant. Local stakeholders who contributed to filming were invited to the event, including representatives from the Somali National Army who provided technical advice on scene settings for reception and screening.

On 31 March, IOM organized a mobile screening of the film in Baidoa with 70 community participants, including women organization members, local journalists and media producers. Participants found the film informative and relatable, with many participants hoping that the film will correct public misconceptions of the National Programme. Screenings are set to be aired through national and local TV channels in April.

The IOM team also facilitated a two day orientation and training for 27 participants from three local women's organizations in Mogadishu. The sessions were very interactive and participants agreed on key project criteria such as who qualifies, how impact will be measured, and the best means to conduct outreach and media campaigns.

In partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, IOM finished training 87 youth at risk in Kismayo. During the three-month training programme, participants received vocational training in hairdressing, retail/trade, hospitality and cooking, as well as numeracy and literacy skills. In addition, each young person developed and individualized business plan that will be supported with in-kind livelihood support to help start new businesses.



## MIGRATION GOVERNANCE & DEVELOPMENT

ADVANCE THE WELLBEING OF SOCIETY AND MIGRANTS THROUGH STRONGER MIGRATION GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT



## IMMIGRATION AND BORDER MANAGEMENT (IBM)

*IOM's Immigration and Border Management (IBM) programme supports the Government of Somalia in promoting safe and orderly migration, securing borders and building the capacity of immigration officials.*

Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) play key participant roles in the Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) programme. In March, the IOM team provided training for JPOs seconded to the Immigration and Naturalization Directorate (IND) in Mogadishu. The focus of the training was to improve communication and coordination between JPOs, IND and IOM. This was part of the Norwegian funded project, 'Enhancing Human and Operational Capacities of Somalia's Immigration Authorities III'.

The IOM IBM team also conducted a training on Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) and Travel Document Examination for ten (3 females) Somaliland immigration officers from Berbera. This training aimed to build the institutional capacity of the immigration department in addition to increasing the technical knowledge and skills of the immigration officers on border management as part of the Better Migration Management Programme (BMM).



## MIGRANT PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE

*IOM Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA) Division provides technical expertise in areas of migration policy, administrative and operational practices, procedures for countering human trafficking and smuggling, and direct assistance to migrants.*

In March, the IOM MPA team received a total of 359 returnees and refugees in Mogadishu. This included two movements from Libya; on 19 March, three returnees arrived in Hargeisa from Libya, while on 20 March, 20 returnees arrived in Mogadishu. Additionally, a total of 49 refugees and 287 returnees arrived

from Yemen in Berbera. All of them were supported by IOM with medical assistance and onward transportation. Our support to refugees stranded in Yemen is carried out at their request and in collaboration with UNHCR Yemen, as part of the Assisted Spontaneous Return programme.



Somali returnees from Libya. ©IOM 2019



IOM and partners ready to receive returnees from Yemen, funded by KS Relief ©IOM 2019



Abdi, who recently voluntarily returned from Libya, on Monday (25/03) opened his own retail shop in Hargeisa, Somaliland, with support from the Joint Initiative.

<https://migrationjointinitiative.org/>



# HUMAN INTEREST STORY

## “Drought Destroyed Our Lives”: One Woman’s Experience of Environmental Migration



Photo: Halima (left) shares her story with IOM, assisted by a translator. Picture: IOM/Kenneth Njagi

Halima\*, a 30-year-old mother of three, never thought that she would leave the comfort of her home in Somalia where she lived with her mother and siblings. She grew up looking after her family’s large herd of livestock in Johwar in Somalia’s Lower Shabelle region, situated in the south of the country.

Her family was comfortable and financially secure until 2013, when they were forced to leave Somalia after they lost all their livestock in a severe and devastating drought that ravaged the southern part of Somalia from 2011 to 2012. The drought left almost half the population in need of humanitarian assistance, decimated livestock and crops, and left tens of thousands of people destitute. Conflict and insecurity further exacerbated their misery.

“The drought was so bad. I saw people lose their livelihoods because all the animals died due to lack of pasture and water. Our lives were destroyed; we suffered from thirst and hunger every single day,” Halima says with hesitation. They are painful memories she struggles to recall.

Halima and her six siblings decided that they had no option but to migrate across the border to survive. They started on a long and torturous journey to get to northern Kenya, but they were not all lucky. Two of Halima’s siblings died during the trek.

“They died because of heat and thirst and we had very little to eat. We would trek for days and nights without food. They were already so weak and they couldn’t walk for long. We had no choice after they passed away—we had to continue with our journey,” she explains emotionally. Along the journey, Halima joined another group of people, also migrating for the same reasons. Once in a while, they would hitch a short bus ride, but such opportunities were few and far between.

In 2013, Halima and her four surviving siblings managed to reach Kenya through Dagahaley camp in Dadaab. It had taken them 15 days to travel, mostly on foot, from their home town to Dagahaley camp. From here, she moved again, to Nairobi, hoping she would be able to start a new life.

Today, Halima is living in Eastleigh, a suburb in Kenya’s capital, Nairobi, known for its predominantly Somali population, where she ekes out living selling doughnuts to support her four children as well as her ailing mother back in Somalia. Her mother has been living in an internally displaced persons camp since 2013, when she also left their home as a result of the drought.

From her business, Halima’s makes about USD 2 a day. With this, she is unable to send her children to school and can barely afford to feed them. Paying the rent on her single-roomed house is a constant struggle and most months she is in arrears and her electricity is cut off.

“Many people who were displaced cannot return home. The drought in Somalia is happening all the time. People have no way to recover,” she sighs.

Continue reading the full story here:

<https://medium.com/@UNmigration/drought-destroyed-our-lives-one-womans-experience-of-environmental-migration-dd658812c6a>



Photo: Local residents, who largely rely on open and unprotected shallow wells—most of which have dried up—are struggling to find alternative water sources in Somalia. Photo: IOM/Muse Mohammed 2017

# DONORS



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