

July 2022

Health Emergency Programme Update – Somalia



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KEY HEALTH INDICATORS – June 2022

130	Health cluster partners; 44 (33.8%) active health cluster partners in 56 districts.
7 million	People in need of health care

HEALTH NEEDS AND PROVISION

- 7.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance with 2.9 million internally displaced in Somalia¹.
- 7 million people in 74 districts are affected by severe drought; 918 000 have been displaced from their homes².
- 5.2 million people experiencing acute food insecurity, including 38 000 people classified as catastrophic (Integrated Phase classification (IPC) 5)³.
- Fewer than 1 consultation per person per year reported during the month (as compared to the OCHA standard of 1 new visit/person/year).

¹ <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/2022-somalia-humanitarian-needs-overview>

² OCHA Somalia Drought response and famine prevention Situation Report No.9

³ IPC report published on 4 June 2022 by FAO available on [Somalia faces increased Risk of Famine as acute food insecurity, malnutrition and mortality worsen - Somalia | ReliefWeb](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

- 1299 community health workers (CHWs) deployed in 42 districts, including in 24 drought-affected districts where WHO is implementing drought response activities.
- 559 488 people reached with key health promotion and disease prevention messages.
- 1844 COVID-19 alerts were notified by CHWs, of which 1775 (96%) were investigated and 17 (1%) were validated by district level rapid response teams (RRTs).
- 1794 children aged 6 to 59 months with acute diarrhoea were treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS) and zinc by CHWs.
- 20 961 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened for malnutrition using mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) tape of which 7544 (36%) were referred to an outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) for additional treatment by CHWs.
- 1229 pregnant women were given iron and folic acid supplements.
- 6626 children aged 6 to 59 months were given vitamin A supplements.
- 5525 lactating mothers were educated on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) activities.
- 2602 severely malnourished children with medical complications treated in nutrition stabilization centres that are supported by the World Health Organization (WHO); of these 2104 (92.1%) children recovered and were discharged.
- 4969 cases of trauma treated in health facilities supported by WHO.
- Information Technology equipment installed in Public Health Emergency Operations Centers (PHEOCs) in Garowe (Puntland state) and Hargeisa (Somaliland).
- 25 Interagency Health Kits (IHK) adequate for the management of an estimated 25 000 cases of epidemic-prone diseases were procured and delivered to South West State for utilization in public health facilities.
- 21 triage corners established in 21 health facilities located in drought-affected districts to support the treatment of patients in need of critical care services.

Coordination meetings

- The World Health Organization (WHO) convened monthly drought response coordination meetings with Health, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Nutrition cluster partners and state-based ministries of health (MoH). In Banadir region, partners reviewed and updated the coordination structure for drought response and developed microplans for measles vaccination campaigns. In the Hirshabelle state, partners reviewed the implementation of drought response activities, health service coverage and water quality surveillance. The partners resolved to scale up water quality surveillance to prevent outbreaks of cholera and diarrhoeal diseases. In Puntland state, partners reviewed the reporting rates of disease alerts using the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN) mobile application and developed a micro plan for the implementation of measles vaccination campaigns in 15 districts. In South West state, partners reviewed and updated the coordination structure for drought response to strengthen coordination of drought response between partners and state ministry of health. The teams also noted reduction in the number of new cases of cholera reported in the state due to improved implementation of WASH interventions.
- WHO convened a meeting with the technical unit of Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) to review the implementation of the World Bank funded Somalia Crisis Recovery Project (SCRCP) implementation.



WHO deployed 1299 Community Health Workers (CHWs) for risk communication and other crucial activities in drought-affected locations. @WHO/Somalia

Implementation of community-based surveillance

- WHO deployed 1299 Community Health Workers (CHWs), to conduct risk communication, community education (RCCE), alert detection, reporting, screening for malnutrition among children and home-based management for common childhood illnesses in 42 districts including in 24 districts where WHO is implementing drought response activities. The CHWs conducted the following activities.
 - Visited 61 253 households and sensitized 559 488 persons with preventive messages for epidemic-prone diseases including COVID-19.
 - Detected and reported 1844 COVID-19 alerts to district-based rapid response teams (RRTs) of which 1775 (96%) alerts were investigated and 17 (1%) were confirmed as true.
 - Treated 1794 children aged 6 to 59 months with acute diarrhoea were identified and treated with Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) and Zinc while 93 (5%) of these children with severe dehydration were referred for further management to nearby health facilities.
 - Screened 20 961 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened for malnutrition using mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) tape of which 7544 (36%) were referred to an outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) for additional treatment.
 - Provided 1229 pregnant women with iron and folic acid supplements, provided 6626 children aged 6 to 59 months with vitamin A supplements and educated 5525 lactating mothers on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) activities.
- In addition, the district-level rapid response teams conducted 91 supportive supervisory visits to assess the quality of data and activities implemented by CHWs. Findings of the supervision included: 65% of the CHW teams could demonstrate correctly how to conduct active case search for epidemic-prone diseases in the community, 58% were engaged in health promotion and risk communication activities, 95% developed movement plans with maps showing the households to be visited each day, all CHWs reported using the provided electronic tool and 94% demonstrated proper use of the electronic tool.

Capacity building for field epidemiology

- The third workshop of the second cohort of frontline field epidemiology training program (FETP) was conducted from 17 to 18 July 2022 in Mogadishu. The participants made analytical presentations of their field activities which included disease surveillance, data quality audits and problem analysis using fish bone analysis diagrams. Out of the 25 enrolled participants, 23 (92%) completed the course and were awarded graduation certificates in a ceremony held on 19 July 2022.

Capacity building for disease surveillance and response

- WHO supported state-based MoH in South West state to train 44 health care workers (including 14 female) from Baidoa and Buurhakaba district. The health workers were trained on reporting alerts using standard case definitions, submitting reports on time as stipulated in EWARN guidelines and initiating response activities for epidemic-prone diseases in drought affected districts. The district-based surveillance officers developed a micro plan to supervise and monitor the implementation of surveillance activities and reporting rates in EWARN in SWS.



CHWs help to search for diseases and report them in a timely manner, while responding to some of the communities' most essential and urgent health needs. @WHO/Somalia

Strengthening laboratory capacity for diagnosis of emerging and re-emerging pathogens in states

- WHO technical team trained 4 laboratory technicians in Garowe on advanced analysis of samples of Influenza and other respiratory pathogens, donated Genome sequencing supplies to Puntland state's public health laboratory for testing 500 samples of SARS CoV-2 and equipped state laboratories with required furniture sets.

Water quality surveillance in drought-affected districts

- WHO convened a meeting with the state-based Ministry of Health and Ministry of Water in Jubaland state to review the implementation and strengthen the coordination of implementation of WASH interventions in drought-affected districts. The state-based response teams conducted water quality surveillance and identified 10 contaminated water sources. The WASH cluster partners developed a plan to treat the contaminated water sources and conduct community sensitization to manage the water sources.

Supportive supervision and monitoring of nutrition activities in drought-affected districts

- A technical team from the WHO country office along with the technical staff of state MoH conducted joint supportive supervision and monitoring of the stabilization centres in three drought-affected districts of Jubaland state namely, Kismayo, Dolow, and Dhobley. The team provided on-job training to the eight health care workers (including two female) and reviewed the implementation of provision of primary health care services to drought-affected communities by outreach teams. The mission identified shortage of supplies and equipment required for the management of severe cases of malnutrition as the major gaps. In South West state, the joint team from WHO along with the state MoH visited the Bayhow Hospital and the Bay Regional Hospital to provide on-the-job training on the management of severe malnutrition with acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/ suspected cholera to 10 health care workers (including 3 female).

Nutrition update

- A total of 33 (79%) stabilization centres established by WHO across 7 states submitted monthly reports to WHO and their respective state MoHs which helped to monitor trends of severe cases of malnutrition with medical complications among children aged zero to 59 months in different states.
- A total of 2602 new cases of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications were admitted to 29 stabilization centres (2 in Banadir region, 7 in Jubaland, 6 in Galmudug, one in Hirshabelle, 5 in South West and 8 in Puntland state).
- Overall, there were 2104 (92.1%) recoveries, 55 (2.4%) defaulters, 53 (2.3%) medical referrals, and 70 (3%) deaths reported in June 2022.



A skilled health worker measures the circumference of a baby's upper arm to tell whether the child is malnourished and may need support.
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Establishment of triage corners for the management of severe illness among drought-affected populations

- WHO distributed biomedical equipment for establishing triage corners in 21 healthcare facilities in nine districts of South West State of Somalia. Each triage corner was equipped with an oxygen concentrator, fingertip pulse oximeter, adult and pediatric oxygen nasal canula: adult, 1050 pcs of oxygen nasal canula and oxygen face masks. To improve the efficiency of service delivery, particularly for drought-affected patients, WHO further donated biomedical equipment to two referral hospitals in the state (Baidoa district hospital and Bay regional hospital Hospital).

Trauma case monitoring and critical care

- As the country is experiencing different types of emergencies, including conflict, WHO is closely monitoring the number of people affected by these events in the country and responding accordingly. In July 2022, 4969 trauma-related injuries were reported from the health facilities in all states through the District Health Information System (DHIS-2). Of these, the majority (54%) were non-weapon-related injuries, which included burns and road accidents. These injuries represent an 18.6% year-on-year decrease (4969) when compared to 5894 injuries reported during the same period in July 2021. The reported cases of injuries were managed in different hospitals in all the states. The most affected regions include Banadir (521 cases), Gedo (1152 cases), and Mudug (769 cases).

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Our weekly and monthly information products

Weekly cholera infographic:

- <http://www.emro.who.int/somalia/information-resources/acute-watery-diarrhoeacholera-situation-reports.html>

Monthly reports:

- <http://www.emro.who.int/countries/somalia/index.html>
- [COVID-19 Dashboard-Somalia](#)



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