

EMERGE GLOBAL ORGANIZATION (EG)



FOOD SECURITY ASSESMENT

DONE FROM 15TH -30TH AUGUST 2023

EG FOOD SECURITY ASSESMENT REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The intensifying drought experienced in major regions of Somalia for the last three years has led to water shortages, crop failures, and high levels of livestock migration and deaths of both animals and people who are living in the rural areas of Jowhar and Mahaday.

Population displacement in search of food, water and pasture is on the rise, with reports of overcrowded population in Jowhar and Mahaday districts of Hirshabelle region is in the rise as people isn't able to graze their animals due to lack of feeds, and water.

9 out of 12 (75%) assessed locations/villages in Jowhar and Mahaday districts reported new arrivals of displaced people in the last two months due to drought and ongoing conflicts in Somalia.

Drought has been widely reported as the main driver for the displacements with insecurity also contributing to about 30% of the displacement.

Access to water remains very limited as the available boreholes and shallow wells in most locations have dried up due to the worsening drought that has been experienced for three consecutive seasons.

As a coping mechanism, communities have reduced the frequency and quantity of meals as many families have lost their means of livelihood and commodity prices have increased and are not affordable for most people.

Nine Out of twelve (75%) assessed villages, in Jowhar and Mhaday district, the majority of adults are reported to have reduced the frequency and quantity of meals in the last two months.

7 out of 2 (58%) assessed locations, in Jowhar and Mahaday Districts, the majority of children are reported to have reduced the frequency and quantity of meals in the last two months.

Pastoralists reported a lack of livestock feeds. In 8 out of 12 (66%) assessed locations, current fodder stock can only sustain livestock for less than two months. Pastoral migrations in search of food, water and pasture are on the rise.

In most locations, communities reported a more than 80% reduction in crop production due to lack of rain compared to normal times.

There is an increase in acute malnutrition with the number of new admissions on the increase across the board.

Top priorities for the affected communities interviewed include food, water, and health services.

LOCATIONS DETAILS

Jowhar district

No	Village	HHs	GPS Coordinates	Chairperson	Contact
1.	Banaaney	904	Lat: 2.798627 Long: 45.513054	Adan Idiris Ali	0618380962
2.	Baareey	1051	Lat: 2.82035412	Hassan Nur Salah	0615875069

			Long: 45.535412		
3.	Kalluundi	711	Lat: 2.795544 Long: 45.521975	Hassan Ali Abdulahi	061507729
4.	Congo	760	Lat: 2.728248 Long: 45.466075	A/Karim Ahmed Tifow	0615574851
5.	Maryan Keeynan	390	Lat: 2.766871 Long: 45.434051	Hassan Mohamud Saney	0615814090

Mahaday district

No	Village	HHs	GPS Coordinates	Chairperson	Contact
1.	Doonka Buur Fuule	470	Lat: 2.798627 Long: 45.513054	Daud Abdulle Hussein	0615327558
2.	Buurfuule	1,560	Lat: 2.930522 Long: 45.52867	Mohamud Omar Isak	0615108338
3.	Xudur Ciise	480	Lat: 2.954448 Long: 45.5299	Hassan Mohamud Abukar	0615684001
4.	Maguurto	550	Lat: 2.946362 Long: 45.555364	Jabiin Mohamud Dhagey	0615319085
5.	Libiga	743	Lat: 2.811478 Long: 45.482079	Nour Faare Ali	0615589760

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Recurrent conflicts and droughts and effect of floods in Hirshabelle state have displaced more than 4,000HH from remote villages and left the pastoral farmers in jeopardy with dried wells, functioning water canals and vast land leading to suffering of both animals and people.

Inadequate sanitation facilities and food security for the pastoral rural communities in Banaaney, Kalluundi, Congo, Maryan and Keeynan villages are also reported to be a challenge as most people on these villages can't afford due to unpredictable conditions.

Increased water prices from 5-7 USD per barrel in rural villages are reported as several of water points have dried up. Water trucking has become a last resort option to avoid displacements in areas where people rely on rainwater due to unavailability of potable water or due to high salinity groundwater.

An initial investment is needed to ensure a smooth transition from emergency to more durable and sustainable water systems in affected regions. These investments are crucial as droughts in

Hirshabelle and across the country are becoming more frequent and more prolonged, linked to the global climate crisis.

METHODOLOGY

EG took an assessment task to assess the food security situation in rural pastoral and farmers in the Hirshabelle region of Somalia after an acute drought that has been experienced in the last two harvesting seasons and the recent floods experienced in the region.

The objective of the assessment is to improve decision making in support of the food security and livelihoods of all actors in key agricultural, livestock and fisheries value chains in high-priority food-crisis households in districts in Hirshabelle region, with a focus on vulnerable families.

Data collection for the household survey took place from 26th August to 30th August 2023 where EG staff went from household to household with oral and written questionnaires asking direct questions concerning food security as they also make physical and emotional observation of the situation.

The assessment was conducted using tools and approaches to collect quantitative and qualitative data in various forms including Key informant interviews (KIIs), focus group discussions (FGDs). Interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with host communities and local authorities including members of village management persons and Site Observations were used to gather technical information on water sources, sanitation facilities, and environmental hygiene conditions within villages.

This questionnaire form (herein after called the Assessment Tool) covered the below questions related to the WASH in the Emergency:

- Basic information about the area Including GPS Coordination.
- How frequently meals are taken
- Market distance and price issues
- Water Related Questions.
- Sanitation Related Questions.
- Hygiene Related Questions.
- Effects of drought/water crisis
- Household priority needs in terms of food security.

KEY FINDINGS ON THE ASSESSMENT

Water canals

EG visited several canals in Jowhar and Mahaday District and found out that most canals are out of use and needs to be rehabilitated and brought back to use.

Access to basic needs

On access to basic needs, majority we interviewed about 70% of the respondent reported that they do not have access to basic services at their household as majority of this respondent are

newly displaced families and drought affected households who have just joined the camps in less than a month.

Sources of food

More than half (55%) of the respondent say they either borrow or beg from host, friendly neighbour or relative families in order to eat about 20% purchase or credit from local market and only 10% are getting support from Government and non-government agencies indicating the low level of humanitarian response to the drought affected communities in Jowharand Mahaday District.

Access to market

Nearly all the interviewed respondents reported that they had access to market. On the Distance, most of the respondent reported trekking/walking more than 2kms to access market, close to half (48%) are between 0.5 to1 km away from the market.

The assessment indicates catastrophic levels (IPC phase 4- 5) of food insecurity across the assessed villages in Jowhar district, with 95% of surveyed households exhibiting inadequate levels of food consumption.

Over three-quarter (85%) of the households report poor FCS group and are associated IPC3-4 and 10% remain border line. Only 5% of households reported an acceptable score.

At the village and household level, 100% of the households assessed are in poor food consumption group, exhibiting comparatively higher levels of food insecurity of IPC phase 3 and 4 o 87% of the respondents reported relying on less expensive food average of 3 days a week. 94% reported relying on borrowing food from friend or relatives average of 4 days a week. 84% of the respondents reported relying on reducing size of food served average 4 days a week. 78% of the respondents reported relying on restricting consumption by adults so that small children can eat average 4 days a week and 77% of the respondents reported relying on reduce the number of meals eaten in a day for 4 days a week.

OTHER FINDINGS

15 Boreholes were observed during assessment, 5 were functioning and 10 of them need for rehabilitation.

Some of the main reasons that halted the operation of the boreholes include:

- ✓ Deteriorating economy and scarcity of financial resources of local community inhibiting the community to operate and maintain the borehole.
- ✓ Worn out water pumping units including generators and submersible pumps that need to be replaced.
- ✓ Obsolete spare parts within the water network that need replacement.
- ✓ The dramatic increase in fuel prices was the main reasons for people's inability to afford and pay the increased cost of clean water and operation, this led the community to use the un protected wells and the borehole will remain malfunctioning.
- ✓ Inadequate the capacity of solar system to yield enough water and cover the needs of large community.
- Animals started dying for the water crisis and lack of pasture due severity of dryness.

- Most of assessed areas HH do not consume water from a protected water source (for the drinking water) and people are forced to wait longer than 30 minutes to obtain their supply from the un protected wells or boreholes. Direct observations in the field by the team also saw that the water points visited there were more than 20 persons waiting to be served water.
- For most of the people do not have access to an improved water point, the reason is simply that there is none in the area, whereas for other is a problem of difficulty in the access or distance.
- Regarding to the distance to the collection point, most of the HHs declare walking more the 500 metres during the rainy season, and so in the dry season, as other nearby sources dry out.
- The lack of hygiene in around the water points is seen in most of the water points in some localities having solid waste around the water points. More dangerously in some localities, human and animal excreta (children) was detected around the water supply facilities, posing a major problem for human health.
- Families have fewer containers than specified by international practice (2 containers, one to collect and one to store). Furthermore, HHs have less than 75 litres (15 l/p/day for a HH of five persons) of storage capacity, thus they would cope with eventual shortages of water in their supply in an undesired way (reducing water consumption, especially reducing water for personal or HH hygiene).
- Water Facilities, some of households visited in the areas used water containers that were dirty inside.
- Defecation practices were also done in the assessment for the areas of concern, with very different results. In general, latrine coverage is very low, some rural HH declare to use the toilets in very rare at day time and open defecation is the more common practice in rural areas and some IDP camps especially for children.
- Adequate Toilet Facilities, most of villages and IDPs visited during the assessment did not have a sufficient number of latrines to meet the ratio of 1 latrine per 20 people.
- All people visited stated that they wash their hands actually before eating and after, after defecation with water only, and after touching dirty things.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following activities are recommended for humanitarian intervention:

- i. Providing farm equipment like fertilizers, seeds and farm chemicals.
- ii. Canal rehabilitation to assist farmers in water collection and storage is needed.
- iii. Assist in irrigation activities to supplement inadequate rainfall.
- iv. Distribute emergency food items and cash for food in hard-to-reach areas.
- v. Rehabilitation/Maintenance of the water network.
- vi. Rehabilitation of animal water troughs and kiosks.
- vii. Rehabilitations of borehole storages, water pipes and water extensions.
- viii. Provision of backup water pumps and electric cables.
- ix. Water trucking to the affected communities living the rural areas
- x. Train the borehole operators on borehole operation, management and maintenance.
- xi. Drill extra new strategic boreholes to cover the very needs of the coastal communities.
- xii. Conduct hygiene education on the dangers of animal and human faecal matter, ways in which it may be inadvertently ingested by humans, and ways to minimize these dangers.
- xiii. Increase the number of latrines and improve existing latrines in accordance with national initiatives (i.e., Community Led Total Sanitation).

The following canals need rehabilitation;

Jowhar canals

1. Liinta canal
2. Carra cad canal
3. Sannel canal
4. Qoor duub canal
5. Geed luuban canal
6. Bukuraale canal

Mahaday canals;

1. Boodaaye canal
2. Cali Bacad canal
3. Masar canal
4. Raage Jeete canal
5. Gurxan canal
6. Eenow canal
7. Ibrahim Moalim canal
8. Ismail canal
9. Ali Barre canal
10. Bariis canal
11. Qasaare canal
12. Abdulle canal
13. Raaxoole canal
14. Uuble canal
15. Buundo canal

ANNEXES/ASSESMENT PHOTOS.

The following photos were taken during assessment in various locations.



Latitude: 2.93487
Longitude: 45.509304
Elevation: 120.55±11 m
Accuracy: 7.0 m
Time: 30-08-2023 09:41
Note: Doonka Buurfuule Village

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Latitude: 2.974921
Longitude: 45.532149
Elevation: 120.56±12 m
Accuracy: 11.8 m
Time: 30-08-2023 11:42
Note: Boodaaye Canal Mahadaay

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