

## **RAPID DROUGHT ASSESSMENT REPORT**

### **29 April – 02 May**

### **2019**



## **1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

This drought assessment was launched after consecutive rainfall failures (Deyr 2018 and Gu 2019) were observed and widespread water and food shortages were reported in many regions of Somaliland. The major objective of the assessment was to find out the current drought conditions in regions of Somaliland, especially in the key hotspot areas, the impact of the reported drought conditions and the most critical needs of the people affected (host community as well as IDPs). The hotspot areas were identified by the government of Somaliland (represented by NADFOR) and coordinated with the sub-sectors and humanitarian partners. The assessment was also expected to reveal the food security situation, water accessibility, and the status of education especially the school attendance status of young boys and girls.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSESSMENT**

- To assess the severity of the drought conditions in hotspot areas in Somaliland given the underperformance of the Deyr 2018 and the Gu 2019 rains.
- To assess the current food security situations including availability, accessibility & utilization among the IDPs and host community.

- To assess the availability of water as well as the status of water sources including access to water by the local population, and practice regarding hygiene & sanitation.
- To identify potential risk concerns that women, men & youth in IDPs and host community may face.
- To assess the current shelter/NFI's needs and observe education conditions of people in hot spot areas.
- To assess displacement trends and identify gaps and needs of the displaced population living in settlements, including needs for the provision of Camp Management services
- To identify gaps and understand the priority needs of vulnerable communities for an appropriate and coordinated response.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

The assessment was conducted through the collection of primary data through Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and Key Informant Interviews (KII) using structured questionnaires. One FGD and four KIIs were conducted in each village to gather information on the current drought situations in the areas and get an overall picture of the humanitarian situation in Somaliland. The FGDs consisted of representatives of government authorities, village heads, traditional elders, women and youth representatives in the assessed villages as well as from leaders and residents women and youth representatives from IDPs settlements. In total, 23 FGDs and 88 KIIs were conducted in 23 villages and 10 districts in Somaliland during the assessment. The below table shows hotspot areas (districts villages) selected for the assessment.

No.	Region	Districts	Villages/IDPs settlements	FGDs	KIIs	Participants
1	Awdal	Lughaya	Gargara	1	2	NADFOR, OCHA, SCI, ADRA, WVI, WHH, ARC and ADO
			Abdi Gedi	1	4	
			Hadayta	1	4	
2	Sahil	Berbera	Bulaxaar	1	2	"
3	Maroodijeh	Hargeysa	Darasalaam	1	4	NADFOR, WFP, CARE, ARC, CWW, ActionAid & ADRA
			Faraweyne	1	4	
			Salahley	1	4	
4	Togdheer	Oodweyne	Owdweyne	1	4	NADFOR, NRC, WFP, SCI, WVI, PENHA, SVO, NODO & TASCO
			Khaatumo	1	4	
			Haahi	1	4	
		Buhooddle	Buhooddle	1	4	
			Qorilugud	1	4	
5	Sool	Xudun	Hol-Hol	1	4	NADFOR, ARC, CARE, WFP, ADRA, SVO
			Xabaalo Camaare	1	4	
		Taleex	Taleex	1	4	
			Goodale	1	4	
6	Sanaag	Ceel-Afweyn	Karasharka	1	4	NADFOR, WFP, UNICEF, CARE, NRC, World Concern, Oxfam, ACTED, Action Aid, TASCO
			Laasdoomaare	1	4	
		Ceerigaabo	Shurke	1	4	
			Dhoob	1	4	
			Saylada IDPs	1	4	
		Badhan	Midigale	1	4	
			Xarkadhere	1	4	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>88</b>	

### 4. FINDINGS

#### 4.1. AWDAL REGION:

##### General/Overall Info:

A team (team 1) composed of 7 humanitarian organizations (SCI, WVI, ARC, ADRA, WHH and ADO) and NADFOR were led by UNOCHA and conducted assessments in 4 selected villages (3 in Awdal & one in Saaxil region). The villages covered by the team included Gargaara, Abdi Gedi and Hadayta which are in Lughaya district of Awdal region, and the Bullaxaar village located in Berbera district of Saaxil region.

The geographic coordinates of the villages visited are the below:

- Abdi Gedi - Latitude: 10° 30' 33.19" N; Longitude: 44° 03' 33.19" E
- Hadayta - Latitude: 10° 31' 31.81" N; Longitude: 44° 02' 20.23" E
- Gargaara - Latitude: 10° 31' 23.53" N; Longitude: 43° 80' 52.28" E

There are 95 HHs in Hadayta village (IDPs settlement) and all are IDPs that were displaced from their original village at the coast of Red Sea due to the cyclone Sagar that swept their village in May 2018. There was no further displacement since they moved to this area and all the families are living in the settlement. It is now 11 months since they moved to this location.

The Abdi Gedi village population is 232 HHs (according to community leaders). No displacement was reported in the village in the last month. However, about 45 IDP HHs arrived last year from Sebawnag village and joined this village due to unavailability of water in their village.

### **Food security:**

Residents of Abdi Gedi reported that food is generally available (livestock) and no serious hunger present as of now. However, the drought has impacted their livelihood due to unavailability of pasture for their livestock. SRCS distributed unconditional cash which also helped people. The current drought has not displaced any people from the village and there is no new arrival, however last year, due to cyclone Sagar, some families arrived. There was a small impact on food availability because of the IDPs' arrival on the host community.

Most people in the Hadayta settlement were not able to access enough food in the last month. The major reason for this was due to the loss of their livelihood (livestock as well as the fishing activity they used to do when they were by the seaside) due to the cyclone as well as recurrent droughts. Humanitarian assistance was their only source of food in the last month. For instance, on 24 April, SOS distributed food (25 Kg of each of rice, flour & sugar; 10 kg of spaghetti; 24 pieces of canned beans; 2 kg of dates; 3 liters of cooking oil; and 0.25kg of tea) to 40 HHs in the settlement through food vouchers for work. Hunger, therefore, was small due to food handouts. The prevailing drought condition is also having a large impact on food accessibility because of lack of pasture for their remaining livestock.

Residents in Gargaara village reported that food is generally available, although its accessibility, to some families, is limited due to crop failures and livestock deaths resulting from lack of rain, drought and climate change. Humanitarian assistance is limited in the villages. People get food mainly through support from relatives.

### **Health and Nutrition:**

There is well functioning MCH in Abdi Gedi village, although people complain about the unavailability of medicine. Nutrition items are available. Fever was reported in the village and two people died from it. The cause of the death was not, however, verified due to lack of lab testing. Two children were also reported dead because of Pneumonia.

Hadayta village has no health facility and this has remained the main barrier for them to regularly access health services. The nearest health facility they can access is at Abdi Gedi MCH which is 3 – 4 Km away from their village. Fever resulting mainly from common cold and suspected malaria (not confirmed) is the most common health problem observed in the settlement. However, no deaths are reported in the settlement in the last month. Mobile nutrition teams from WVI and SCI visit the settlement alternately on a bi-weekly basis and provide nutritious food to children.

In Gargaara, there is well functioning MCH, although people complain about the health workers which they describe as unprofessional. Fever, diarrhoea and TB were the major diseases reported by the communities in Gargaara.

### **Water, sanitation and hygiene:**

In Abdi-Gadi village the community did not report any major challenge of water accessibility since they have a water source (borehole) with submersible pump. Water kiosks and improved pipe system in the area provide enough water to the community, the school and the MCH. Both animals and people use the same water sources. The community complained about the taste of the water, however, no serious health-related

issue was reported. The community have constructed their own latrines using local materials, but the community have no access to hygiene and sanitation, soap is not available, and only a few people have soap.

Water kiosks located at Abdi Gedi village (3-4 km away from their village) are the main source of drinking water for the people in Hadayta settlement. It takes more than three hours for women to fetch water from this location and return to their settlement. Most families in the settlement do not access enough water to meet their needs due to the distance of the water source and because of lack of pack animals (donkeys) to fetch water. Most donkeys died during the cyclone. The water is also saline and is hard to drink. Water is given to livestock through cattle troughs that exist in Abdi Gedi. People wash their hands with water only. There are only 20 latrines for the 95 HHs in the settlement.

The community at Gargaara did not report any major challenge of water accessibility since they have a tap water supply as well as a stream running close to the village. Both animals and people use the same water sources. In this area, it's reported that people use soap for hand washing purposes.

### **Protection:**

Safety and security was reported good in Abdi Gedi and no incident of property looting was reported. In the area, there is no safety concern for the girls, women, men and boys. Moreover, no UXO was reported. However, the community reported the presence of about 45 persons with disabilities in the village and mostly the family supports them by providing all the needs of daily life. Hyenas are present in the region and sometimes they attack at night time.

Generally, the Hadayta settlement is safe but the IDPs reported problems of hyena attacks. They reported that 5 children were killed, and one man was injured due to hyena attacks since they arrived in the area 11 months ago. IDPs reported that in the last month and on the eve of the assessment, hyenas attacked the village and killed animals. However, there are no reports of property looting, landmines as well as abuses inflicted on women, girls, men and boys in the settlement in the last months. There is free movement within the settlement as well as to other locations and no family separations were reported. Regarding persons with specific needs, one girl with a physical disability was reported in the settlement.

Safety is good in Gargaara and there are no incidents of property looting reported. People report issues relating to early marriages. There are no accidents caused by land mines although residents report the existence of remnants of mines in cropping lands, roads and coastal areas. There are people with disabilities, especially among the IDPs. People freely move within this location and to other locations. Family separations were also reported. Some elders said that women and girls are feeling insecure outside their houses during night time, since neither lighting infrastructure nor safety facilities, such as vigilant guards, are there, however, inside the village, no problems concerning safety for women was reported.

### **Shelter and NFIs:**

Most of the people in Abdi Gadi village use Somali huts (buuls) as their house; however, some have developed their houses using CGI sheets. As the Somali huts are made of local materials (wooden poles and clothes), all the residents of the village have their own shelter.

The majority of Hadayta IDPs (80 HHs) in the settlement were supported with shelter materials in the past months (through SHF funding) and live in iron sheet homes. Some live traditional Somali huts (buuls) which they construct from tree branches and worn out clothes. Around 6 HHs are reported to be living in the open without shelter. No displacement was reported in the settlement due to the current drought. Families in the settlement need NFIs such as Jerry cans, blankets and kitchen sets.

People in Gargaara village use Somali huts (buuls) as their major housing. In Gargaara in four IDPs settlements, 599 Households IDPs are present. Reportedly, less than half of the IDPs live in an open shelter. The available shelter building materials for the community is wooden poles and cloths. Only very few

persons can afford to build their houses from bricks. Gargaara residents report about shelters evacuated because of the current drought and Sagar cyclone. Most of the people lack NFIs (especially Jerry cans, blankets and kitchen sets). Further displacement of some households to areas such as “Malko durduro” was also reported. The reasons for moving to other locations is to look for pasture and water for their animals.

### **Education:**

School is available at Abdi Gedi and all the children (girls and boys) have access to education. According to the head teacher 86 children (53 boys & 33 girls) are enrolled. The school is currently closed due to seasonal holidays and will resume its activities after three months.

In Haday settlement, all school-aged children attend a local school. There are 100 students (55 boys and 45 girls) in the school that has four classes (grade 1 – 4). The school has chairs and desks. Children buy their exercise books from shops in Abdi Gedi village. Three teachers (all male), which receive salaries from clan contributions, teach in the school.

There is a school in Gargaara village as well. Both school-aged boys and girls attend classes. However, children from poorer families are unable to afford to buy school uniforms families. There are no vocational training centres in this location. The movement of some families from this village has affected the smooth flow of the teaching-learning process.

### **CCCM:**

Last year, due to the cyclone, about 46 households were displaced from sebornag village to Abdi Gadi. The IDPs are living free of charge in the village and have access to all the basic services without any problem with the host community. Village committee composed of 9 members administers the village. There is no women representative in the committee. Villagers receive information through community leaders and NGOs.

The IDPs in Hadayta settlement arrived at the location 11 months ago (May 2018) when their village, which was along the coast of Red Sea, was swept away by cyclone Sagar. There are no more families expected to arrive at the site and their total number is 95 HHs. They all arrived at relatively the same time and established the settlement themselves at a communal land (no eviction threat). The settlement now looks like a rural village and there is no overcrowding. The IDPs want to remain in this area (do not want to return to the place of origin) as their original place is destroyed by the cyclone. The settlement has governance structure and IDP leaders govern the village through village head & community committee, which are selected by the IDPs. The committee has 7 members (5 male, out this 2 are youth and 2 female). The committee meets sporadically to discuss emerging issues. The IDPs are aware of NGO activities in the area and get humanitarian assistance/services related information from them. They also get information from village and district leaders (government).

The IDP settlements that are found in Gargaara village are four in number. The total population of the settlements is estimated to be 599 households. The number of IDPs are increasing as more than 100 households joined the settlements in the last 3 months. The major factors causing displacement are the Sagar cyclone, the prolonged drought and livestock diseases. For the coming six months, IDPs are expected to stay in the settlements and continue depending on the host communities. According to the key informants, the first group which arrived in the area came in 2012. Since drought is continuing, it's expected that more IDPs will come to this area. The government owns the land on which IDPs have settled. The community governance in the IDPs are headed by IDP leaders and hold meetings sporadically when matters concerning the IDPs arise. Youth and women are represented in the governance structure.

## **4.2. SAHIL REGION**

### **General/Overall Info:**

The rapid drought needs assessment was conducted in the hot spot village of Bullaxaar in Sahil region. The team that conducted the rapid assessment in Awdal region (OCHA, NADFOR, SCI, ADRA, WVI, WHH,

ARC and ADO) also undertook the assessment in Bullaxaar village (GPs coordinates: Latitude: 10° 74' 04.87" N and Longitude: 43° 87' 01.54" E). The team spent one day to observe the overall drought situation and conduct both FG and Key informant interviews to find out how severe the drought conditions were in the village. Displacement of households have been reported and families moved from Bullaxaar to Dacarbudhuq. The reasons for their displacement is linked to the search for pasture and water for their animals.

### **Food security:**

Most of the respondents in Bullaxaar village reported that food is generally available, although its accessibility is limited due to crop failures and livestock deaths due to the prevailing drought. The respondents in this village stated that there are no food assistance programs undertaken by humanitarian agencies. People get their food mainly through assistance from relatives. IDPs have also impacted food accessibility in the district.

### **Health and Nutrition:**

The MCH in Bullaxaar is not functioning due to the lack of professional health workers and lack of medicine. There are no feeding programs underway in Bullaxaar as well. Fever, diarrhoea and TB were the major diseases reported by the communities in this area.

### **Water, sanitation and hygiene:**

In Bullaxaar village, people get water from a borehole that is 18km away from the area. The community reported that the submersible water pump of the borehole is broke down and the borehole is not functioning now. Communities need urgent assistance to fix the pump as the entire people rely only on this borehole. Water price is currently very high. One barrel (200 lts) is sold for 70,000 SL shillings (\$8). In this village, the water taste is also very poor and has more salinity making it inappropriate for drinking purposes. People use soap for hand washing.

### **Protection:**

Generally, the safety in Bullaxaar is good and there are no incidents of property looting reported. However, there are issues including early marriage and pregnancy difficulties reported by the communities of the village. There are no accidents caused by land mines although it has been reported that there are still remnants of mines in cropping lands and across roads and coastal areas. There are also disabled people reported, especially among the IDPs. People can freely move within the village and to other locations. Some family separations have also been reported. Elders report that women and girls are feeling insecure outside their houses during night time.

### **Shelter and NFIs:**

In Bullaxaar, the host community and IDPs use Somali huts (buul) as their major housing. Less than half of the IDPs were living in an open shelter. The available shelter building materials for the community is wooden poles and clothes. Very few can afford to build their houses from bricks. There are no shelters evacuated due to the drought thus far. Most of the households in this area lack household materials such as Jerry cans, blankets and kitchen sets.

### **Education:**

Bullaxaar has functioning schools in which boys and girls attend the classes. More girls attend schools as compared to boys. The major challenge reported in the education system is that people are unable to afford to buy school uniforms for their children. There are no vocational training centres in the area. The movement of some families to and from this village has affected the smooth flow of the teaching-learning process.



## **CCCM:**

In Bullaxaar district, 5 IDP sites exist, namely:

1. Fadhiyare
2. Geel maygaag
3. Burcada
4. Geeri iyo
5. Diirato

The total population of the IDPs is estimated at 175 households. In the last three months, about 50 households joined the IDPs. Major factors that cause displacement droughts (main cause). The IDPs in these settlements need mainly food and water. Settlements are self-established and IDPs intend to stay where they are. The government owns the land on which the IDPs are settled. There are also governance structures in the settlements. The youth and women are fairly represented in the governance structures.

## **4.3. MAROODIJEX REGION**

### **General/Overall Info:**

The rapid drought needs assessment was conducted in Maroodijex region in three hot spot villages of Hargeisa district (Salahley, Farawayne & Darasalam). A team led by WFP and composed of ARC, Concern Worldwide (CWW), SCI, ActionAid and NADFOR conducted the assessment in Hargeisa district. The team spent three days to observe the overall drought situation and conduct both FG and Key informant interviews to find out how severe the drought conditions were in those villages.

Although the majority of displaced people have stayed in the same region, dire water shortage has forced the communities along the Ethiopian border to move to villages on the other side of the border which has received sporadic rains. Women and children under the age of 18 therefore account for more than three-quarters (84 percent) of those displaced..

### **Food security:**

The food security situation in Hargeisa district has declined sharply during the last two months due to the failed Gu' rains, crop failure and reduced purchasing power. The traditional social support system also got weakened. Any more delays to the Gu rains will aggravate the situation further and could result in a humanitarian crisis if no immediate support is provided.

### **Health and Nutrition:**

The delayed onset of Gu 2019 rains caused a rapid deterioration in Nutrition situation in Hargeisa district and according to field observations and the information provided by the key informants, malnutrition, in both IDPs settlements and host communities, has currently increased.

### **Water, sanitation and hygiene:**

In Hargeisa district, water sources such as boreholes, shallow wells, berkads have suffered damages because of the current drought. Access to water supply and sanitation services are, therefore, limited in the areas assessed and this is compounded by the insufficiency of the household income to pay more for water. Because of the water shortage, water prices have skyrocketed making it difficult for the most vulnerable to access safe water. The cost of vended water has increased by 50 percent at this critical drought period. Price data for water vended by tanker trucks and carts shows that following the delayed Gu rains in April 2019, the average cost of water went up from USD 2 to USD 5 per barrel of water. Additionally, multiple shallow wells have dried up, and water levels in most boreholes and berkads have decreased to abnormally low levels, forcing minimum boreholes/berkads to operate over increased hours to meet demands, resulting in



greater wear and early depletion of the water resource. Water trucking is now the main source of water in the villages assessed.

### **Education:**

According to field observation, the school attendance looks normal. However, the availability of water is posing a big challenge for schools to maintain running their school programs, especially in those School with school feeding programs supported by WFP. According to information from UNHCR's Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), there exists intra-regional displacement that affects enrolments in schools. Up to now migration is normal and is within Somaliland boundaries. However, the worsening Gu performance could force people to cross deep to the borders of neighbouring countries, especially Ethiopia.

### **Protection:**

The security issues reported by households, key informants and FGD respondents varied from site to site, some common themes emerged, particularly regarding specific areas within, and external to, the IDP sites where inhabitants experienced greater insecurity. Hotspot areas of insecurity for women and girls included latrines, shelters and water points within the sites. All the assessed sites latrines were the most commonly reported locations where women and girls were indicated to feel unsafe, followed by locations outside the site, such as when gathering firewood or taking animals to graze. This was followed by the market (26%), which may reflect the increased vulnerability experienced by women and girls as they move from primarily working in the domestic sphere (pre-drought) to working in the public sphere to support household income in response to drought-induced livelihood loss. It potentially suggests that there is tension between IDPs and the host community with regards to shared access to services.

### **Shelter/NFIs:**

FGD respondents indicated that temporary shelter materials (plastic sheeting/cloth etc.) with poor quality is commonly used, which are easily torn or ripped making households vulnerable to theft or intrusion, an issue compounded by a lack of lockable doors. The shelter remains a key concern for IDP households, with 60% of the IDP households identifying it as a priority need. The lack of adequate shelter, and the resultant issues with shelter theft, overcrowding and lack of privacy raised in this assessment, point towards the need to for protection concerns to be at the centre of all site planning and shelter provision in IDP sites in the visited villages. Additionally, the assessment identified that most HH's are lack of NFI including the (Jerry can, Blanket, Plastic sheets, sleeping mats, Kitchen set & Soap). The returnee migrants, IDPs & poor host community are in a dire situation and in need.

## **4.4. TOGDHEER REGION:**

### **General/Overall Info:**

The rapid drought assessment in Togdheer region was conducted with the active participation of a team consisting of 10 organizations led by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Members of the team included WFP, SCI, WVI, PENHA, TASCO, ADO, SVO, NODO and NADFOR. The assessment was conducted at 5 villages under Buhoodle (Qorilugud & Buhoodle town) and Odweyne (Khatumo, Owdweyne and Haaxi) districts in the region. The team undertook 5 focus group discussions (FGDs) and 20 key informants (10 male & 10 female) interviews (KIIs) during the assessment. The findings are summarized below.

IDPs are present in Khaatumo, Buhoodle and Qorilugud villages. No IDPs found in Odweyne and Xaaxi villages. Most key informants indicate that around half of the original population remained in their villages in last month in all the assessed locations. There was no secondary displacement and all IDPs stayed in the settlements they originally arrived at almost a year ago. Only few IDPs joined the settlements in the last 7 months to one year. People moved from their place of origin due to loss of livelihood (livestock), and in search of water and food to save their lives.

### **Food security:**

Most people in the assessed villages are not able to access enough food last month due to the loss of their crops because of drought. People also do not have cash to purchase food and only around a third of the residents assessed, mostly those in Khaatumo village, received food assistance in the last month. Therefore, the main source of food for most people in last month was support from relatives and friends. Hunger is severe in families unable to receive food assistance (33%), and less severe in families reached with food distribution (66%) in the assessed villages. Generally, the existence of IDPs in these locations had a small impact on the access to enough food by residents. Rather, the prevailing drought conditions had a large impact on the access to enough for most of the people in the visited locations.

### **Health and Nutrition:**

There are functional health facilities in the villages covered during the assessment. People have access to mother and child health services in all the villages. However, health workers, in the health facilities, are very few and this is causing limitation on the access to health services. The drought condition has also directly impacted the provision of health services in the area. Most of the schools do not have school feeding programs (67%) and only a third have the services.

The most common health problems in the area is diarrhoea among children and the elderly. Fever is also another key health issue. Malnutrition among children is the most common problem in IDP settlements. No human deaths due to illnesses are reported in the assessed villages. Livestock deaths are, however, expected to rise in the coming weeks, if rain is not received, as animals are becoming very weak already.

### **Water, sanitation and hygiene:**

Water scarcity is very high in the area and remains the highest pressing priority need in the area. The major sources of water in the area are shallow wells with or without hand pumps. Around 40% of the people get their water from Berkads (especially those in Buhoodle and Khaatumo village of Odweyne district). Most people walk between 30 minutes to one hour to fetch water from the nearby water sources. Water accessibility in all villages assessed were limited due to dried up water sources containing insufficient water. People travel to long distances and queue for long collect water from the sources. People wash their hands with water and some use either soap, ash or sand as well.

### **Protection:**

Safety and security are good in most villages visited and stayed the same in the last month. People can freely move within the location and to other locations. Returnees that crossed the Ethiopian border to Somaliland feel that their safety has gotten better in the current settlements. No property looting incidents as well as safety concerns for women, men, boys and girls were reported in the assessed villages for the last month. People with special needs (persons with disabilities, elderly with no children, female-headed households, single female-headed families, and large and poor families) do also exist in all the assessed villages. Only one case of family separation that occurred in the last month was reported.

### **Shelter and NFIs:**

People who have never been displaced have a permanent type of shelter in the assessed villages. Somali-huts (buuls), constructed from grass, old clothes and tree branches (which people have access to), are the common shelter type used for people who have never been displaced from their areas. IDPs living in the open, without shelter, are also reported in the villages and no shelter is so far evacuated because of droughts. However, most IDPs and host families lack NFIs that include blankets, plastic sheets, kitchen sets, sleeping mats, jerry cans and soap.

### **Education:**

Most school-aged children (boys and girls) attend schools in the areas visited. Very few girls & boys (aged 6-17 years) were reported not attending schools because of the work they do at home (girls) and outside the home, mainly livestock herding all day (boys).

#### **4.5. SOOL REGION:**

##### **General/Overall Info:**

The rapid assessment in Sool region was conducted in 4 hotspot drought affected target areas (villages) in Huddun (Hol-Hol and Xabaalo-camaare) and Taleh (Goodale and Taleeh) districts. A team consisting of ARC, SVO, ADRA, CARE, WFP and NADFOR participated in the assessment for four days (28<sup>th</sup> April - 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019) and ARC served as a team leader. The population of Huddun and Taleh districts are estimated to be 121,031 people. IDPs are present in all villages assessed.

The GPS coordinates of the villages are below:

- Taleh: 9.146101, 48.421925
- Go'daale: 9.088917, 47.921689
- Huddun: 9.154769, 47.478247
- Hol-hol: 8.930629, 47.734522
- Xabaalo camarre: 9.49505, 47.8339

##### **Food Security:**

Access to food is limited in the two districts assessed because of the impact of prolonged and recurrent droughts that resulted in livestock deaths and diseases, crop failure and reduced purchasing power, and ultimately loss of livelihood. Most people residing in the assessed villages did not receive any food assistance including food in kind, food voucher or cash relief in the last 3 months and only around 5% received assistance. In the last month, in addition to the survived livestock, people were coping with the lack of food through assistance from relatives, loan and limited humanitarian assistance.

##### **Health and Nutrition:**

Almost half of the assessed villages have limited or no health facilities and peoples' access to health services is very limited. There is no ambulance service available for referrals to resolve complicated medical cases. In the assessed areas, mothers, the elderly and children are the most vulnerable groups that suffer from medical complications due to the lack of access to referral systems because of the high cost of transportation to far away from medical centres.

Major health & nutrition problems observed in the assessed villages include Acute Respiratory Infection (803 cases), malnutrition (281 admitted cases), pregnancy-related issues (241 cases), Urinary Tract Infections (162 cases), skin diseases /infections (98 cases), acute Malnutrition (75 cases), Hypertension (47 cases), Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) (45 cases), eye infections (42 cases), injuries (36 cases), diabetes (36 cases), malaria (31 cases) and others diseases (13 cases). This situation indicates the existence of severe health conditions in the assessed areas that need urgent action.

##### **Water, Hygiene and Sanitation:**

Most people in the area are involved in self-water trucking to access water (40%). Some people have access to water from shallow wells (35%), boreholes (10%), Berkads (15%), and surface water which usually disappear after few days (5%). Access to safe drinking water is very limited among the IDPs. 85% of the displaced households at IDP sites mentioned that they lack proper facilities for fetching and storing water. Most people practice open defecation in IDP settlements which pose detrimental health problems

to the communities. In some areas, that received light rains received attracted many pastoralists (parts of Somaliland and Puntland) creating overcrowding over scant resource. The accumulate small water will not last more than two weeks, and this might result in water crises and outbreak of diseases in the villages.

#### **Protection:**

Generally, the safety and security of the areas assessed as well as the IDP sites were getting better in the last month. There were no reports of property looting or any other incidents such as GBV and other forms of violence. However, the last year displacement in Sool region because of the inter-clan conflict and the drought situation has increased the existing vulnerabilities of communities thus increasing the protection risks such as lack of access to essential services, domestic violence, family separation, risk of SGBV and lack of specialized services for persons with specific needs.

#### **Shelter/NFIs:**

In the last month, IDP communities indicated that they have access to shelter materials that include plastic sheets and trees branches to build their homes. However, newly arriving IDPs mentioned that they do not have access to any items to build their shelter. Generally, based on the assessment findings, around 8071 IDP households need shelter and NFIs in these areas.

#### **Education:**

Schools are available in assessed villages. However, the community mentioned about various issues that need to be addressed to improve the teaching-learning process in the areas. The gaps mentioned include limited teaching/learning materials, lack of teacher incentives/salaries on time, lack of qualified teachers in science subjects, limited female teachers, girls' friendly school spaces, teachers training and lack of school development plan in most schools.

IDP camp committees have very limited capacity to discharge their responsibilities, and there is a need for capacity building support to displaced communities representatives Committee members are 10 people in each IDP settlement, and most of them are the community elder, women are under-represented. The IDPs in various locations are well-organized and connected to the settlement committees as well as district and local administrations.

### **4.6. SANAAG REGION:**

The Sanaag region is currently experiencing an acute drought situation that has affected most of the rural & urban communities because of the failure of Gu rains of 2019. The most affected districts (hotspot areas) are Ceerigabo, Ceelafweyn and Badhaan districts although some areas received underperformed Gu rains.

#### **4.6.1. Ceerigabo and Ceelafweyn districts:**

##### **General/Overall Info:**

The Sanaag region is currently experiencing an acute drought situation that has affected most of the rural & urban communities because of the failure of Gu rains of 2019. The most affected districts (hotspot areas) are Ceerigabo and Ceelafweyn although some areas received underperformed Gu rains. This situation forced pastoral migrations to areas like Shurke & Lasdoomare IDP settlements. The current dry weather conditions severely affecting pastoral areas, compounding the impact of the loss of their livestock and their existing coping mechanisms. The team have witnessed new pastoral IDPs arrivals in Shurke settlement, who were searching for water & pasture. In Dhoob, communities started to cut trees for charcoal production to ensure survival, and cope with the shocks & stress they live in.

In addition to that, key informants mentioned that the community are struggling with an economic collapse after the prices of imported food items such as rice, sugar, vegetable oil, and wheat flour rose, and the local currency depreciated against the US Dollar.

Five focus group discussions and 21 key informant (10 male & 11 female) interviews were conducted in the five villages/settlements assessed in the two districts of Ceelafweyn (the Lasdoomare village & Karasharka IDP settlement near Garadag town) and Ceerigaabo (Dhoob & Shurke villages and Caydhaha (Seyladda) IDP of Ceerigaabo town) in the region.

- **Dhoob** village is located 55km east of Ceerigaabo with a population of 400 host community HHs and 40 IDPs HHS. Berkads are the main water sources the community depends on. It has only one Berkad and there is high water needs in the village as reported and community elders recommended the construction of Berkads. With only 1 Berkad serving the entire population of the village, the community depend on water trucking throughout the year. Waterborne diseases (diarrhoea etc.) are common due to the low quality of the water used for human consumption.
- **Shurke** village is located 50km Northeast of Ceerigaabo and 300 pastoralist households live in the area. The main water source for the community is Berkads (cisterns) and Balleys (dams). The people also use the water from the “Jidale’s Durdur” spring which is around 15 km – 20 kms from the village. Water is sold by private Barkad owners at USD 0.25 per 20 liters jeerican, which is equivalent of 2,000 SL Shillings. Community elders mentioned that diarrhoea is prevalent and threatens the lives of children.
- The **Laasdoomare** village is located 45km north-west of Ceelafweyn town. The community of Laasdomaare are pastoralists which affected by recurrent droughts for the past several years. The people lost most of their livestock, and the remaining ones are suffering from lack of water and pasture.
- Karasharka IDP settlement is established in 2016/2017 near Garadag town in Ceelafweyn district. This camp hosts 550HHs who lost their belongings due to the drought of 2016 & 2017.
- Caydhaha (Seyladda) IDP settlement is located in the South of Ceerigaabo town. It was established in 2011 and hosts more than 50 poor households. Humanitarian assistance is also very limited. People living in this IDP settlement don't have access to enough water, food, and health and education facilities. In August 2018, the settlement received new Somali returnee arrivals from Ethiopia.

### **Food security:**

According to most of the people in the assessed villages (86%) were not able to access enough food during the last month while only 14% got access to enough food through own mechanisms (sales of livestock, begging & humanitarian assistant). In addition to that, 57% of people received food assistant through food vouchers by WFP. 43% of people didn't receive any food assistance during the past months due to lack of food distribution. Around 67% of the people reported facing bad hunger in the last month with limited options to cope with the reduced access to food. 19% of people described facing the worst hunger in the settlement and caused the death of two people in Lasdomare settlement. The situation is alarming and there is a fear that this might lead to a catastrophe situation due to lack of humanitarian assistance.

The most important reasons causing scarcity food in the villages visited include loss of livelihood (livestock), stopped/reduced humanitarian assistance, high unemployment, inflation and lack of skills.

### **Health & Nutrition:**

Health facilities are lacking in most villages assessed. The key informants interviewed and focus group discussants mentioned that their villages do not have any functional health facilities and the nearest ones are located too far them and are very tiresome to walk to. 54% of the people have no feeding program to support malnourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers. The only feeding program that exists in the area is the WFP school feeding program and this does not target malnourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers. Therefore, there is a high need for nutrition program as the community are severely hit by the drought and malnutrition is rising.

Pneumonia and diarrhoea are the two most prevalent health problems faced by the community in the villages. Hunger/malnutrition and pneumonia are the major causes of deaths in the villages and remain the main health risks faced by the community in the last month.

### **Water, Hygiene and Sanitation:**

Most people do not have access to enough water to meet their basic needs because of recurrent droughts that dried up most water sources. The main source of drinking water for the community in the visited areas is water trucking. A quarter of the population gets water from Berkads that were able to accumulate some water in the areas that got few Gu rains. In the most assessed villages, the key informants mentioned that the price of water reaches about 60,000 Somaliland Shillings (USD 6) per barrel in the area. People indicate that they need support in terms of improving water access to the communities in the area.

More than two third of the community walk to (and return from) water sources for about one hour to half a day. People and livestock use the same water sources. These can affect the health of the community and increase incidents of diarrheal diseases. Most of the villages wash their hands with water only. A very small percentage (4%) do not wash their hands due to the unavailability of enough water.

More than 71% of the people do not access any latrines and practice of open defecation. Open defecation also increases the risk of women and girls-based violence. Most people also do not have any garbage collection sites. These negative behaviour declines directly the health and nutritional status of the community and exacerbates diseases outbreak.

### **Protection:**

Generally, the safety and security of the areas visited were good. No incidents of killings, sexual violence, and lootings were reported in the last month. However, few cases of domestic violence were reported by the key informants in Dhoob village. There are also around 9 family separation cases reported in Dhoob village. Normally, the rise in displacement leads to the separation of families in these areas. Those left behind such as women, children and the elderly remain at the risk of sexual violence. Most of the sexual violence cases were reported while women travel long distances to fetch water for the family. In Dhoob village, there are 14 households who have family members with specific needs including those experiencing stress and trauma. These are mostly elderly persons without effective family support, orphans, lactating & pregnant malnourished mothers, and malnourished children.

The IDPs in Caydhaha and Karasharka settlements face challenges of housing, land and property rights, and insecurity of land tenure that made them live under high risk of eviction. IDPs are worried that private landowners might need their land at any moment and evict them at any time.

### **Shelter/NFIs:**

The IDPs don't have permanent shelter but use Buuls (Somali huts) with cloth covering and makeshift shelter. The Caydhaha IDP settlement in Ceerigaabo town hosts 35 returnee HHs that arrived in the area due to the ethnic conflict that broke out between Oromos and Somalis in Ethiopia in 2018. These people lack basic NFIs such as Jerry cans, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping mats, Kitchen sets and Soaps. There were also reports of shelters evacuated due to the prevailing drought.

### **Education:**

Most of the villages visited have functioning schools. However, in the last month some students, both girls and boys, didn't attend schools because family migration to other areas in search of water and pasture for livestock, and due to lack of cash to pay school fees and purchase books, pens and uniform, and due to family arranged marriages of some girls. There are no schools in the IDP settlements and they need assistance for their children to go to schools.

### **CCCM:**

The first IDPs settled in Karasharka settlements (Ceelafweyn) was in 2016. The settlement is currently hosting 550 households. There is also a settlement at Lasdomaare village. Most people were displaced during the droughts in 2016 and the inter-clan conflicts in Celafweyn district. People were mainly displaced after losing their livestock (livelihood) because of lack of water & pasture that resulted from recurrent droughts. The Caydhaha IDP settlement (In Ceerigaabo) was set up during the famine of 2011. It currently hosts around 45 households (18 HHs fled from the inter-ethnic conflict Somalis & Oromos in Ethiopia in Aug 2018). Most IDPs want to remain in the settlements. Only a few (less than 20%) wish to return to their place of origin as they are not receiving the supports they were aspiring for.

Most of the settlements are self-established ones and IDPs stay without any charge. People construct their shelter with makeshift materials & Somali buuls made up of clothes. All IDP settlements do not have health, education and WASH facilities. The new arrivals also require basic household items such as Jerry cans, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping mats, Kitchen set & soap. Some settlements are also overcrowded, and this can lead to disease outbreaks as access to basic health & sanitation services are limited. All settlements have community governance structures that meet sporadically to address arising IDP issues. Community committees are elected both by the IDPs & the host communities. Women representation in the committees is limited. IDPs are aware of NGO activities in the area and they receive information from community leaders and the NGOs.

#### **4.6.2. Badhaan District:**

##### **General/Overall Info:**

The assessment in Badhaan district was conducted mainly in Midigale village and Harkadhere IDP settlement. A team led by IOM and consisted of ACTED, NADFOR and Ministry of Water conducted the assessment. The Hadhkadhere IDP settlement is located 45 Km south east of Badhan town hosting 80HHs and geographically lies on 10°24'14'' latitude and 48°27'53" longitude. This site was established after the 2016/2017 drought. Midigale is a village that hosts some IDPs and is 40 km east of Badhan town with a population of 860HHs (including its surroundings). It lies at a latitude of 10.680781 and longitude of 58.674089.

##### **Food Security:**

Hadhkadhere IDPs used to be pastoralists that depend on the products of their animals, and when droughts occurred they lost most of their animals. Hence, the most families don't have enough food and they currently depend on minor assistances given by relatives, friends and humanitarian organizations (mainly ACTED which is currently distributing two months of cash for work assistance targeting only 30 HHs in the site). The number of IDPs is increasing and that is having a large impact on the ability of people to access enough food in the settlement.

In Midigale village, most of the residents are poor households with some IDPs. Their main livelihood rests on livestock, farming and some small-scale businesses. However, the drought condition has affected both animal and crop productions, and this has reduced the purchasing power of the community. There is no employment opportunity in the area also and hence no cash to buy food.

##### **Health and Nutrition:**

Health and nutrition are some of the basic needs of the Hadhkadhere IDPs. There is no single functional health facility in the settlement. The nearest health facility is those in Badhan town, which are around 45 Kms from the settlement. These health facilities are not also free of charge and it becomes hard for the poor families to get access to health services. CARE International is the only organization that implementing a



nutrition project in the settlement and reaches around 30 children. The most common health problems are tonsillitis and coughing, but there is no specific cause of deaths for people in Hadhkadhere.

In Midigale village, there is a functioning MCH but there are not enough medical supply. People move to Bossaso and Badhan to get proper medical services. The most common health problems, during the last month, as reported were diarrhoea and fever. Another new type of disease was also reported in the area with symptoms that include dry cough, nose and mouth bleeding and vomiting (containing some blood). According to the key informants, the main causes of death for the last month were diarrhoea, hunger, malnutrition and the new disease described above.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):**

In Hadhkadhere, there is no permanent strategic water source. The only available water source in the settlement is a seasonal river that dries up in a short period of time. Currently, people depend on water trucking from Buran Boreholes which is around 50 Km from the settlement supported by Ministry of water. Each barrel of waters costs 4 dollars at the site and this is too expensive for the vulnerable and destitute families. The water trucking does not also look to last long. ACTED provided 360 soaps for 30 households to improve hygiene. It is also involved in hygiene promotion through the dissemination of hygiene messages to the targeted households. Although water availability is limited, families wash their hands using water and soap. If the drought continues and water trucking stops, hygiene and sanitation can become poor and cause diseases outbreaks.

Similarly, Midigale has no permanent water source but has one shallow well with hard water. They fetch fresh water from the 120 km source and a barrel of water costs 6 dollars. Currently, IOM is implementing water trucking in partnership with the ministry of water in villages that include Midigale, Hubeera, Olheed and Xidh xidh. However, the demand for water is too high compared to the supply. Some IDP families in the village share latrines with the host community and others practice open defecation as they do not have their own latrines.

### **Protection:**

There are no reports of insecurity and lack of safety for girls, women, boys and men in the assessed areas. Similarly, no incidents of property looting were reported. There are around twenty persons with specific needs and other vulnerabilities (3persons with mental illnesses; 13 elderly persons; and 4 persons with disabilities). People can freely move within the settlement and to other places as well. As reported by the key informants, family separation and domestic violence exist in the sites, and drought and hunger are some of the driving factors that could further exacerbate the existing vulnerabilities.

### **Shelter and Non-food Items**

Shelter and non-food items are limited in the area and are among the major needs. ACTED provided non-food items (one plastic sheet, two blankets, one mat and one solar torch per household) for only 30 HHs and the remaining families do not have shelter items. The most common shelter type in Hadhkadhere settlement is Somali buuls constructed from worn out clothes. Some of the households share the shelter with other families and that brought overcrowding. In the last month, there were some families that evacuated their buuls due to the prevailing drought and moved to other places to sustain their lives.

In Midigale village, most of the people live in houses made up of grass and sticks, plastic sheets and buuls. There are also some permanent homes. IDPs displaced due to the drought from surrounding areas fled to Midigale and share houses with other families. Most of them don't have basic non-food items and no organization has so far distributed NFIs to this village.

### **Education:**

There is no formal governmental education system in Hadhkadhere. However, there is a small school which is run by the diaspora. There are around 35 students in this school. It has three teachers, and two of them receive salaries and the remaining one works voluntarily. All school-aged children attend school now; however, if the drought becomes worse, many families may move to other places and many children might drop out of school. As confirmed by community leaders, the number of students were 42 just months ago and now reduced to 35 as people migrated to other areas. In Midigale, around half of school-aged boys and girls do not attend school because of hunger and lack of cash to pay school fees as reported by the key informants.

#### **CCCM:**

Hadhkadhere settlement is currently supported by ACTED through an integrated CCCM/WASH/S/NFIs project, but as the site is already received limited assistance and the drought condition is worsening, the humanitarian situation is also deteriorating and there are needs for a broader range of services. The number of IDPs is increasing and that is having a large impact on the ability of displaced communities to cope with the limited existing resources.

## **5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Awdal Region:**

The assessed villages (Abdi Gedi, Hadayta and Gargaara) in Awdal have long suffered from recurrent droughts, cyclone Sagar, and the Jiilaal and present droughts in a persistent manner. The impacts of these disasters have been huge on the communities residing in the coastal areas of Somaliland. The humanitarian situation looks deteriorating day by day. In fact, a lot of infrastructural rehabilitation works have been done through SHF funding as well as funding from other donors after the devastating cyclone Sagar of May 2018 and peoples' hopes were re-established. Water infrastructures were rehabilitated (Abdi Gedi, Lughaya, etc.) and water is available in most areas covered by the assessment except the Hadayta village.

Most communities in the Lughaya district largely depend on humanitarian assistance for their food security. Restocking as well as support in fishing activities are needed in both Lughaya and Zayla districts to restore the livelihoods of communities. The Hadayta people were displaced from their place of origin and they solely survive on food donation from humanitarian organizations. They have lost most of their livestock due to Sagar cyclone and the remaining once are very weak due to the current drought. Water access is limited due to lack of water source in the village. They need borehole or extension of water from Abdi Gedi village (3 kms away) through pipelines. Access to health is also limited as there is no health facility in the settlement. The protection concern for physical safety and security is prominent in the area due to widespread attacks of Hyena, killing both humans and livestock in the settlement. People are requesting mesh wires to protect children and animals from being killed by hyenas every day. People with specific needs also require protection support including psychosocial counselling, prevention of and response to GBV services and assistive devices. Women lack equal representation in the governance structure and their views are not represented in the decision making. The settlement committees are also not oriented to the age, gender and diversity consideration in data collection, decision making, and provision of assistance. Around 6 IDP HHs are reported to be living in the open and require shelter assistance. Families in the settlement also require NFIs such as Jerry cans, blankets and kitchen sets.

IDPs in Gargaara require humanitarian assistance (food) given their limited access to it. Some IDPs that live in the open require shelter assistance. Most families in the settlement also require NFIs such as Jerry cans, blankets and kitchen sets. Children from poorer families are unable to afford to buy school uniforms and they need support. Farming assistance (farm tools and water pumps) is the major needs of the IDPs as well as the host community in Gargaara village (as prioritized by themselves). The community say that there exists a potentiality for agricultural production as some water is available for irrigation from the stream that runs in the village. Families also reported the loss of their livestock, the mainstay of their livelihood, due to droughts and cyclone Sagar.

Provision of Camp Management services in IDPs settlements would support the community governance structure in participating to humanitarian assistance and coordinating humanitarian services provided to displaced population as well as enhance a more fair age, gender and diversity composition of the community structures. Camp Management support to existing IDPs settlements would also facilitate gathering of information on on-going displacements trends, as with the drought conditions worsening, more IDPs are expected to join.

### **Sahil Region:**

In Bullaxaar village, the urgent need is water. The village gets water from a borehole which is 18 kilometres away. Unfortunately, recently they said the dynamo which pumps water broke down and the borehole not functioning. The Dynamo needs to be repaired urgently as the entire people rely on the borehole. The water prices also so high (8.5 US dollars /barrel) and the communities are unable to afford. The food security is also pressurized by the arrival of drought & cyclone displaced IDPs. Drug supply is also limited in the MCHs. On the other hand, a lot of IDPs in Bullaxaar live in the open and require shelter & NFIs assistance.

### **Maroodijeh Region:**

The Hawd of Hargeisa, particularly Salahaley, Farawayne and Baligubadle, and the Darasalaam village have low food security situation since the entire livelihood received very few showers of rains and the situation may deteriorate in the case of further delays to the Gu rains. Thus, if assistance must be delivered, these areas are hot spots as pastoral destitution is very high and immediate assistance is required. Estimates of population in need are around 90,000 beneficiaries (15,000 HHs) in the three villages.

The livestock body condition remains poor across the area and there is a need for livestock treatment to prevent further loss to the main source of livelihood among these pastoralists (livestock and by-product sales).

Water availability in the area is very poor and very few pockets that received rains received the influx of people seeking water for people and livestock. This necessitates the provision of clean water to the communities to prevent the outbreak of AWDs and other water-related diseases - especially among children, women and the elderly. Assistance is also needed for the rehabilitation of water sources, construction of water reservoirs and harvesting rainwater.

### **Togdheer Region:**

The drought condition is deteriorating with every passing day in the assessed districts of Buhoodle and Odweyne and other parts of Togdheer region. Food and water scarcities prevail in all villages. Regular and close monitoring of the situation is, therefore, needed in all assessed villages. Moreover, timely response to the affected areas in terms of the priority needs that include drinking water, food and health care are also highly recommended. While only one case of family separation was reported in the assessed villages, the presence of persons with specific needs particularly persons with disabilities, female headed households, older persons with no family support and large and poor families are reported thus requiring protective services.

### **Sool Region:**

The availability of water in the two assessed districts is limited and not suitable for human consumption. People buy their drinking water with 6 -10 US dollars per barrel which is beyond the reach of the poor and destitute families. Communities mention that the currently available water in the two districts cannot last for more than a month as almost all the traditional water infrastructures such as berkads and catchments have dried up in all locations. More than 62.5% of the respondents interviewed had no latrines and use open defecation.

In terms of food security, most of the residents visited didn't receive any humanitarian assistance in the last 3 months. Vulnerable households lack access to adequate household income to buy water and food. Access to ambulance services for referral purposes is also non-existent. There is no proper mechanism of disposing medical wastes in operational health facilities.

Boys and girls living in IDP locations spend most of their time to collect water and firewood travelling to far distances. This situation keeps away children from attending schools and increases the likelihood of child abuses. Families have not also received any NFIs assistance for the last one year. It was mentioned by communities that, in the last three months, an estimated 5045 HHs joined IDP settlements in Taleh and Huddun districts due to drought. In most assessed areas, livestock were decimated by the ravaging drought, pasture remains depleted, and the remaining livestock has poor body conditions and are unsaleable in the local markets.

The recurrent displacement in Sool region because of the inter-clan conflict and the drought situation has increased the existing vulnerabilities of communities thus increasing the protection risks such as lack of access to essential services, domestic violence, family separation, risk of SGBV and lack of specialized services for persons with specific needs.

The below are key issues need to be addressed to save lives in Sool region:

- Distribution of cash relief to drought-affected communities and provisions of nutritious supplementary food rations and cereals.
- Drug supplies, medical equipment and staffing assistance in existing health facilities in both districts; support for the construction of health facilities (MCHs or Mobile Clinics) especially in IDP locations and rehabilitation of Hudun and Taleh MCHs; provision ambulances for referral purposes; provision of nutrition and school feeding programs in all the assessed areas to combat the prevailing high malnutrition; construction of latrines in IDP areas; and support in managing medical wastes in all the health facilities.
- Water trucking and water purification drugs assistance provision; promotion of sanitation and hygienic practices among the IDP communities; rehabilitation of shallow wells, boreholes, Berkads and other strategic water points; and drilling new boreholes, wherever appropriate, to improve water availability.
- Empowering local community leaders and linking them with law enforcement agencies.
- Protective services for women, children and persons with specific needs.
- Construction of temporary shelters for IDPs and provisions of Non-food items.
- Provision of teaching and learning materials, and construction of additional classrooms at most schools; and
- Provision of capacity development assistance to IDP settlement committees and installing a proper Camp Coordination and Camp Management mechanisms at all IDP settlements assessed; and awareness-raising at all IDP settlements on basic rights and access to services

### **Sanaag Region:**

In Ceelafweyn and Ceerigaabo districts, the pastoralists are migrating in search of pasture and water because of two consecutive years of poor rainfall & drought. The drought situation is compounded by deforestation, overgrazing, population growth and lack of alternative livelihoods. The loss of livestock is further aggravated by the increasing deforestation for charcoal production (which remains the most common coping strategy amongst those who have lost their herds). Most displaced communities are food insecure and children are malnourished.

The following are observed during the assessment in the two districts:

- There is a high magnitude of migration & displacement of pastoral communities.
- The livestock body condition is very poor.
- There are a large number of malnourished children in areas visited, who are in stunted

- High level of school dropouts and closures due to migration.
- In Ceerigaabo town, returnees/IDPs are facing increasing eviction threats and lack of shelter
- Most families lack access to enough water for drinking, cooking, bathing and washing their clothes
- Health facilities are lacking in most villages assessed
- Rural IDPs sites are often underserved and only rarely and sporadically targeted by humanitarian assistance
- Protection risks of domestic violence, family separation, forced evictions, SGBV incidents while women fetch water, and lack of services for persons with specific needs were observed.

Moreover, the severe drought conditions have induced large population displacements in Karasharka, Lasdomare, Shurke, Dhoob & Ceerigaabo town. The on-going migration also resulted in the rapid depletion of pasture and water resources and the situation can lead to further livestock deaths. Therefore, the following priority issues need to be addressed to save lives in these areas:

- Food distribution to poor household & IDPs in Ceerigaabo & Ceelafweyn districts.
- Provision unconditional cash relief & NFIs to the most vulnerable HHs in the area
- Provision of fodder for livestock & trucking water in the areas hit by the drought
- Construction of water facilities/structures (boreholes, Big to medium dams & rehabilitation of Berkeds)
- Support interventions that improve animal quality & health and supply of drugs.
- Support small-scale local businesses for income generation and promotion of village savings and loan mechanisms.
- Provision of health & nutrition services.
- Protective services for women, children and persons with specific needs.

In Badhan district, the community leaders at Hadhkadhere and Midigale indicate that their villages are among the neediest places in the area when it comes to humanitarian assistance. Below is the list of their priority needs.

- Water both emergency and sustainable sources
- Food security
- Shelter and non-food items
- Health and nutrition
- Education

The below gaps and priorities of communities in Badhan district need attention:

- Blanket distribution of relief food and food for work assistance.
- Cash transfer both conditional and unconditional cash.
- Restocking for the families that lost their animals.
- Water trucking to all locations of Badhan district with no permanent water source.
- Rehabilitation of existing water points and construction of new ones in consultation with communities and the ministry of water.
- Construction of communal latrines and sanitation facilities for the IDPs.
- Improving water supply in schools.
- Construction of shelters and distribution of NFI kits to IDPs.
- Provision of primary health care through MCHs and mobile clinic
- Implementing Nutrition Program in the health facilities and mobile clinics
- Provision of medical supply to the existing health facilities.
- Rehabilitation of existing classrooms in Schools.
- Provision of school feeding program to improve school enrollments.
- Provision of the sanitary pad for school going girls

- Provision of general protection, child protection, GBV response and HLP responses to address the existing vulnerabilities of communities in general and of persons with specific needs in particular to mitigate exacerbation of the protection risks.