Somalia is experiencing a historic drought following four consecutive failed rainy seasons that are leading to mass displacement, widespread death of livestock and a devastating food crisis. The drought is projected to intensify as Somalia faces the risk of a fifth consecutive failed rainy season from October to December 2022. In addition, persistent conflict, unresolved political tensions and global supply and price shocks are further exacerbating the water and food crises.

Half of the over 15 million population are facing acute food shortages, with more than 300,000 people projected to be in famine-like conditions in Bay region during October and December of this year. The number of people affected by severe drought has increased from 3.2 million in December 2021 to 7.8 million in August 2022. The number of drought-related displacements since January 2022 reached 1,170,842 by end of September; with 68,393 people displaced in the month of September 2022, a 30 per cent decrease from August 2022 when 99,103 were displaced. Out of the total 1.17 million displaced, 1,015 million were women, children and elderly. Most people have settled in major Somali cities and towns as they seek humanitarian assistance. Displaced populations live in congested settlements, where they face poor sanitation and hygiene conditions and are often at risk of eviction by landowners. Additional pressure on critical services like water, sanitation, and health due to the current drought poses a severe threat to their well-being.

Drought conditions also threaten to increase the risk of violent conflict over resources and grazing land in rural areas where populations are less prepared to deal with extreme weather events. Conflicts over water in Somalia are becoming more common, with the last incident reported in Galmudug in August, when at least 20 people died fighting over a borehole.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is working closely with the Federal Government of Somalia, UN agencies and local partners to address the immediate needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs), migrants, and other vulnerable groups living in rural areas. IOM’s response focuses on assisting displaced communities with an integrated package of life-saving assistance to avert famine and prevent putting an additional strain on cities already hosting large numbers of displaced persons living in overcrowded conditions. IOM is simultaneously upscaling emergency support to pastoralist communities in rural areas whose livestock is critical for agricultural value chains. This can reduce food insecurity, conflict over natural resources, and forced displacement. IOM’s response is also focusing on implementing longer-term initiatives that strengthen the resilience, livelihoods and coping capacities of displaced and host communities to enable them to withstand future shocks. Efforts are also being made to provide evidence-based data on displacement dynamics and cross-border mobility.
IOM Somalia Drought Response

Find more information about the severity of the drought through the latest [FAO SWALIM Drought Update](https://iomsomaliapsu@iom.int/somalia).

For more information on displacement, please read the latest [IOM, OCHA and UNHCR report on Displacement](https://iomsomaliapsu@iom.int/somalia).

[Follow IOM Somalia](https://iomsomaliapsu@iom.int/somalia)
As part of a coordinated response, IOM, UNICEF, and WFP launched the minimum response package (MRP) in May 2022 to avert famine by addressing the most pressing needs of those displaced by drought. Through this package, UN agencies and partners aim to provide immediate life-saving relief for the newly displaced persons who have been arriving to Baidoa, Belet Weyne and Somalia’s capital Mogadishu since the start of the year in search of food, water and health care. In the last month, the Bay region has received an estimated 17,780 new arrivals, accounting for a 26 per cent of the total. Banaadir has received an 11 per cent of the total, being this around 7,525 people. As of October the response has been implemented in two phases. Phase I between May and August of 2022. Phase II took place throughout September 2022. Currently, the response is ready to be expanded to Belet Weyne for Phase III, following assessments that indicate that there have been significant displacements towards the state of Hirshabelle.

The assistance provided through the MRP is tailored to the needs of men, women and children and includes cash, water trucking, hygiene kits, shelter, nutrition programmes and medical care. The MRP will also expand community-level access to water, latrines, and health services through an area-based approach.

As of the end of September, when Phase II ended, over 28,058 vulnerable displaced households were identified and registered to receive a multi-sectorial assistance package. During Phase II alone, in both Baidoa and Mogadishu, a total of 9,298 households received tarpaulins, a plastic sheet to improve their shelters, while 9,100 received hygiene kits. Water trucking, sanitation services, nutritional support, health assistance and cash also reached thousands of families during September. Assistance provided through the MRP during September (Phase II) proved successful as it reached the 100 per cent of its initial target in most types of support.
IOM identified, verified, and recorded urgent and immediate needs of internally displaced persons and shared them with humanitarian partners to ensure that the resources mobilized are channelled to those most in need. IOM also ensured displaced community members’ full engagement and participation in designing the drought response.

In October, the CCCM Cluster’s New Arrival Tracker recorded more than 140,000 new arrivals, with Baidoa and Mogadishu being the two main cities receiving the displaced persons. Many of these families travelled from neighbouring villages and nearby rural areas in the Southwest and Middle Shabelle regions, for multiple weeks and demonstrated extreme vulnerabilities.

CCCM teams provide direct support to these new arrivals at the sites, allocating plots for each household to settle, and organising community awareness and arrival information sessions to ensure that households had access to the essential information required. During October, 5,428 newly arrived households affected by drought received arrival information. IOM also supported partners in identifying these newly arrived households, advocating for increased support and attention to ensure that they receive immediate registration and assistance from those operating in the area.

IOM recruited mixed field teams in both districts to set up an immediate CCCM response. IOM also expanded its CCCM operations to Jowhar district in the Middle Shabelle region. IOM is also supporting other UN agencies (UNICEF, WFP) and local implementing partners to identify people in need. Through IOM’s field-level guidance, partners were able to reach 25,000 individuals with various types of assistance such as food, multi-purpose cash, non-food items, hygiene kits, and latrines. Furthermore, IOM teams provided direct support to the new arrivals, allocating plots for each household to settle, and organising community awareness and arrival information sessions to ensure that households had access to the essential information about the services and assistance available at the sites. At the same time, IOM provides monthly trainings for the committees on informal camp management, to increase the capacity building of staff working at the sites.

628 DISPLACEMENT SITES SUPPORTED in Doolow (133), Kismayo (106), Baidoa (168), Luuq (43), Baardheere (22) (Beletwewayne (35), Jalalasqi (7) and Bulo Burto (3), Jowhar (6), Xudur (25) and Mogadishu (80)

8,280 PEOPLE reached through direct COMMUNITY AWARENESS SESSIONS in 172 SITES

1,100 PEOPLE reached with INFORMAL CAMP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES’ TRAININGS in displacement sites across Baidoa, Xudur, Doolow, Luuq, Bhaardeere, Kismayo, Mogadishu, Belet Weyne, Jalalasqi, Bulo Burto and Jowhar.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster

IOM is the co-lead, together with UNHCR, of the CCCM Cluster in Somalia. During October, CCCM Cluster partners were able to reach 1,552,918 displaced persons with CCCM services. Some of the activities included improving the living conditions of people in 273 displacement sites through building drainage systems, conducting clean-up campaigns and the installation of solar lights. The activities were carried out by residents from the site who were contracted on daily rates.

Widespread displacement is driving the establishment of new displacement sites or increasing the population of existing displacement sites. There is an urgent need for enriching community engagement and awareness initiatives that can enable individuals to make informed decisions in accessing services. In October, CCCM partners provided 288 dedicated information sessions to new arrivals on service availability, emergency referral information and complaints mechanisms.

The CCCM Cluster observed large volumes of complaints recorded through the CCCM Complaints and Feedback Mechanism’s (CFM), featuring a total of 2,617 recorded cases. The main complaints included requests for food, security and livelihoods accounting for a 54 per cent of the total, whilst limited or lack of access to shelter, water and household items were the next three main issues, making up 18, 14 and 6 per cent respectively.

1,552,918 DISPLACED PERSONS reached by CCCM Cluster partners individuals, across 32 districts.
Boreholes and shallow wells are drying up across the country which is leading to the exponential rise in water prices, making it difficult for many households to access clean and safe drinking water. Water scarcity has also led to a high mortality rate amongst livestock and failed crop production. In addition, communities are increasingly accessing water from contaminated water sources which, together with poor hygiene practices, is leading to a surge of water-borne diseases such as acute watery diarrhoea and measles.

### Water Infrastructure

The ongoing state of emergency and drought in south-central Somalia is exacerbating forced displacement and subsequent population movements, triggering the influx of displaced persons from rural to urban and peri-urban centers. Due to their positioning along the Shabelle river, many of the displacement sites in Hirshabelle remain at constant risk, particularly those close to the urban centers of Belet Weyne, Jowhar and Afgooye.

IOM completed the rehabilitation of two boreholes in Banaadir, notably in Khada and Daynile districts, which host the vast majority of IDP sites in Mogadishu. IOM continued to rehabilitate and upgrade already existing water sources, and trained community members on the administration and maintenance of water supplies and sanitation resources to ensure all those in need benefit from it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People Reached</th>
<th>Litres of Water Distributed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>189,990</strong></td>
<td><strong>85,600,000</strong> <strong>LITRES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>312,810</strong></td>
<td><strong>91,830,000</strong> <strong>LITRES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>502,800</strong></td>
<td><strong>91,830,000</strong> <strong>LITRES</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Emergency Water Trucking**

Emergency water trucking activities ensured the provision of life-saving water to drought-affected communities as surface water sources dried up. IOM’s water trucking assistance provided a minimum of 15 litres of water per person per day in Banadir, Bay and Gedo regions, some of the most affected areas in the country.

**18,562,000 LITRES OF CLEAN WATER** were distributed to over **82,000 PEOPLE** through **EMERGENCY WATER TRUCKING** across **5 REGIONS**

### Hygiene Promotion

IOM conducted hygiene promotion campaigns and distributed hygiene kits to affected communities to address households’ urgent needs as local market solutions are not immediately available or accessible. In October, 50 community hygiene promoters reached 123,456 new people with hygiene promotion activities aimed at improving hygiene practices and reducing the spread of water-borne diseases. This number accounts for a total of 152,802 people benefitted both directly and indirectly from hygiene awareness raising.

**SINCE JANUARY, IOM HAS COMPLETED:**

- **84 SHALLOW WELLS** rehabilitated in (22), Bay (29), Hiraan (5), Lower Shabelle (12), Gedo (4), Lower Juba (6) and Middle Shabelle (6)
- **36 BOREHOLES** rehabilitated and constructed. Bakool (1), Bay (4), BRA (2), Galguduud (14), Lower Juba (2) ,Lower Shabelle (3), Mudug (10)

### Shelter and Non-Food Items (S-NFI)

Depending on the affected community’s vulnerabilities, assets, capacities, and preferences, IOM provides identified populations with NFIs and emergency, transitional shelters or more permanent shelter support through in-kind and/or cash-based interventions.

### Data Collection Training

In October, 40 CCCM and SNFI enumerators were trained in Baidoa on data collection and the newly rolled-out IOM Biometric Registration and Verification (BRaVe) system.

### Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) stocks

IOM, together with the Shelter Cluster, maintained a contingency stock to preposition life-saving emergency shelter and NFIs in a central warehouse in Mogadishu to enable a quick response at the onset the emergency. In October, IOM distributed plastic sheets and NFI kits to 400 households (estimated 2,400 people) in Baidoa. The items provided to each household include one plastic sheet, three blankets, one mosquito net, one kitchen set, two sleeping mats, two 10-litre jerry cans, a solar lamp and bags.

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IOM continued to scale up its health and nutrition services to reach communities affected by the drought in central and southern Somalia. The activities aimed at managing and treating severe acute malnutrition, whilst reducing morbidity and mortality and improving health-seeking behaviours to prevent disease outbreaks. IOM is currently supporting 7 static health facilities, 17 mobile clinics, 3 migration reception centers (MRC) and 1 transit migrant reception center.

Nearly 32,153 PEOPLE were supported with free HEALTH CONSULTATIONS

4,489 CHILDREN received routine immunization (55 per cent of the vaccinated children were female)

194 successful DELIVERIES

8,433 MEN and 15,407 WOMEN reached through HEALTH PROMOTION at health clinics

IOM ensures that the essential primary healthcare services are accessible to and utilized by displaced persons, returnees, migrants and host community members. Furthermore, IOM is training local health workers who are seconded to the Ministry of Health as a means towards continuity and sustainability of health services.

Expansion of health services

To reach more people in need and bring services closer to populations, especially in hard-to reach areas, IOM is scaling up life-saving essential health and nutrition interventions by deploying 17 mobile teams across Hudur (3), Elafweyne (1), Afmadow (2), Kismayo, (1), Baidoa (4), Belet Weyne (3), and Dollow (3). Members were trained to provide psychological first aid and basic counselling since January of this year to meet the needs of survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and vulnerable displaced persons with high protection risks.

Given that 80 per cent of the displaced are women and children, these mobile health teams contribute to reducing the risk of gender-based violence.

Nutrition

IOM continued to work closely with the Ministry of Health and local authorities at state level to treat severely acute malnourished (SAM) children and provided families with training on appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices. IOM, in coordination with the states’ Ministries of Health, re-activated integrated nutrition services into the existing primary health care clinic in Bardhere, Gedo, while also providing nutrition services through two mobile teams in Dollow.

IOM screened 9,518 CHILDREN (47 per cent male and 53 per cent female) of ages between 6 to 59 months for malnutrition, of whom 735 CHILDREN (41 per cent male and 59 per cent female) for malnutrition of whom 549 were admitted with SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION

5,484 LACTATING WOMEN screened for malnutrition
In January 2022, DTM, OCHA, and the Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) began producing bi-weekly Drought Displacement Monitoring Snapshots to monitor displacement trends and hotspots. The data produced supports operational planning and allows IOM and partners to respond better to the needs of the affected communities. The monthly Snapshots is accessible on the following link: September 2022

The number of drought-related displacements since January 2021 has exceeded 1 million (1,170,842 people as of September 2022). Most new arrivals have been observed in the Bay region (26 per cent) and Lower Juba region (22 per cent), followed by Gedo, Banadir and Bakool regions (14 per cent, 11 per cent and 11 per cent respectively).

Displacement sites and host communities.

Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT)
ETT is a crisis-based tool that tracks sudden displacement triggered by specific events or emerging crises. The data collected is of a rapid nature to help prioritise humanitarian response and to enable partners to deliver rapid assistance. During the 2017 drought, DTM Somalia conducted a country wide ETT and the data from that period indicated the highest numbers of displaced individuals were observed in Bay, Banadir and Gedo regions. Based on this and due to IOM’s operational presence in Gedo region, DTM decided to deploy an ETT pilot in Gedo region to monitor drought-induced displacements on a weekly basis through key informant interviews (KIs). ETT in Gedo covers sites that are not covered by CCCM partners, making it complementary to the New Arrival Tracker (NAT).

Through ETT assessments, as of October, 319,359 individuals were recorded to have been displaced across 217 settlements in the Gedo region due to the drought since November 2021. Moreover, 6,588 new arrivals were registered across 177 sites in the Bay region since the ETT has been active in that region. As the scale of displacement in the Bay region continues to grow, IOM is expanding the ETT’s geographical coverage towards Banaadir and Hiraan regions, which have also experienced a high influx of arrivals due to the drought. As of October, IOM’s DTM field team finalized the baseline pilot data collection in Hiraan, covering 231 locations. Moreover, in the Banaadir region, the field teams also finalized the baseline pilot data collection covering 1,671 locations.

Lastly, IDP sites that are currently reporting regular and reliable information through the NAT will not be covered through the ETT. This will prevent duplication with the NAT and free up DTM teams and resources to target other IDP sites with no CCCM partner presence as well as host community locations.

The ETT reports can be found here:

Through ETT assessments across Gedo and Bay regions, IOM observed:

As of October, 319,359 individuals have been displaced in the areas covered in Gedo region by IOM’s ETT, due to the drought since November 2021.

STORY: CAMP MANAGEMENT PROVES KEY TO SAVING LIVES IN SOMALIA AMID RAVAGING DROUGHT

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