

ALERT**FLOODS****actalliance****SOMALIA****19TH NOVEMBER, 2019****SITUATION**

On the morning of Sunday the 27 October 2019, the region of Gedo, Nugaal and Hiran in Somalia, experienced continuous rainfall that has culminated into floods.

Recent updates by Somalia NGO consortium indicate that over half a million people have been affected by floods and an estimated 370,000 people have fled homes submerged in floodwater.

Moderate to heavy Deyr seasonal rains, which started in early October in many parts of Somalia have continued to be received across the country. The Ethiopian highlands, where the Juba and Shabelle rivers originate, also received moderate to heavy rains over recent weeks causing flooding in the neighbouring districts according to FAO-Managed Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM). Farmland, schools, homes and roads have been destroyed, and livelihoods disrupted in some of the worst-hit areas.

In Jubaland State, an estimated 5,300 households have been displaced in specific locations in Gedo region. The Juba river levels remained high since mid-October causing flooding in the upper reaches. Bardheere town is the worst affected, with parts of the town inundated¹. Specifically, in Bardera, Burdubo and Elwak districts (Gedo region); social infrastructure such as schools have been destroyed disrupting learning for school children as well as water pipelines washed away. Sanitation facilities such as latrines have been flooded and filled up; hence there is possibility of contamination of the water sources. Farming activities have been disrupted; crops destroyed as the farms have been completely inundated. Hiraan region has continued to experience heavy downpour that has led to flooding, with Beletweyne district being the worst affected; particularly the town that is completely submerged and all residents displaced. An estimated 45,500 households have been displaced from and within Beletweyne and surrounding villages by the peak of the floods² where homes, schools and farms are completely inundated. In Nugaal region (Puntland), the Humanitarian and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) has recently reported the catastrophic situation that has resulted from the ongoing floods in some locations which include; livestock death where 36 HH have lost an estimated 4,560 heads of goats and sheep; floods have washed away a water pump, pipes and the generator of a spring well in the coastal village of Garmal in Eyl district leaving over 300HH without water supply. In addition, flash floods have destroyed fences and irrigation canals of around 100 farms and washed away the crops. Around 200HH are now stressed and need an immediate food assistance in Eyl district. Majority of the displaced population have been forced to flee to higher ground in urban areas after flood waters inundated their homes. As assistance to the flood affected populations is ongoing and gradually scaling up, UN clusters report significant gaps regarding food assistance, emergency shelter, non-food items (NFI), safe drinking water, latrines, decontamination of shallow wells, mosquito/vector control, GBV services and child friendly spaces. In total, 36,576 people 42% female will be targeted through this response in Gedo, Nugaal and Hiraan regions.

NEEDS

The people of Somalia face numerous needs, the emergency needs across the country are some of the highest in the world, with the UN reporting that in the absence of sufficient assistance, as many as 6.3 million people face food insecurity³. The floods have put the flood affected region in a state of crisis. The flood affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to: emergency shelter, food, safe learning spaces, safe drinking water, latrines, as well as protection services for women and girls, all without which people are at extremely high risk of hunger, disease outbreaks and human rights violations. Additionally, Socio-

¹ OCHA Somalia Flash Update #2

Humanitarian impact of flooding | 28 October 2019

² OCHA FLOOD Situation Update Beletweyne, Hirshabelle | 3 November 2019

³ NGO Consortium press statement, November 2019

economic activities of communities have also been disrupted leaving the affected population vulnerable without sources of income.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sufficient food
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	safe shelter and basic non-food items
<input type="checkbox"/>	basic health services and facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	livelihood activities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	protection services
<input type="checkbox"/>	adequate nutrition

The dire situation is further compounded for the flood affected people with vulnerabilities more specifically for the elderly, female-headed households, child headed households as well as persons living with disabilities particularly from rural areas affected by floods.. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National government	The state governments together with Humanitarian and Disaster Management agency (HADMA) in Puntland are conducting assessments to gather data on the affected populations. The president of Hirshabelle established a Flood Task Force for Beletweyne comprising humanitarian actors and local authorities and OCHA as the facilitating actor to enhance information sharing and inter-agency collaboration on addressing humanitarian need in flood affected Beletweyne district.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UN Agencies	UN OCHA is conducting regular data and issuing bulleting on the flood's situation across the country. In addition, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP among others are also supporting the affected populations through various sectors. OCHA is the lead facilitator in Flood Task Force
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INGOs	NCA, DKH, World vision, Save the Children among others are supporting the affected population
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National NGOs	Various national NGOs are positioning themselves and sourcing for funds to respond
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	Some are displaced and moving to safer areas for safety.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Affected communities	Displaced and moving to safer areas for safety

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by various clusters led by the UN with participation from the government representatives as well as the Humanitarian and Disaster Management Agency in locations where they exist, such as in Puntland state. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (responding to floods in the targeted locations) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

ACT Somalia Forum

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Core Humanitarian STANDARD The ACT Alliance Secretariat's continuous improvement in the application of the Core Humanitarian Standard is independently verified by HQAI

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Somalia Forum has been working in Somalia since 2010 and is, now helping/planning to help people affected by the floods
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Somalia Forum works in areas affected by the floods, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Somalia Forum is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Somalia Forum is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT Somalia forum has identified gaps in WASH services, emergency education provision, emergency shelter and NFIs, food security and livelihoods with protection mainstreamed across all sectors and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ACT forum is planning on submitting an appeal (DKH, NCA) to provide WASH services, Non-food items, emergency education, emergency shelter, emergency food assistance, livelihood opportunities and mainstream protection to ensure that the floods affected persons' basic needs are met with regards to the prevailing needs of the affected population.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Somalia Forum is ready to respond, providing WASH services, non-food items, emergency education, emergency shelter, emergency food assistance, livelihood opportunities and mainstream protection to reach 36,576 (42% female) affected persons in the coming months.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Furthermore, ACT Somalia Forum will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the floods are amplified.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org)

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