

10 August 2017

Clan conflict in Marka, Lower Shabelle. IDPs in Baidoa face mass forced evictions

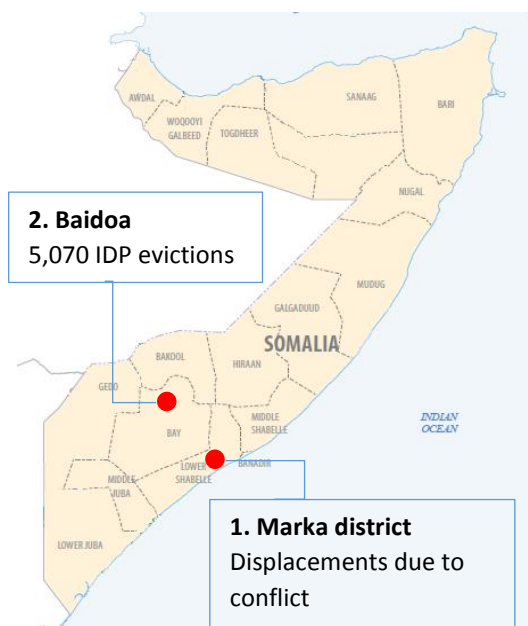
1. Displacements due to clan conflict in Lower Shabelle

Fresh fighting erupted between Biyamal and Habar-Gidir clans in and around Marka town, Lower Shabelle on 1 August 2017 leading to displacement of 9,600 individuals. PRMN partners report that tensions remain high and new conflict has occurred between 5 and 7 August.

Information from the field indicates that each clan has sought to assert their control over specific villages within Marka and that there are currently four operational entities each having control over a certain village: i) Biyamal clan ii) Habar-Gidir clan iii) Al Shabaab (AS) iv) Somalia Federal Government/ Interim South West Administration /AMISOM. While talks are taking place at various levels, tensions have not subsided.

The fighting has mainly taken place at Bul-Jaan and Bay-Ras villages of Marka while the majority of those displaced have sought refuge in Ceel-Jaale village (7 KM outside Marka town) and Ceel-Haji where AMISOM has an operational base.

PRMN partners also monitored more than 3,000 households (approximately 15,160 individuals) displaced from Golweyn village in Marka District due to fighting between AS and AMISOM in the period 30-31 July. Those fleeing the conflict arrived in Bulo-mareer, Daydoog, Dudumo, Maduulow, and Lexmoro villages. The Lower Shabelle displacement situation is complex with recurrent clan clashes and numerous military operations linked to state and non-state actors affecting large numbers of civilians. The Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) has recorded more than 237,000 displaced individuals from Lower Shabelle in the period January to July 2017 of which more than 87,000 displaced due to conflict and insecurity.



2. Forced IDP evictions in Baidoa

During the first week of August 2017, private landlords have commenced evictions of 845 households (approximately 5,070 individuals) residing at five IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) settlements in Baidoa. Two settlements have had all IDPs evicted, while for the remaining sites the evictions are in progress. There are ongoing plans by the informal settlement leaders to relocate Yaa Rabbi settlement but no alternative site has yet been identified. The IDPs were evicted with short notice. Informal (oral) agreements (witnessed by several people) existed between the landlords and residents permitting them to reside at the settlements for 5 years with the exception of Yaa Rabbi which had a 2-year 'tenancy'. The ownership of the land where the five IDP settlements were located is in dispute - currently being handled at the district court. The latrines and water storage facilities that were constructed by humanitarian actors have been left behind. However, those evicted were able to take shelter and latrine materials with them.

Affected IDP settlement and population size

IDP site name	Households at IDP site	Evicted households	Notice period
Yaa Rabbi	170	in progress	5 days' notice period ending on 7 August 2017
Goorisane	213	in progress	5 days' notice period ending on 7 August 2017
Buureyle	135	60	The 60 HHs relocated and settled at another land plot
Eelbay 2	220	220	Relocated to join nearby IDP settlements
Ilbeeti	182	182	Relocated to join nearby IDP settlements
Total		845 households	

The PRMN (Protection & Return Monitoring Network) is a UNHCR-led project which identifies and reports on displacements as well as protection risks and incidents underlying such population movements. On behalf of UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 41 local partners in the field in Somalia (South Central regions, Puntland and Somaliland) undertake data gathering (primarily through interviews with affected communities and key informants) and monitoring at strategic locations. This 'flash' report highlights only a selection of movements and incidents - some of these reports may not be verified independently by UNHCR.

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Partner



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