

## Rapid Joint Needs Assessment Report, in Riverine Villages, Jowhar District, M/Shabelle Region of Hirshabelle State, Somalia



*Ministry of Hirshabelle State, Head of WASH Department on the right corner @Rageyle Village*

### BACKGROUND

On July 13, 2023 OCHA Flash and Riverine Floods Situation Report published that the Gu (April to June) seasonal floods have affected over 468,000 people with about 30 dead, displacing at least 247,000 from their homes; damaging infrastructure and inundating thousands of hectares of land across Somalia. The devastating impact of floods is continuing. During the reporting period, two teenage girls reportedly drowned in flood water in Warcise village, east of Jowhar District Middle Shabelle Region. The OCHA report also stated that more than 30 villages remain cut off by floods east of Jowhar and are only accessible by boat.

The situation will worsen if emergency assistance does not reach all people in need, especially in flood affected areas.

According to the [Famine Early Warning Systems Network \(FEWSNET\)](#), crisis and emergency outcomes are still widespread and severe outcomes are expected to persist through September. A credible risk of famine persists among displaced and pastoral populations in the areas that were worst impacted by the recent floods and droughts.

## INTRODUCTION

A team comprising of SAACID Organization and Hirshabelle Ministry of Health conducted a joint assessment in Raqeyle village and Baalguri IDP Settlements in Jowhar District on 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023. Raqeyle Village is around 8KM away from Jowhar Town in South East Direction. It is a village concentrated with Somali Bantu tribe and is regarded as part of minorities and marginalized groups. Raqeyle Village was severely affected by the recent floods of the Gu Season (April to June). The team noted that poor hygiene and sanitation were observed during the needs assessments in Raqeyle and Baalguri. Earlier, in a communique issued by Ministry of Agriculture stated that 380 households were displaced as a result of floods from the Shabelle River. Furthermore, on July 6, 2023, Hirshabelle WASH Cluster indicated that there is a gap in humanitarian services particularly WASH activities. are at heightened risk of exclusion from the response during re-displacement.

## OBJECTIVES

### **The main objective of the assessment:**

- To identify the location of the new arrivals and assess their immediate needs of shelter, WASH, Health, and nutrition
- To advise a possible recommendation of rapid interventions and support for the needs to the vulnerable new IDP arrivals.

## METHODOLOGY

Methodologies used while conducting the assessments:

- ✓ Key informant interviews
- ✓ Cross walking in Settlements (Physical observation)

## FINDINGS

## New displacement

The continuous flooding of the Shabelle River displaced vulnerable families in Raqeyle village. 512 households fled from their residnets and they have joined two existing IDP settlements in Jowhar Town named Shiekh Omar and Jilyaale IDPs. Yet some other households were reported to have joined and settled with relative families in Jowhar town. These Raqeyle residents were forced to flee and seek security and humanitarian assistant in IDP Camps in Jowhar Town. Majority of the IDPs are women, children and elderly who were seen lacking basic services like food, shelter, water and sanitation. 155HHs out of 512 have returned back to their original residents in Raqeyle Village while their shleters were distructed by the flood watres and are in poor condition. 210 HHs have joined Shiekh Omar IDPs Settlement in Jowhar and 147 families joined in Jilyaale IDPs Camp. The total households remained in the two IDP Settlements are 357 families with poor shelters, lack of clean water, and sanitation problems. Below table shows population of new arrival households and existing families in the IDP.

S/N	IDP Name	No. New IDPs	No. of Old IDPs	Total
1	Jilyaale	147HHs	165HHs	312HHs
2	Sheikh Omar	210HHs	133HHs	353HHs
<b>Total</b>		<b>357HHs</b>	<b>298HHs</b>	<b>665HHs</b>



*Interview of new IDPs from Raqeyle Village*



## Shelter Needs

Newly arrived IDPs from Raqeyle built make-shift houses made of worn-out clothes, old torn plastic sheets and sticks which cannot protect them from rain, winds and the sun. They complained about challenges encountered during raining and cold weather. All the 357 households fled from Raqeyle have equal shelter needs, clean water, and hygiene kits and promotions. Similarly, those who returned to Raqeyle Village encountered shelter problems as their huts were destroyed by the floods.



*Latrine for a returned family in Raqeyle*



*Newly arrived family in Sheik Omar IDP camp*

## **WASH**

### **Water Sources**

Waters are available in the two IDPs settlements of Jilyaale and Sheikh Omar as water kiosks and shallow wells rehabilitations were done late last year under SHF project funds. Although the community has raised concerns of water gaps when encountered humanitarian water provision project gaps and they expressed that they will have to fetch water from the river.

### **Sanitation**

The last of 2022, two local NGOs named SCC and GSA had constructed 75 communal pit latrines including 2 friendly disable latrines for Sh. Omar and Jilyaale settlements. All the IDPs residing in these two camps have access to sanitation facilities adhering sphere standard recommendation for emergency context. However, lack of orientation has been observed as some of the IDPs still prefer open defecation. Therefore, main activities needed include distribution of hygiene kits and tarpaulins to all 512 Raqeyle vulnerable HHs, training of



community hygiene promoters, hygiene promotion messaging through household visits and community sensitization

### **3.4 Health**

The joint assessment team reported during KII interviews with community members, common sickness in the IDPs are malaria, typhoid and diarrhoeal diseases. Sick community members are taken to Jowhar general hospital. The assessment team met with some malnourished children from the new arrivals' families who recently escaped from floods as they were not aware where to seek healthcare due to lack of information.



*Interview during survey in Raqeyle Village*

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

### **Gaps**

- There are sanitation gaps for 820HHs of 4920 people including new arrivals
- Lack of Hygiene kit coupled with behaviour change messages for good hygiene practice for 512 new flood affected households of 3,702 people
- Lack of shelter materials for protection for 512 new arrival household of 3,702 people
- Community mobilization, and giving awareness to new arrival HHs on how to seek health and nutrition services

### **Recommendation**

- Distribution of hygiene kits to 512 HHs new arrivals of 3,702 individuals
- Creating community mobilization awareness with specifically focus on prevention of diarrheal diseases
- Provision of shelter materials to 512 new IDPs HHs including those who returned to Raqeyle
- Recruit promoters for community health promotions in all three sites