

# SOMALIA

## PROTECTION CLUSTER



Jan - Feb 2017



*A drought affected family with their donkey cart carrying firewood and jerry cans in search of water in Xudur district, Bakool region.*

## DROUGHT INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

*Photo credit: Protection Cluster /H. Abuya (March 9, 2017) Xudur, Bakool region.*



CORE GROUP IN NEED

1.1 million  
IDPs

and other civilians affected by armed conflict, violence, insecurity and disaster.



82,642

reached through protection activities from January to February 2017 including

12,433 Girls,

12,122 Boys,

37,080 Women

25,007 Men



US\$ 76.9

Million required  
5.7million (7.4%)  
received

CLUSTER SPECIFIC  
OBJECTIVE:

**SO 1.** To improve the protection risks, prevention, response and access to services for IDPs and other civilians affected by conflict, violence, human rights violation or natural disaster

**SO 2.** To improve protection environment for IDPs and other vulnerable group in particular through enhanced protection interventions to support durable solutions for IDPs

**SO 3.** To improve operational response capacity through capacity development, strategic advocacy and humanitarian dialogue

**Needs:** Protection needs remain critical for the most vulnerable group especially women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly. The protection needs have sharply increased and the most affected regions are Bay, Bakool, Sool and Sanag. Majority of the affected population are moving to existing IDP camps in urban areas in the hope of getting humanitarian assistance. The centrality of protection shall be maintained across all clusters in the drought response. Moreover, the current drought will continue to impact on the safety and security of women and children as they are the most vulnerable, marginalized and are at the front of risk exposure. Increased protection and prevention activities needs to be funneled through all humanitarian response and ensure risk reduction strategies during humanitarian response. At least 1.1 million internally displaced persons and other extremely vulnerable group are exposed to potential protection risks and require improved access to protection services.

RESPONSE:

In January-February 2017, 82,642 (28% children and 72% adults) drought affected persons were reached through protection and prevention activities/interventions including 12,433 girls, 12,122 boys, 37,080 women and 25,007 men.

Tracking Population movements/  
displacements:

Protection Cluster partners continue to conduct displacement tracking on internal displacement and/or population movement (including return). Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) tools track the

movement of affected populations, giving better indications to Government, humanitarians, and development actor's better indications of the unfolding situation. PRMN flash report of February 2017 shows new internal displacement of approximately 47,000 drought affected persons (these movements are predominantly from rural to durable and peri-urban locations)

HOUSING, LAND & PROPERTY  
Forced evictions – a hindrance to durable solutions:

During this reporting period 28,764 individuals were forcefully evicted in South Central, Somaliland and Puntland. The majority (26,719 individuals) were evicted in South Central Somalia. In February, the eviction incidents recorded were three times lower (8,612 individuals) compared to January figures which were 20,152. This is attributed to some landlords, local authorities campaign to stop evictions during the drought period, the focus on the elections and the fact that IDPs are now settling far away from the main town. In the month of January and February, 45 information services were conducted benefiting 3,466 (2318F, 1148M).

28,764

individuals were forcefully evicted in South Central, Somaliland and Puntland.

NRC implemented the information sessions in Doble targeting 300 persons (223F, 77M), Kismaayo 992 (564F, 428M), Luuq 300 (185F, 115M) and Baidao 900 (616F, 284 M), 300 (224F 76M), Mogadishu. The target participants were Refugee returnees, IDPs, and Host community. The events targeted representatives/leaders/community members through special structured sessions as well as the larger group through mass awareness sessions. The sessions included the provision of accurate, timely and reliable information on the HLP rights and remedial options available in Somalia. Housing, Land and Property sub cluster reached a total of 3,916 persons through prevention of forced evictions, community dispute settlement, advocacy, and counselling responses.

Consolidating durable solutions through tenure security

The loss of HLP assets is one of the most conspicuous consequences of displacement that bears substantially on livelihood potentials

and physical security. In Somalia, the likelihood of an IDP experiencing such losses on multiple occasions is considerably high due to widespread eviction-induced displacements, which is why 'protection from forced evictions' remains one of the five strategic priorities of the HLP sub cluster. In February, NRC facilitated the issuance of title deeds to 130 IDP households residing in Tawakal 1 and Bay and Bakol settlements, Baidoa, many of whom had been under imminent threat of forced eviction. The Baidoa District Commission stressed during the ceremony that "it was the right assistance at the right time". The HLP sub cluster will continue to scale up such interventions amid the ongoing drought situation as many more continue to live under persistent fear and the threat of being forcibly evicted.

## CIVILIANS EXPOSED

### Freedom of movement and protection of civilians at risk

Explosive Hazard sub-cluster partners continued working in South-central Somalia and Somaliland conducting risk education, mine clearance, survey and marking, peace building and conflict resolution. The EH partners have reached 48,723 individuals including women and children. Beneficiaries are mainly from drought affected regions in Somaliland and south-central Somalia including families of IDPs and returnees. 71 ERW items were destroyed including 2 anti-personnel landmines and 1,606 meter square of land were cleared from explosive hazards during the reporting period. Since the start of the year EH SC partners have recorded 8 explosive remnants of war (ERW) accidents with 13 victims and 90% of them were male children. Accidents were reported from Bay 2, Hiran 1, Gedo 2, Lower-shabelle 1, and South Mudug 2.

**283**

**grave violations against children. Majority of the violations were on recruitment and use of children by armed forces/groups (185) followed by abduction (32).**

## CHILDREN, NOT DETAINEES

### Child rights violations steeply on the rise

During January and February the CP Sub Cluster reached 4,571 children (2,503 Boys and 2,068 girls) and 4,201 adults (1,022 Men and 3,179 Women) with various CP Prevention and Response Services. There has been an increase in Unaccompanied and Separated Children, Child headed households, violence

against children and child rights violations as a result of drought and displacement.

Members of the CPWG has been responding with community based prevention services, legal aid services, medical support for survivors, psychosocial services, identification of unaccompanied separated children, family reunifications, interim care services, reintegration services and referrals to other sectors. In February, the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting documented 283 grave violations against children in southern central Somalia and this affected 239 boys and 31 girls. Majority of the violations were on recruitment and use of children by armed forces/groups (185) followed by abduction (32).

During the reporting period, the country taskforce on monitoring and reporting continued to advocate with Puntland authorities for the release of children detained for association with Al Shabaab. Currently, there are 642 boys and 141 girls in the UNICEF supported reintegration programs for children associated with armed conflict in Mogadishu, Afgoye, Beletweyn and Baidoa.

## SAFETY & INTEGRITY

### Gender-based violence

GBV has been one of the protection concerns in this drought situation. The impact of droughts is increasing women's existing vulnerability to poverty and denial of human rights, including exclusion from decision making, access to resources, and increased women's workload in and outside of the home (they are exposed to violence while fetching water from far places or tending livestock) Women and young girls in the IDPs do not have sanitary toilets, as they also experience malnutrition, particularly for pregnant and lactating mothers and they experience violence in going out for private needs.

This has greater implications for their maternal health, particularly in the rural drought affected communities, where reports as well as miscarriages is already evident. The GBV Sub Cluster partners reached a total of 17,353 beneficiaries, 3,102 girls, 2,236 boys, 9,062 women and 2,953 Men with GBV prevention, response and capacity building activities. GBV response services include lifesaving medical assistance including the post rape treatment, temporary protection accommodation for GBV survivors, legal, psychosocial, material and livelihood assistance.

**47,000**

new internal displacement

**3,916**

reached through prevention of forced evictions, community dispute settlement, advocacy, and counselling responses

**48,723**

reached through risk education, mine clearance, survey and marking, peace building and conflict resolution

**4,571**

reached with various child protection prevention and response services

**17,353**

reached with GBV preventions, response and capacity building activities

## Challenges/Gaps:

- Security constraints remain a major protection concerns thereby limiting protection partners ability to ensure effective protection monitoring.
- Protection partners continue to provide limited support to drought affected populations through existing programmes attributed to financial constraints. Without additional funding many vulnerable group or persons with specific needs (women, children, and elderly) will be exposed to potential protection risk and without access to specialized response services.
- Remoteness and inaccessibility to the conflict affected areas controlled by Al-Shabaab remain a challenge
- Limited IDTR and GBV services for families, children and survivors of rape and sexual violence etc. in priority locations including *Awdal, Sool, Sanag, Bari, Nugal, Galkayo, Gedo, Hiraan, Banadir, Lower Juba*
- Security of land tenure for new arrivals is limited increasing risk of eviction
- The presence of mines and ERW continued to threaten the lives and livelihoods of civilians, and to compromise the ability of humanitarian actors to safely carry out their duties. Constraints related to access (unable to provide protection services, clear roads, etc.)

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**28,764**

**individuals were  
forcibly evicted in  
South Central,  
Somaliland and  
Puntland.**

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*Note: This report has been compiled based on unverified inputs received by Protection Cluster and sub-cluster partners. The figures reported may not represent the actual number of beneficiaries reaching during the reporting period due to reporting gaps. The activities were implemented with Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and non-HRP funding.*

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