Somalia

2019

Drought Impact Response Plan (DIRP)

JUNE - DECEMBER 2019
Collective efforts and collaboration between the Government of Somalia and all Humanitarian partners in saving lives and building a resilient society are taking shape in the country. At the same time, the recurrent climatic shocks are a clear sign that Somalia is becoming increasingly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Last drought in 2016/2017 destroyed livelihoods and displaced almost one million Somalis - but also triggered a massive and successful scale up in humanitarian response to avert famine - severe climatic conditions, combined with other persistent drivers of humanitarian crisis, armed conflict, protracted and continued displacement and a spike in evictions of internally displaced persons are again pushing Somalia towards a major humanitarian emergency.

Somalia is experiencing the negative impact of erratic and abnormally performing Gu’ rains (April–June) which followed a poor 2018 Deyr season (Oct-Dec), and unusually dry conditions during the 2019 Jilaal season (Jan-Mar). The Gu’ season cereal harvest is projected to be 50 per cent below average, some 2.2 million people are estimated to face acute food insecurity through September and are urgently in need of food assistance and interventions to prevent high levels of acute malnutrition.

Somalia’s recurrent crises requires a new approach; therefore, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management aims to lead the country in reducing disaster risks while improving current humanitarian delivery model. We are aiming to shift from a reactive approach to a proactive approach by building individual, human and systems resilience.

Therefore, I call on donors to scale up the programs that tackle structural and chronic development challenges in Somalia. The Ministry is committed to work with all partners and take its leadership role in prioritizing of response to the impact of the erratic and underperforming rains. I call on donors to fully resource the Plan and avoid a major crisis.

H.E Hamza Said Hamza
Minister for Humanitarian Affairs & Disaster Management
SITUATION OVERVIEW

Two years after the prolonged 2016/2017 drought destroyed livelihoods and displaced almost one million Somalis - but also triggered a massive and successful scale up in humanitarian response to avert famine - severe climatic conditions, combined with other persistent drivers of humanitarian crisis, armed conflict, protracted and continued displacement and a spike in evictions of internally displaced persons are again pushing Somalia towards a major humanitarian emergency.

Somalia is experiencing the negative impact of abnormally performing Gu’ rains (April – June) which follow a poor 2018 Deyr season (Oct-Dec), and unusually dry conditions during the 2019 Jilaal season (Jan-Mar). Except the 2018 Gu’, every rainy season since late 2015 has been below average, leading to increased vulnerability and decreased coping ability. The 2019 Gu’ is the second consecutive below-average rainy season, in a country still recovering from the prolonged drought in 2016-17.

The 2019 Gu’ started late throughout the country and in most areas resulted in cumulative below-average rainfall. At the same time, in some parts of the country heavy rains received in a short period resulted in flooding and significant damage to planted crops, land and other resources critical for agriculture and livestock production. While the rains in late May and early June eased drought conditions, improved water availability and supported the livestock sector to some extent, they will not be sufficient for sustainable agricultural production. (See State by State Analysis on page 13 for further details).

Rain received generated pasture growth, albeit late, improving livestock body conditions and some animals, mainly sheep and goats, are conceiving. However, the benefits will not be realized before early October. Poor pastoralists who have small herds have accumulated substantial debts and will therefore face large food consumption gaps in the coming months. For crop growing areas, the delayed start of Gu’ rains have significantly affected planting and germination. The overall Gu’ season cereal harvest is projected to be 50 per cent below average. Due to exhausted food stocks, reduced income from agricultural labour and poor harvest prospects, poor agro-pastoral families and farmers in most parts of the country are also expected to face food consumption gaps until late 2019.

Using recent data, the FAO-led FSNAU and FEWS NET projected a sharp increase in food insecurity with the number of people acutely food insecure estimated to each 5.4 million by July, 2.2 million of these in severe acute food insecurity conditions (IPC 3 and above), an increase of almost 30 per cent compared to the projection of February. In addition, over 60,000 people have been displaced by drought since the beginning of the year. Severe acute
malnutrition rates among children are increasing rapidly, mainly among internally displaced persons (IDPs). This, coupled with a serious lack of access to clean water, is heightening the risk of outbreaks from water-borne diseases, exacerbating existing fragilities.

As a result of decades of climatic shocks and conflicts, over 2.6 million people are internally displaced, mainly in urban areas. Despite efforts to achieve durable solutions, the capacities of host communities are overstretched, and the situation could worsen if additional people displaced by the impact of drought and conflict move to urban areas. Minority clans and marginalized communities were the groups most severely and disproportionately affected by previous droughts and is highly likely that they will also bear the brunt of the 2019 drought, which will need to be factored into the humanitarian response.

Additional and front-loaded financial resources are urgently required to launch an immediate response. By the end of June, the 2019 HRP is 38 per cent funded. Assistance has reduced, including in critical WASH, health, nutrition and food security interventions in several drought-affected areas and urban centres receiving internally displaced persons (IDPs). The Food Security cluster, for example, is reaching only 1.2 million people with life-saving food assistance per month in the first half of the year, down from an average of two million between July and December 2018. This is less than 50 per cent of the 2019 HRP target and only 26 per cent of the number of targeted in this plan.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE TARGETED
Following detailed analysis of the number of people in need, those people affected by the impact of drought and the most effective response possible, each cluster in consultation with government line ministries has targeted their actions as follows:

4.5 million people in IPC 2, 3 and 4 will be targeted for food security interventions, through immediate food assistance, protection and restoration of livelihood-related food and income sources and resilience against shocks. The Food Security Cluster has identified ‘unique beneficiaries’ and has three targets: (i) access to food and safety nets (2.2 million people in IPC 3-4); (ii) emergency livelihood support (2.45 million people in IPC 2-4); and disaster resilience (1.6 million people in IPC 2). The beneficiaries targeted by FSC often receive “multiple support” and the three targets should not be aggregated.

The nutrition cluster will target 1,552,282 children and women. An estimated 541,330 children under five will benefit from treatment of moderate acute malnutrition while 129,450 children affected by life threatening severe acute malnutrition will receive therapeutic treatment. Additionally, 706,500 children and PLW will benefit from prevention programmes, which includes supplementation with vitamins and minerals, plus 175,000 PLW who will be treated for acute malnutrition.

Access to water is a crucial component of the response as it will not only save lives, but also contribute to the sustainability of health, nutrition and food security outcomes. In total, 2.5 million people will be targeted with emergency WASH assistance. Out of these, 2.5 million people will be targeted with emergency and recovery water services and 1.5 million will be reached with hygiene and sanitation assistance. Among those beneficiaries, 49 per cent will be IDPs or people living in crowded locations and 51 percent will be living in host communities and rural areas. To estimate the number of people in need, the WASH Cluster applied a weighting system based on a WASH vulnerability index to target those people most in need of emergency WASH services, as well as laying over and prioritizing the most drought-affected districts.

The Health cluster will target 2.7 million drought-affected people; who will receive emergency, essential and reproductive health care services to prevent avoidable morbidity and mortality. Services will prioritize: IPC 3 & 4 populations; IDPs; severely malnourished women and children with comorbidities; under-immunized and those with vaccine-preventable illnesses; as well as communities experiencing disease outbreak.

Most IDPs are currently residing in crowded informal settlements, with insufficient access to basic services and under poor shelter conditions that raise protection and health, and privacy and dignity concerns. IDPs live in difficult
circumstances and are in urgent need of multiple basic services. **Up to 496,200 drought-affected IDPs in IPC 3&4 will be targeted with non-food items and emergency shelter kits.**

1 million displaced people in sites at IPC 3 and IPC 4 and also drought-displaced people who join sites will receive support to improve living conditions and access to services.

The drought conditions continue to undermine access to education for school-going age children. **Some 625,320 school going children who are food insecure (IPC 2-4) will be targeted with education services** to ensure they are retained in the locations of their current schools or provided with access to education opportunities in schools where their families have moved due to drought. The school children will be provided access to safe drinking water, emergency school feeding, hygiene promotion to prevent the AWD/Cholera and provision of teaching and learning materials. This strategy will mitigate and prevent children from dropping out from school as a result of the drought and keep them safe and protected during the crisis.

As part of this plan, **794,000 drought-affected people will be targeted** with protection-oriented assistance, enhanced community-based protection and psychosocial support, case management and referral especially of gender-based violence (GBV) survivors and child victims of violations.

**Some 68,092 people**, including refugees, asylum seekers and host communities will be targeted with multisectorial assistance, and protection-focused multi-purpose cash grants, health assistance, livelihood provisioning, and water for domestic use.

**RESOURCES REQUIRED**

A decisive and immediate increase in humanitarian response will prevent a deteriorating particularly in the worst-affected areas and enable aid agencies to immediately extend response in areas hardest hit by the drought. This will also help preserve important political and security gains made in recent years and contribute to state-building and peace-building initiatives.

A total of **US$ 685,649,494** is required for the period June-December 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cluster/Sector</th>
<th>Number of people targeted</th>
<th>DIRP requirement US$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Security</td>
<td>4,500,000</td>
<td>$337,750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>1,552,282</td>
<td>$54,222,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>$86,850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>2,700,000</td>
<td>$60,335,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelter and NFIs</td>
<td>496,200</td>
<td>$21,230,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Coordination and Camp Management</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>$17,370,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>625,320</td>
<td>$43,772,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection</td>
<td>794,000</td>
<td>$45,951,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling Programmes (includes Logistics)</td>
<td>Lump sum</td>
<td>$4,632,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee Response</td>
<td>68,092</td>
<td>$13,535,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$685,649,494</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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It is important to note that the DIRP request for **US$ 685,649,494** to scale up the response in the next seven months does not replace the $1.08 requirement as set out in the 2019 HRP. The DIRP reprioritizes humanitarian action of the HRP to address the impact of the drought. While the DIRP has been developed to specifically target and respond to the needs arising from the impact of drought, it is still nested within the 2019 HRP. Subsequently, financial requirements of the DIRP have been re-prioritized by clusters. For instance, in the HRP, financial requirements for food security represent around 33 per cent of total ask, in the DRP it represents almost 50 per cent.
RESPONSE STRATEGY
While the 2017 famine prevention benefitted from the lessons learned from the 2011/2012 famine, the DIRP is informed by good practice from the 2017 response. Mechanisms are already in place for rapid scale-up and sustained response. These include significant cash programming, expanded partnerships with already-vetted local implementing partners and improved engagement with authorities and affected populations. In addition, funding arrangements that provide an opportunity for operational partners to re-programme existing resources will facilitate timely response and thus enable quick actions to mitigate the impact of the drought.

Led by and working in collaboration with the government at all federal and state level, humanitarian partners will continue to adopt a two-pronged approach, that relies on extension of humanitarian assistance as close to the rural population as feasible and enhancing the response capacity in larger hubs throughout the country to meet needs of newly displaced due to drought and other vulnerable groups.

Partners will prioritise unrestricted cash assistance, such as multi-purpose cash grants as they allow for beneficiaries’ flexibility and dignity of choice. In addition, when choosing delivery mechanisms, preference will be placed on modalities that support timely and safe delivery of cash. Where network coverage exists, the use of mobile money transfers will be expanded to reach affected populations residing in remote locations. The recommended transfer value for multi-purpose cash and food assistance will be determined from ratios of the full and food minimum expenditure basket (MEB) at the time of the response.

Just like during the 2017 famine prevention effort, the Federal Government of Somalia has demonstrated leadership by prioritising scaling up of response to the impact of drought. An inter-governmental coordination system, that includes all levels of government, is in place. This will oversee a joint coordination mechanism established between the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States to enable a quick response at local level and to link information on the ground to an effective response. A technical level working group was also established, including; The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water, Ministry of Livestock, Minister of Interior, Ministry of Internal Security, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation, Ministry of Information and Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development. In addition to ensuring a shared situation analysis, a well-coordinated approach to the drought impact response, they have been on the forefront mobilising resources. Through government leadership, every effort is being made to ensure complementarity and close collaboration with the Ministry of humanitarian affairs and disaster management (MoHADM) at national and sub-national level, including the Federal States. At the national level, planning and implementation of the humanitarian response is being led and coordinated with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) and the Office of the Prime Minister. At the state level, interventions will be coordinated with the Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) of Puntland, the National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR) of Somaliiland, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) of South West State, the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation for Jubaland state, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) of Galmudug state, and MoHADM of Hirshebelle that are responsible for disaster management and response. Coordination with government institutions and humanitarian agencies will be enhanced through regular meetings, information sharing, participation in joint assessment and monitoring missions, cluster and inter-agency forums. Recognising that the recurrent nature of climatic shocks is a stark reminder that Somalia is becoming increasingly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, the Federal Government of Somalia is committed to end need by implementing long-term programmes and durable solutions as part of the Resilience and Recovery Framework.

CLUSTER RESPONSE AND REQUIREMENTS

Food Security
The response focuses on saving lives and protecting livelihoods in order to prevent further deterioration of the situation, prioritizing the following:

Improved access to food and safety nets: immediate life-saving relief assistance through unconditional in-kind and cash-based transfer to target 2.2 million vulnerable Somalis in crisis and emergency (IPC 3 and 4) in drought affected areas. Without humanitarian assistance, the people facing crisis and emergency food insecurity
Emergency livestock asset protection targeting approximately 1.6 million Somalis, including provision of supplementary feeding, basic veterinary care and water trucking for animals, alongside collapsible tanks to hold and supply water in strategic locations. These inputs are urgently needed to keep livestock alive and producing milk, meat and income for pastoralists and agropastoralists relying on livestock to survive. Complementary cash programming (e.g. “Cash+”) will enable households to cover food consumption gaps while avoiding the distress sale of livestock to afford food and non-food items. At a much larger scale, countrywide livestock supportive treatment and vaccination campaigns will protect a critical mass of livestock against fatal conditions and disease that can spread rapidly during drought among weak animals, migrating and crowding around scarce pasture and water sources.

Emergency agricultural target 900,000 farmers in riverine and rainfed areas to secure a harvest in the upcoming cropping seasons (Karan and Deyr). This includes provision of quality drought-tolerant seed varieties to replenish depleted seed stocks, as well as farm tools, irrigation and cultivation services. Farmers unable to crop during Karan or Deyr will not be able to secure a cereal harvest until July 2020 in the south and November 2020 in the north. Complementary cash programming will cover immediate food needs during the lean season (i.e. before the harvest), while contributing to prevent further displacement.

Mitigating new shocks and supporting the resilience of vulnerable populations, targeting approximately 1.6 million people (IPC 2): Activities include repairing and effectively managing small-scale productive infrastructure to mitigate shocks (e.g. river de-silting and embankment repair to prevent seasonal floods) including through conditional cash/food assistance; life skills training activities to increase household income; and mitigating other threats to food security including Fall Armyworm.

Targeted Beneficiaries: 4,500,000 Total Requirement: June - December 2019: US$337,750,000

Nutrition

The nutrition cluster will draw on lessons and successes of the 2017 drought response to coordinate partners in scaling up life-saving curative and preventive interventions. This will be achieved by establishing additional fixed, mobile and outreach clinics to seek, treat and prevent severe and moderate acute malnutrition in children and pregnant and lactating women. The response will target IPC3 & 4 hotspot locations notably, Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Mudug, Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Galgadud, Sool, Sanaag, Bari, W. Galbeed and Togdheer with a specific focus on IDPs, socially marginalized groups and rural communities.

The nutrition cluster will target 1,552,282 children and women. An estimated 541,331 children under five will be targeted with treatment of moderate acute malnutrition while 129,450 children affected by life-threatening severe acute malnutrition will be targeted with therapeutic treatment. Additionally, 706,500 children and PLW will be targeted with prevention programmes, which includes supplementation with vitamins and minerals, plus 175,000 PLW who will be treated for acute malnutrition.

To ensure a coordinated and coherent response, the cluster will prioritize working within existing health facilities and linking with WASH and Health actors to address risk factors of preventable morbidity from communicable diseases notably AWD, Measles and Pneumonia. Partners will also provide additional vital preventive interventions through blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP), maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN), basic nutrition service package and micronutrient supplementation all targeting in priority pregnant and lactating women and children under age two. Uncomplicated severe acute malnutrition (SAM) will be treated in outpatient therapeutic sites (OTPs) while SAM with medical complications will be referred to inpatient stabilization centers for specialized care and treatment.

To promote participation of affected communities in service delivery, caretakers of children with acute malnutrition will be engaged in a continuous dialogue by trained service providers with the aim of increasing the uptake of infant and young child feeding practices to prevent deterioration of maternal and childhood nutrition situation. To ensure availability of skilled staff commensurate with the scale of the response, additional service providers will be trained on the updated IMAM and IYCF-E guidelines.

Targeted Beneficiaries: 1,552,282 Total Requirement June -December 2019: $54,222,289
**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

WASH partners will implement temporary emergency solutions for water and sanitation alongside sustainable and long-term solutions. The cluster will prioritize the integration of WASH interventions in catchment populations where nutrition and health programmes are being implemented to achieve sustainable outcomes.

This will be done through the rehabilitation of 300 strategically located boreholes and the extension of 80 well performing existing water systems, the installation and equipping of 120 new water points and by carrying out improvements to sub-surface dams or berkads in under-covered locations. In addition, supplies and spare parts for water systems will be pre-positioned to meet the needs of at least one million people at risk of water scarcity and outbreaks of AWD/Cholera. Gender-balanced WASH committees will be established and capacitated to maintain infrastructures functionality. While durable water facilities are being rehabilitated or constructed, targeted and time limited water trucking or other temporary emergency solutions may be proposed to immediately reduce WASH-related morbidity in affected communities at the early stage of the interventions.

Adequate sanitation facilities will be either rehabilitated or constructed in relevant locations and hygiene promotion campaigns with hygiene kits distribution will be conducted in priority IDP settlements and most at risk communities in close collaboration with health and nutrition partners.

To reduce risk of violence against users, especially women, children and other vulnerable groups, special attention will be provided to reducing distance from households to WASH facilities below agreed standards and ensuring that outputs are gender and disability sensitive.

WASH Cluster applied a weight per region based on WASH vulnerability index to target people most in need of emergency WASH services as well as to prioritize the most drought affected districts. This methodology will be wholly applied to areas classified IPC 3 and 4 categories and a smaller proportion of vulnerable IPC 2 categories to prevent further deterioration of their health status where WASH vulnerability is extremely high.

With the support of UNICEF as the Cluster Lead, the cluster will establish a WASH Technical Analysis Unit to enhance its strategic decision making capacity and reinforce coordination at both national and sub-national levels.

**Targeted Beneficiaries: 2,500,000**

**Total Requirement June-December 2019: US $86,850,000**

**Health**

Health Cluster partners will focus on critical life-saving and disease prevention interventions to drought-affected and vulnerable populations to prevent avoidable morbidity and mortality. Evolving population needs will be targeted through an integrated approach supporting equitable access to emergency and essential healthcare services. By integrating services with especially Nutrition, WASH and Food Security, actions will prevent individuals slipping back into malnourished and fragile health conditions. Health partners will work closely with WASH actors to maintain water availability for health care facilities and waste-management. Drought conditions also demand additional support to health workers themselves affected by shortages and economic distress, to retain their services in affected communities. The Health Cluster works closely with health authorities at the Federal and State levels to ensure that humanitarian action is aligned with local priorities and sector development strategies.

Health cluster partners continue to provide health service in conjunction with national and local health authorities; by filling gaps in human resources, supplies and equipment. **The provision of essential medical supplies, vaccines and equipment will enable uninterrupted delivery of quality services.** Partners will support life-saving health service delivery in drought affected areas through existing fixed facilities or via outreach services and mobile clinics to serve marginalized, nomadic and hard-to-reach communities; re-targeted as needed. Integrated service provision and community outreach will work to strengthen mechanisms that improve the quality of health care through up-to-date knowledge and skills of medical practitioners while ensuring that services are provided in a safe and patients-rights centred environment. Health Partners will strengthen reproductive health services, including clinical management of rape and psychosocial support within the multi-sectoral approach to GBV; and ensure that survivors
of violence are referred to complimentary services. Harsh conditions, violence, marginalization and displacement cause psychosocial stress in the drought affected population. Social and mental health needs are an integral part of health and protection services.

Due to the heightened risk of mortality and morbidity of communicable and water-borne disease during drought, strengthening and expanding of disease surveillance, deployment of rapid response teams and enhancing case management capacities is a priority. Cluster partners will enhance health workforce capacity to manage epidemic outbreaks, procure and preposition essential medical supplies, and will engage with communities for mobilization of prevention efforts and effective health seeking behaviour on malnutrition, vaccination and water-borne disease. Re-doubled efforts to improve vaccination in drought-affected and marginalized populations will be integrated into fixed and mobile service delivery mechanisms. Cholera vaccination will be conducted in “hot spot” areas to help prevent future outbreaks. Rapid Response Teams at regional level will be trained and equipped to respond to suspected disease alerts, confirm cases and support early investigation and response efforts.

Targeted Beneficiaries: 2,700,000
Total Requirement June – December 2019: US$60,335,843

Shelter
Shelter cluster partners’ response will be informed by ongoing market analysis surveys in developing a cash and vouchers system to allow people buy locally available materials. The cluster will target areas that host large number of IDPs affected by drought. Supplies of essential emergency shelter and non-food items kits will be pre-positioned in strategic hubs close to the targeted areas.

Shelter Cluster partners will provide support to displaced populations and host communities in drought-affected areas through distribution of non-food items and emergency shelter kits. This plan will focus on life-saving activities to ensure that displaced households have access to basic shelter and household items required for survival. This will include standardised shelter kits designed by cluster members.

In areas where markets are still functioning and are stocked with quality shelter materials, the Shelter Cluster will utilise a voucher and cash approach to deliver assistance and training of partner agencies in the use of cash. This approach will be informed by ongoing market analysis of non-food items (NFIs) to scaling of shelter interventions will require a massive injection of funds to augment gaps caused by less funding received by the shelter cluster in 2019.

In addition, the shelter cluster will focus on the following; (i) coordination in major hubs where the response is being delivered to ensure there is a coordinated responses (ii) the delivery of accountability with affected populations (AAP) and mainstream protection into shelter interventions to ensure that vulnerable and marginalized communities are assisted with shelter response.

Total Beneficiaries: 496,200
Total Requirement: June–December 2019: US$21,230,000

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)
To minimize the pull factors to sites, the CCCM cluster will advocate for basic services provision in sites through integrated programming and in parallel for centralized access to services outside of sites in IDPs’ areas of origin, which will benefit both IDPs and host communities affected by drought. The Cluster will reinforce the existing mechanisms and also scale-up CCCM response in locations i.e. Banadir, Bay, Kismayo, Bari, Nugal, Mudug, Sool, Sanaag, Togdheer, Awdal, Hiraan, Lower Juba, Afmadow and Galgaduud that are experiencing drought ensuring equitable access to services and protection of extremely existing and newly vulnerable displaced persons, including the elderly and disabled, in informal settlements. The key activities which the Cluster will undertake under this response ensuring mitigate to the effect of drought and to prevent further deteriorating the living condition of already overcrowded sites will be: (i) Provide up to date information on population movements and displacement sites to Clusters through DSA, movement tracking of new arrivals and site verification exercises to ensure that services target the most vulnerable populations; (ii) Ensure people displaced by drought who join existing sites are able to immediately receive lifesaving services through community outreach and ensuring mechanisms for communication and feedback on multisector services are available; (iii) Improve living conditions of drought-affected populations through site improvement and maintenance; (iv) Enhance coordination with local authorities and other key partners to support displaced people in sites to achieve early
solutions; (v) Monitor service provision at the site level to identify gaps and duplication; (vi) Strengthen community participation and their empowerment through consistent engagement.

Targeted Beneficiaries 1,000,000  
Total Requirement: June – December 2019: US$17,370,000

Protection
The Cluster will support the implementation of complaints and feedback mechanisms to ensure inclusive targeting and as well as equal access to humanitarian assistance for the most vulnerable and historically marginalized groups. Also, the Protection Cluster will support and mainstream data collection and analysis through its Protection Monitoring System and other protection-related mechanisms, including the collection of disaggregated data. Based on the responses and the results obtained, it will adapt its response strategy and will raise awareness among the humanitarian partners with respect to current/updated protection concerns in the context of the drought.

The Protection Cluster will scale up protection interventions with a focus on addressing protection concerns aggravated by drought especially: displacement and violations of housing land and property rights, inter-community conflicts, family separation, psychological distress, child recruitment, gender based violence and other negative coping strategies stemming from food insecurity such as child labour, force/child marriage among others. Recognizing the strong expertise and capacity of drought affected communities, community-based protection mechanisms will be designed jointly, to increase physical safety, strengthen social cohesion and conflict mitigation. Protection oriented direct assistance to persons with specific needs or heightened vulnerability will be scaled up, referral pathways in drought affected areas will be strengthened and informed by protection monitoring.

Aimed at mitigating the impact of the drought on children and their families and provision of coordinated response, the child protection partners will focus on strengthening community based child protection mechanism and provision of critical child protection services including documentation and provision of family tracing services to unaccompanied and separated children, case management and referrals, provision of age and gender appropriate psychosocial support services for children and their caregivers, awareness raising to mitigate risk, monitoring and reporting of child protection concerns and capacity building of child protection actors to effectively respond to the protection needs in line with Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPMS). Mobile outreach activities will be scaled up to reach children and their caregivers directly in drought affected areas.

To mitigate risks of gender-based violence (GBV), enhance safety and protection mainstreaming, safety audits at sites hosting new arrivals including as a result of drought will be conducted and specific recommendation provided to improve safety especially for women and girls. Women and girls at risk of GBV will be provided with dignity kits. Clinical Management of Rape, psycho-social support (PSS) and socio-economic reintegration will be provided to GBV survivors through a survivor-centred approach ensuring confidentiality, safety, respect and non-discrimination. Protection Cluster will work closely with CCCM cluster and other duty bearers in pre-identifying sites and to put measures in place for to ensure the safety of any new IDP sites and security of land tenure for drought-displaced people to mitigate eviction risks.

The cluster will support other sectors in mainstreaming protection in their activities as well as ensuring that interventions are delivered in a safe, accountable manner, providing meaningful and equal access to services and empowering communities. The response will be delivered in line with the priorities of the Centrality of Protection Strategy for Somalia addressing risks of exclusion and discrimination, including those based on societal discrimination, power structures, vulnerability, age, and gender and addressing critical protection concerns with increasing displacement towards IDP sites and collective-centres, including heightened protection risks/threats that have emerged in the failure to end displacement.

Targeted Beneficiaries: 794,000  
Total Requirement: June - December 2019: US$45,951,370

Education
Schools serve as an entry point to provide life-saving services and ensure protection for one of the most vulnerable groups: children. Education interventions will ensure the provision of a safe and protective learning environment and
access to life-saving services for children through an integrated approach targeting children in the worst drought affected areas and drought displaced children in the major hubs.

The Education Cluster will scale up the current response and as a first priority ensure school going children are retained in their current schools where they live. Children will be provided access to safe drinking water, emergency school feeding, hygiene promotion to prevent the AWD/Cholera and provision of teaching and learning materials. This strategy will mitigate and prevent children from dropping out from school as a result of the drought.

The second priority for the Education Cluster is to support children where they move to as a result of drought and provide access to education and life-saving services such as safe drinking water, food and prevention of AWD/Cholera through hygiene promotion. The response will, provide a protective learning environment through the construction of temporary learning spaces, distribution of teaching and learning materials, and support to teachers with emergency teacher incentives. This will ensure continued access to education and protection for children affected and displaced by the drought. Of the 5.4 million food insecure people, 2.16 million are school-aged children.

The education cluster will target 625,320 learners who are food insecure (IPC 2-4) and either displaced or at risk of dropping out from school due to the impact of the drought.

Targeted Beneficiaries: 625,320

Total Requirement: June-December 2019: US$43,772,400

Enabling Programmes

The scaled up of response will require additional coordination capacity or in some cases the retention of capacity. This involves supporting and building capacity at the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, state and regional level to strengthen their leadership and coordination capacity. It will also involve strengthening coordination capacity at sub-national levels within the humanitarian structure to ensure efficiency in the operationalization of the response through a joined up identification of needs, operationalization and monitoring of the drought response. Maintaining and strengthening disaster operations and coordination centres (DOCC) will be vital to ensuring continued shared situation analysis, joint identification of needs and gaps, facilitation of a coordinated response and implementation of integrated projects, enhance collaboration with federal and state government institutions.

UNHAS scheduled passenger air transport services will continue to support humanitarian personnel responding to the emergency along with readily available medical and security evacuation services. The funding requirement under the HRP 2019 supports the needs foreseen for this emergency response with a cost estimated at about 4.8 million US$ for the remainder of the year 2019.

Total Requirement: June-December 2019: US $4,632,000

Logistics Cluster

Access to reach people in need, and deliver assistance remains a key constraint for humanitarian partners, especially in the southern and central regions of Somalia. Under the enabling section of the HRP 2019, UNHAS scheduled passenger air transport services will support humanitarian personnel travel to respond to the emergency. Humanitarian goods transport using STOL (short take-off and landing) type cargo plane will continue to be provided on a cost-recovery basis prioritizing most critical drought-related cargo movements. Land and sea transport services will also be augmented as required, along with storage services, to be provided on a cost-recovery basis too. Through the Logistics Cluster, specific log cluster information management services will be provided as required in support of logistics operational coordination, including logistics data and maps etc.

No funding is requested for Logistics under the DIRP because the UNHAS scheduled passenger and transport serves of logistics are included in the Enabling section above.

Refugee Response

Refugees and asylum-seekers face a range of protection problems, including arbitrary arrest and detention, risk of refoulement, sexual violence, exploitation and abuse, and discrimination with regard to access to justice, and to the already limited basic services and livelihood opportunities. The on-going drought situation in areas of Somaliland, Puntland and parts of the south and center, will further constrain refugees and asylum seekers’ situations and
capacities to provide for their household basic needs. This will most likely lead to refugees engaging in negative coping mechanisms leading to protection risks such as; prevalence of SGBV, family separation, child marriage, and child labour and other risks like risk to hunger, malnutrition and conflict with the host community due to competition over limited resources.

In coordination with relevant clusters, UNHCR and its partners will prioritise assistance to people facing acute needs and in life-threatening situations and those in severe food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) to minimize excess morbidity and mortality, especially among children and other groups. UNHCR will strengthen its protection response targeting refugees and asylum seekers as well as host communities, facing adverse impact of drought by addressing multiple sectors including basic needs such as emergency shelters and NFIs, water and sanitation, food and sanitary materials.

The drought response to refugees and asylum seekers will take a community-centred and area-based approach also targeting vulnerable host community members and refugee returnees.

Total Beneficiaries: 68,092

Total Requirement June - December 2019: US$13,535,592

DETAILED OVERVIEW OF THE CRISIS

The poor performance of 2018 Deyr, coupled with harsh weather conditions in January–March 2019, left many parts of Somalia facing worsening impact of drought conditions, leading to concerning water scarcity and earlier than normal start of water trucking across the country, particularly in Somaliland and Puntland.

According to the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and the Somali Water and Land Management Unit (SWALIM), by late April drought conditions in most parts of northern and central Somalia were projected to worsen due to below normal rainfall forecasts in the coming months. However, following a delayed and poor start of the 2019 Gu (April-June) rainy season in April, there has been increased rainfall activity across the country in May, especially during the second half of the month and first weeks of June. Some of the areas that recorded significant amounts of rainfall in the southern regions include; Baidoa, Dinsor, Huduur, Belet Weyne and Bulo Burti. Vegetation has also significantly improved during the month of May 2019 in most southern regions due to improved rainfall amount and coverage. In the northern regions areas such as Burao, Las Anod, Galdogob, Garowe, Boroma, Hargeisa and Erigavo also received significant amounts of rain. However, some areas of the north, especially northeast experienced rainfall deficit. As a result, there is no change in vegetation cover in May in most parts of northeast and northwest regions due to relatively low rainfall amounts received in these areas during the month. Although most regions received good rainfall intensity, the spatial distribution was uneven. Despite overall improvements in rainfall amounts in May, some areas in parts of the central regions, Middle Shabelle and Gedo regions recorded below normal rains.

Rains have also improved availability of browse, pasture and water, with lower water prices in May in most regions compared to prices in April. Water catchments have also been replenished, thereby ending expensive water trucking in most parts of the country. However, it is not the case in parts of Hawd of Togdheer, Addun and Coastal Deeh of northeast where pasture availability and livestock body conditions remain below average. Some pastoralists in these areas may benefit from improved migration options with an expected gain in livestock body weight in June.
Migration or displacement to areas where humanitarian assistance may be available; and security / increased conflict due to scarcity of resources such as water and pasture are key concerns. In addition, according to the Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) more than 75,000 people have been displaced across Somalia since the start of 2019 by drought or related lack of livelihoods (in addition to more than 106,000 newly displaced by conflict or insecurity). Most departures were reported from Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Bay, Sanaag and Bari regions. IDPs come mainly from marginalized groups and thus face more hurdles accessing humanitarian assistance as they lack representation of gatekeepers and land owners.

1 FSNAU assessments re underway and hence, data on GAM burden, GAM and SAM rates aren’t included in the graph
Health disease surveillance signals that cases of measles are increasing, with 2,280 suspected cases reported between January and end of June this year. Banadir, Middle & Lower Shabelle Regions are the most affected. The occurrence of measles, a vaccine preventable disease, in the setting of a rise in admissions of acutely malnourished children, is very concerning as the combination can lead to an increase in mortality. Equally concerning is that the impact of the drought conditions, resulting in a lack of water safe for human consumption and hygiene use, significantly increases the risk of water-borne diseases such as diarrheal disease, including Cholera; as well as vector-borne and skin disease. In the past, drought has contributed to significant outbreaks of AWD/Cholera.

Somalia is currently experiencing a protracted cholera outbreak which began in December 2017. Overall incidents have flattened out since October 2018, while in 2019 the great majority of cases have been seen in Banadir and Lower Jubba, along with cases in Hiraan, Middle Shabelle and Lower Shabelle.

The analysis of children under five admission trends in 2019 shows that stabilization centres in the four regions of Bakool, Banadir and Gedo have confirmed a considerable increase by 15 to 30 percent in admissions this year when compared to the same period in 2018. Stabilisations centres are typically embedded within hospitals and or large primary health facilities as the treatment is inpatient. As such, only one to two stabilisation centres exist in a district depending on population density and funding availability. Communities that affected with the high rates of stabilisation centre admissions are (Heliwa, Hamar Jaabjab, Hodan, Abdi_Aziiz, Wadajir and Daynite) districts in Banadir, Dolow district in Gedo region, Baidoa district in Bay region and (Xudur, Ceel Barde) district in Bakool.

In addition, admission trends so far in 2019 have steadily increased for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) while severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admission appear lower compared to same periods of the previous year due to under reporting. As such, the admission figures are of grave concern as reporting mechanisms do not capture cases in areas where there is no ongoing response/operation.
In 2017, famine was averted in Somalia in major part due to additional, decisive and front-loaded financial support by the international community. The 2017 collective effort proved that the humanitarian community, working closely with the federal and local authorities, the private sector, the global Somali diaspora and civil society, can avert famine.

At the time of drafting this Plan, the 2019 financial outlook was drastically different. The 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was only 20 per cent funded ($255 million of the $1.08 billion) by the end of April. The fact that critical sectors such as WASH, health, nutrition, food, protection and shelter are unable to scale up and are actually reducing response due to limited resources indicates the Somalia operation is notably underfunded.

STATE BY STATE ANALYSIS

In Banadir region, delayed Gu’ rains and the prolonged dry Jilaal season led to increased water shortage for most IDPs. WASH partner agencies in Banadir region estimate that between 150,000 - 180,000 IDPs are facing acute water shortages. Camp elders stated that the cost of 20 litters of water had risen by approximately 50 per cent i.e. from $0.50 to $0.75 for 20 litres, equivalent to households spending $3 to US$4 per day on water. IDPs also spend an average 3 to 4 hours queuing to obtain water and sometimes fail to get the water as they get discouraged due to hunger. Between March and May 2019, some 10,000 new IDPs (1,665 households) moved from Lower and Middle Shabelle regions to Banadir region largely due to the prolonged dry season, armed conflict and recent flooding. They
settled in Kahda, Hordan, Dharkenley, Waaberi, Wadajir, and Daynille districts of Banadir. The impact of drought is further compounded by insecurity that hampers the free movement of IDPs and limits their ability to engage in livelihood and income generating activities outside the camps. This is happening against the backdrop of prevalence of AWD/Cholera, high rates of malnutrition and increasing evictions. Over 20 measles cases have been reported among new IDPs from Lower Shabelle in Banadir region. These IDPs have not been immunized because of access challenges in Lower Shabelle by health workers. Further, reports of over 100 whooping cough cases have also been reported among the IDPs in Kahda, Daynille and Garasbaley district. The FSNAU Post-Deyr report of February 2019 indicates that 42 per cent of the Banadir population (between 682,000-700,000 people) are in need of humanitarian assistance; including worrying Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 15 -30 per cent, Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) of 2.5-4 percent and reported increasing admissions of acutely malnourished children. Further, the Ministry of Health and WHO report about 7,005 AWD/Cholera cases and 46 deaths in Banadir region from December to Mid-April 2019. Meanwhile, nutrition cluster partners reported increasing trend of severe acute malnourished (SAM) children with complication and over 100 severe acute malnourished cases were admitted in the stabilization center (SC) at Banadir Referral Hospital. Banadir has limited capacity of the stabilization center in the hospital which has only 50 beds, due to limitation of the facility, early discharge was applied before being properly recovered. Moreover, nutrition cluster has reported that since February, seven nutrition centers were closed due to funding gaps and this lead to increase of SAM cases.

In Galmudug State, poorly distributed rains in May 2019 in parts of south Mudug and Galgaduud regions, have slightly reduced drought stress among the pastoralists and rural communities. Most parts of Galmudug received light rains. According to local authorities and partners, the Gu rains did not generate pasture in most areas, but fodder trees grew new leaves during May, which is an essential livestock feed. From the second week of June, the leaves of the fodder trees began falling off due to the onset of Hagaa (Dry and wind season). In general, camels and cows are still depending on livestock feeds provided by the owners. Migration of pastoralists along with their livestock in search of pasture, from one place to another within Galmudug were observed in May. Water availability has partially improved in areas that received light rains but the remote areas largely remain dry. Water prices slightly decreased in the rural areas. Currently, the prices of 200 litres of water are between $1 - $5 down from $1.5 - $6 depending on distance. The price of livestock feeds still remain high since February. The cost of buying 50kg of livestock feeds is now between $18 - $20 compared to $20 - $24 before the start of Gu’ rains. In normal seasons, 50kg of livestock feed cost between $10 - $12. A poor Gu season plus the onset of the dry and windy Hagaa season, will worsen the situation in the drought affected areas. Zakat collection and limited pastoralists movement continues in areas controlled by non-state armed actors. Many of the pastoralists have lost over 70 per cent of their livestock from previous droughts. The Galmudug authorities issued appeals to scale up drought response particularly in the worst affected areas. The Food Security Cluster partners have reduced their response by 80 per cent due to limited resources. In addition, limited access in areas controlled by non-state actors affects the timely delivery of assistance including lifesaving interventions.

In Hirshabelle State, the poor 2018 Deyr and the abnormally hot 2019 Jilaal seasons led to the deterioration of water and pasture thus affecting pastoral, agro-pastoral and riverine areas in both Hiraan and Middle Shabelle regions. Although Gu’ season rains commenced late in May 2019, and have reportedly filled water catchments and berkeds and expected to improve water and pasture conditions, however, it is not expected to improve the overall food insecurity situation immediately. Because the rains were too late for late planted crops to perform well and the livestock need more seasons to recover and breed. In addition, the increased Shabelle river water level caused worries of flooding in Hiraan and flooded in parts of Middle Shabelle destroying standing crops. The Shabelle and Juba river levels, which decreased significantly in April, were stable in May and below the flood risk level due to a reduction in rainfall activity in the upper catchments of the two rivers in the Ethiopian highlands. While the late rains have improved water availability and the livestock sector, huge food gaps remain. The livestock body conditions are improving due to the improved pasture and water. The lactating livestock increased milk production little bit and expected to improve better water. While the late rains have improved water availability, the livestock sector, huge food gaps remain. The livestock body conditions are improving due to the improved pasture and water. The lactating livestock increased milk production little bit. However, the livestock need more seasons to breed and fully recover. Pastoralist in the locations that received little or no rains have moved to areas with better access to water. The riverine communities planted late crops taking advantage of the river water to irrigate their crops. However, the affected people need support to fully recover from the effects of the drought.

In Jubaland State, light to moderate rains were received in parts of Juba and Gedo regions. During the same period, time cross border migration of pastoralists with their livestock was observed from Kenya in to Lower Juba and from
Gedo in to Ethiopia and parts of Middle and Lower Juba in search of pasture. It is anticipated this will lead to overgrazing, possible conflict over the resources and cross infection of animal diseases from different regions as well as pressure on other existing assets including water pans and health services. According to the regional nutrition cluster, a significant number of nutrition facilities were closed in Lower Juba due to lack of funding. The Jubaland Ministry of Health and the Lower Juba nutrition cluster confirmed closure of up to 9 nutrition centers due to lack of supplies. This comes at a time when more people are arriving from Kenya refugee camps and increased cross border is observed. The coincidence between the surge of livestock migration from Gedo and Northern Kenya and the limited funding is anticipated to create a gap in the humanitarian response in Lower Juba. The Gedo region health cluster reported that 350 Acute Watery Diarrhea(AWD) cases have been admitted in Balet Xaawo district hospital from the second week of June 2019. Local authorities and humanitarian partners reported 7,500 newly displaced persons arriving in Luuq, Doolow, Baardeheere and Balet Xaawo districts in May. Malnutrition among children in Gedo region is expected to rise as the livestock in the region migrated, reducing access to milk for children. Gedo local authorities reiterated their call to scale up humanitarian responses. Over 200,000 IDPs and rural people have been affected by shortages of food and water.

In Puntland, poor rains over the past three seasons have resulted in drought conditions, the drying of surface water sources, increase in the price of water and food items, and a fall in livestock prices. The price of water has risen by 150 percent i.e. from US$ 4 up from US$10 for 200 litres of water. On the other hand, the prices of goats have decreased by 41.7 percent i.e. from US$ 60 to US$ 35. Recurring drought, poor living conditions of protracted IDPs, as well as the conflict in Sool region, have decimated communities’ income and livelihood opportunities in the region, and deeply eroded their ability to resist the shocks. The Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) estimates 202,830 households are in need of assistance. This is 28 percent of the Puntland population (722,000 households). Half of these households (100,000) have been affected by the ongoing drought and the other half (100,000) are protracted IDPs due to conflict and drought. According to HADMA, the areas that are worst-affected by drought are Nugaal Valley, Sool, Plateau, Dharoor Valley and the coastal areas lying between Gara’aad and Batgaal, Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood zones and coastal communities of Bari, Karkaar Sanaag, Sool and Nugaal regions of Puntland. Puntland authorities fear that poor Gu’ rains would further deplete the livestock assets that pastoralists possess. Even if affected regions receive ample Gu’ rains, it would take at least two to three months for affected communities to recover from drought conditions and the loss of livelihoods assets. The Puntland government has re-established a Drought Task Force, an inter-ministerial body to coordinate humanitarian assistance to the most affected areas and populations. At the same time, they have appealed for the provision of urgent humanitarian assistance to meet the needs of 50,000 households. By first week of June 2019, there was moderate to above average rainfall in some parts of Puntland regions. According to HADMA report on the impact of the flash floods in Puntland issued on 15 June, localized flash floods in Nugaal, Bari and Sanaag regions affected the livelihoods of an estimated 2,000 families. The flash floods from 29 May to 1 June, resulted in the death of 15 people and killed the livestock of 1,265 pastoral families who were already affected by the recent drought in Puntland. Meanwhile, the impact of the drought persists in many parts of Bari, Nugaal, Sool and Sanaag regions. Coastal settlements in Eyl, Benderbeyla, Iskushuban and Caluula districts as well as many parts of Qandala district are among worst affected by drought in Puntland.

In Somaliland, the Gu’ rains which started in May, were normal/average in most of the areas, while above normal rains were received in some areas in Togdheer and Sanaag regions (Burao, Garadag). Some areas of Woqooyi Galbeed region (Hargeisa and Berbera district) received fewer rains. The drought situation in Somaliland has decreased and water trucking has been suspended. However, the delayed Gu rains led to a decline in food security and there is a need for food, shelter and health in many areas. NADFOR reported that pasture and browse availability improved for the livestock. However, due to the delay of the Gu rains, crop prospect is very low in agropastoral areas in Somaliland (W.Galbeed and Awdal regions). Most of the farmers seeded their plots, but the current moisture will not sustain the crops when the rains cease in June. Crop failure and reduced purchasing power in Woqooyi Galbeed region (Salaxlay, Faraweyne, Darasalaam), Sool (Xudun and Teleex), Sanaag (Ceerigabo, Ceelafwayn, and Bhadan) and Awdal (lughaya) regions forced people to cope with assistance from relatives, loans and limited humanitarian assistance. Hunger is severe among families that are unable to receive food assistance. The heavy rains and related flash flooding have resulted in the destruction or damage to infrastructure and housing. The lack of clean water is further heightening the risk of waterborne diseases, especially in Togdheer region. Access to safe drinking water is limited among the IDPs with reports of diseases, malaria, acute watery diarrhoea and 85 per cent of IDP households mentioning that they lack proper supplies for fetching and storing water. The delayed Gu rains are affecting pastoralist areas, compounding the impact of the loss of livestock in previous droughts which they are still recovering from, as well as their existing coping mechanisms. According to the FSNAU, debts incurred among pastoralist households have increased from US$300 (during pre-jilaal season) to US$500-US$600 in Northern Inland Pastoral livelihood zone, one of the areas hardest hit by the drought in Sool and Sanaag regions. Anecdotal evidence
indicates that there is currently no significant rise in remittances from the diaspora. However, those receiving them are sharing remittances with other members of the extended family. Food assistance is, therefore, required for people living in Buuhoodle, Ceel Afweyn, Ceerigaabo, Taleex, Xudun, Oodweyne, Woqooyi Galbeed region (Salalaxlay, Faraweye, Darasalaam), as well as in farming areas (Gabley, Borama and Burco) as increase in agriculture produce, is not expected in the coming months. The National Disaster and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR) has already appealed for the delivery of food assistance to 28,500 households (171,000 individuals) in those areas.

The South West State is experiencing the impact of the delayed 2019 Gu season and lingering effects of the drought of 2017/2018, that continue cause internal displacement and negatively impacting on people's livelihoods. Over 323,000 persons are displaced in Baidoa since end of 2016 due to drought and conflict. The displaced are hosted in over 390 settlements spread across the town. Most areas in the state are highly vulnerable to climatic shocks, mainly rainfall failure and flooding. The 2018 Deyr season was well below average. The state is historically the epicentre of previous episodes of famine and severe drought. Baidoa is the regional hub for humanitarian partners operating in Bay and Bakool regions. During the 2019 Gu season, all areas in the state received varying levels of rains. The coastal line of Lower Shabelle, and many parts of Bay and Bakool (Baidoa, Buurhakaba, Tieglow, Waaajid and Rabdhure) received poor rains. The rest received below average rains. There are pockets in Wanlawey, Sablaale, Afgooye, Qansax Dheeere, Dinsoor Xudur and Ceel Barde that received near average rains. Overall, the rainfall performance in the entire South West State was below average to poor. The rainfall deficit has huge negative impact on crop production. The rainfall performance was relatively better in pastoral livelihoods zones of the state than agro pastoral areas. There is pasture regeneration and recharge of water points. However, the situation is expected to rapidly change from July onwards when the limited available resources (pasture & water) begin to decline. The general crop production prospect is estimated to be below average to poor depending on rainfall variation. In Bay and Bakool, one of the high-production areas for sorghum and maize and other cereals, harvests are good when the rains are good. Due to lack of permanent source of water, below normal rainfall and prolonged dry seasons, in parts of the state such as Buur Hakaba, rural Baidoa, Dinsoor, Qansaxdheere among others do usually experience acute water shortages. According to the WASH cluster, the prices of water in most areas of the state have reduced by 25 per cent in some towns and by 15-20 per cent in some others. According to Ministry of Health (MOH), World Health Organization (WHO) and health partners, 415 cases of suspected of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and cholera have been reported from several health facilities in South West State since the beginning of 2019. According to FSNAU, in Bay agro-pastoral livelihood where the nutrition situation was Serious (GAM 10-14.9 percent) in January 2019, malnutrition is likely to have deteriorated to Critical (GAM 15-29.9 percent) between February and April 2019, due to reduced access to food on account of the below-average 2018 Deyr harvest, declining humanitarian assistance, and increasing mortality levels related to water shortages. At the time, when the impact of drought is affecting people, non-state actors are levying taxes on property, harvest, livestock and cultivated land thus pushing people to migrate from rural to urban areas and increasing the population of urban areas such as Baidoa—a key a concern of state authorities. Inflation is also affecting the purchasing power of most vulnerable communities among them the IDPs and poor host communities.

REGIONAL DIMENSION OF THE CRISIS
The impact of the drought is being felt across the Horn Africa and particularly southern Kenya, much of Somalia, Somali region of Ethiopia, and localised areas of Uganda thus indicating that the crisis has a regional dimension. Pastoral conditions along the Uganda-Kenya could lead to possible competition over resource and could result in localised conflicts. Crop production would also be below-average in marginal agricultural areas of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia. This, combined with the potential of lower than average production in Uganda and Tanzania, could cause price increases and reduce access to basic food supplies by vulnerable households. Maize harvests are expected to be significantly below-average in Kenya’s marginal agricultural areas, though the longer rainfall season in high potential areas is still likely to support near-average production in those areas. In pastoral areas, the widespread nature of the rainfall deficits could limit opportunities for livestock migration. Under this scenario, worsening food insecurity and nutrition would be likely in parts of Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia and Uganda, with a peak between June and October and highest severity in worst-affected Kenya and Somalia. Realising the dire situation in the Horn of Africa, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock on 5 June allocated $45 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to immediately scale up food and nutrition assistance, safe water provision, livelihoods protection, and other urgent humanitarian support to drought-affected people across parts of Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya.

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS
The volatile and unpredictable situation in Somalia remains a major concern as it continues to hamper the ability of humanitarians to reach people in need. In 2018, 67 humanitarian personnel were directly affected by violent incidents,
which is significantly lower than the 116 reported in 2017, partly due to the scaled-up response in the hard-to-reach areas. Of this number, some 10 humanitarian workers were killed, 13 injured, 24 abducted, 18 arrested and temporarily detained, and two expelled by the authorities. In comparison, in 2017, 16 humanitarian personnel were killed, 35 injured, 31 abducted, 22 arrested and temporarily detained, three physically assaulted and nine expelled.

Civilian populations as well as humanitarian organizations continue to experience severe challenges along the roads in 42 districts across the country. A siege by a non-state armed actors on some government-held towns in Hirshabelle, Jubaland and South West states has hindered the movement of humanitarian and commercial supplies by road. In Bulo Burto, Diinsoor, Xudur and Waajid, non-state armed groups members continue to target the donkey-cart operators using minor roads and tracks to deliver essential supplies to the people in need. They often confiscate or destroy the supplies, attack the transporters, kill them and/or levy fines. Humanitarian organizations continue to access besieged towns by air allowing the delivery of certain supplies.

Meanwhile, extortion and other forms of violence are also common at the numerous illegal checkpoints manned by both government-affiliated and non-state armed actors. Similar violations are also reported at static checkpoints along the major roads in the southern and central areas of Somalia, with the Mogadishu-Afgooye-Baidoa-Doolow and Mogadishu-Balcad-Jowhar and Dhuusamarreb-Cadaado–Gaalkacyo roads being the most affected. Despite these violations and impediments, the humanitarian community has continued to make efforts to scale-up its presence in Somalia. However, administrative/ bureaucratic impediments remain high and continued to disrupt humanitarian programmes. In 2018, there were over 100 incidents where humanitarian operations were interrupted by administrative impediments. These included arbitrary taxation, demands to participate in contracting suppliers and service providers for aid organizations, and interference in staff recruitment, among others.