

Humanitarian Situation Monitoring (HSM) Somalia

Key Findings Presentation from the Situation Overview of
Hard-to-reach areas in Central and Southern Somalia,
January 2022

10/04/22

Objectives

- To identify the cross-sectoral needs and vulnerabilities of populations in hard-to-reach (H2R) areas
- To provide up-to-date information on service provision and access in H2R areas.
- To map the main displacement patterns to and from H2R areas

Coverage

- H2R settlements in Bakool, Bay, Gedo, Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle, Middle Juba, Middle Shabelle
- Populations of interest: IDPs and host community members in hard-to-reach areas of Central and Southern Somalia

Methodology

- Area of Knowledge (AoK) approach
- Structured key informant interviews (KIIs)
- Semi-structured focus group discussions (FGDs)
- Purposive sampling
- Recall period of three months
- Findings aggregated at the settlement level, and presented at the hexagon level (12km radius) in maps



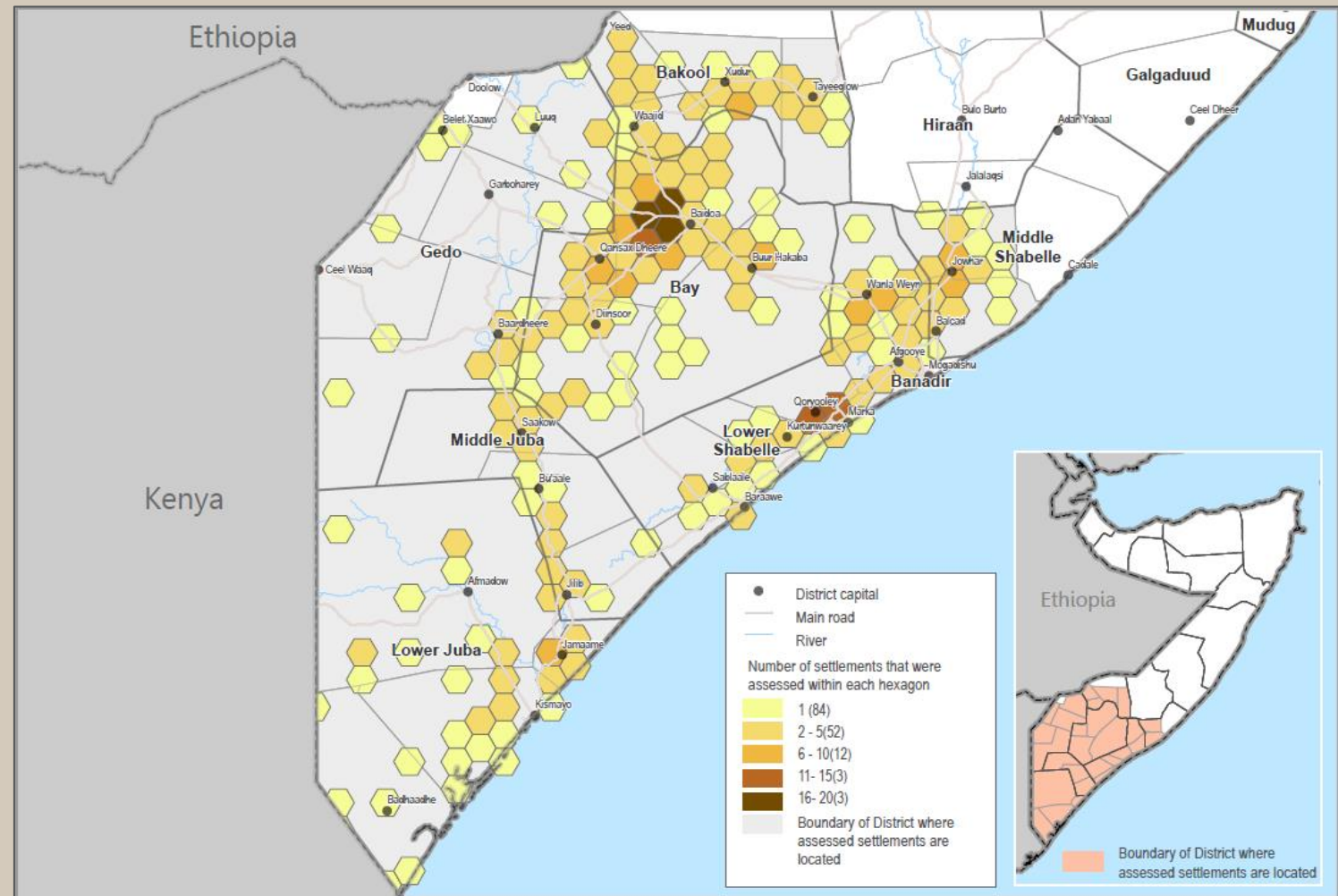
Methodological details

Methodology

- The assessment follows the Area of Knowledge (AoK) approach, built on structured interviews with purposefully sampled key informants (KIs) with recent knowledge (within 3 months) of a hard-to-reach settlement. From one up to three KIs were interviewed for each settlement, and findings were aggregated to the settlement level when more than one KI was interviewed.
- During this round, only 24% of KIs reported having visited the settlement themselves in the last month. When interpreting findings, caution and triangulation with other sources is recommended.
- Data was collected between the 1 December 2021 and 10 January 2022, with KIs and focus group discussion (FGD) participants interviewed in informal IDP sites around Baidoa, Kismayo and Mogadishu.
- 12 FGDs in total were held members of the displaced community in Baidoa, Kismayo and Mogadishu.



Coverage



KI Interviews

1,040

No. of Settlements

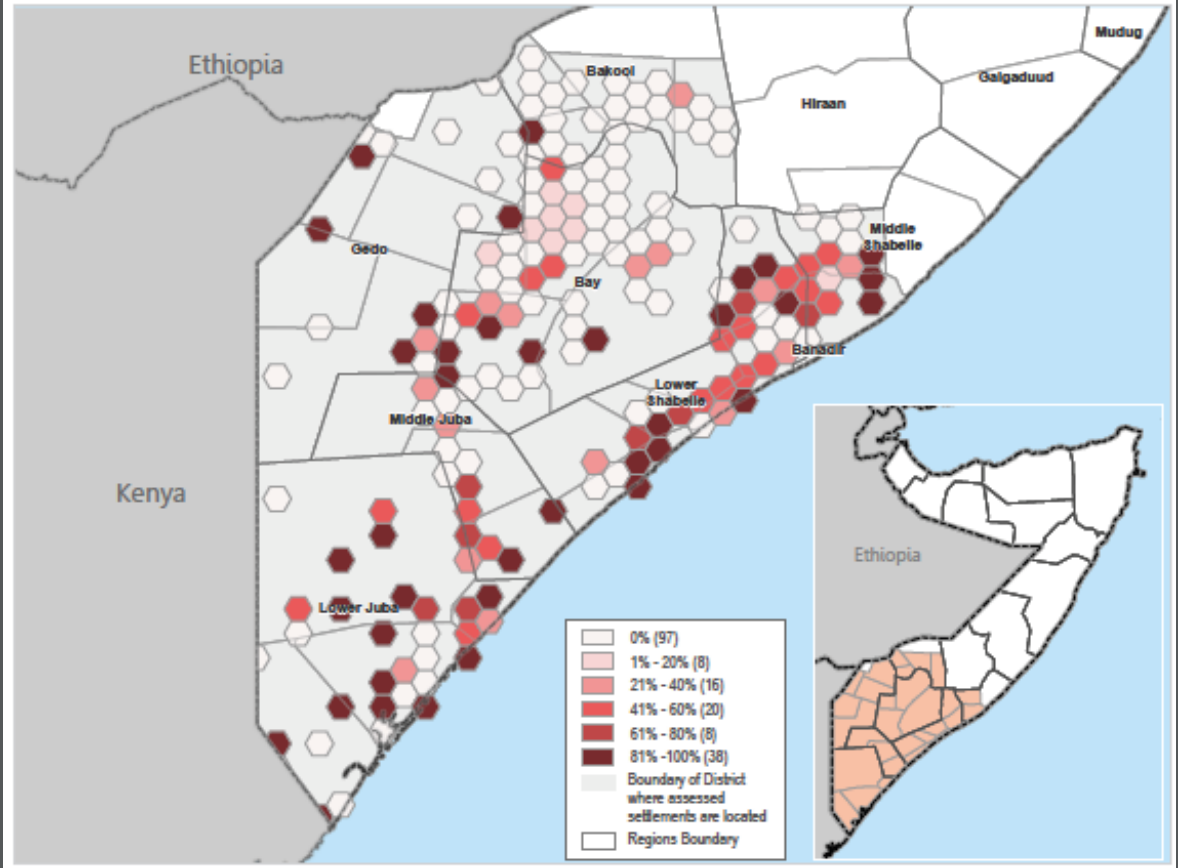
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DISPLACEMENT

Drought played a major part in displacement patterns reported over the three months prior to data collection.

- In the vast majority of assessed settlements (87%), drought was the primary reason why most people left, according to KIs.
- Further, across those settlements where presence of IDPs was reported (30%), the primary reason why IDPs had moved there was drought in an overwhelming majority of cases (86%).

Map 2. % of settlements where IDPs were reportedly present



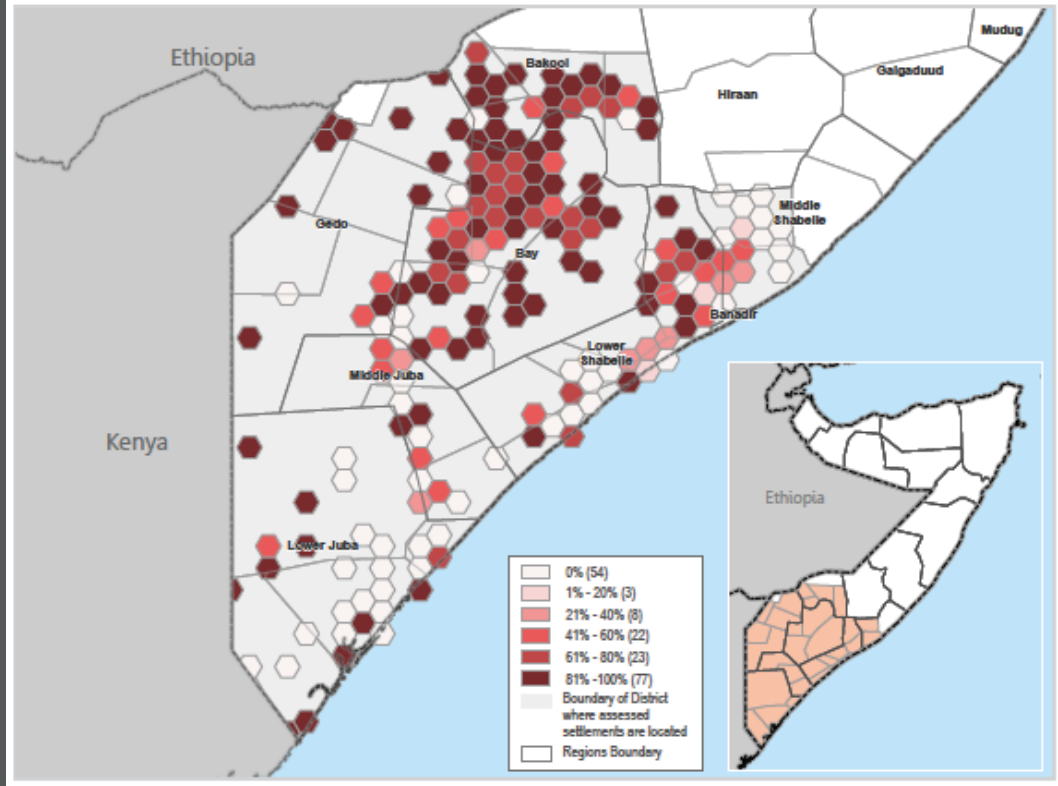
% of settlements by primary reported factor pushing residents to leave

Drought	87%	
Conflict	6%	
Lack of jobs	2%	

% of settlements by primary reported pull factor for IDPs to move to the settlement

Access to food	76%	
Access to water	64%	
Better security	19%	
Better access to services	17%	

Map 3. % of assessed settlements where protection incidents reportedly occurred in the three months prior to data collection.



% of settlements where people were reportedly able to leave their settlement of origin and return safely

Yes 68%
No 27%
No consensus 5%



% of settlements by type of protection incidents reported

Unofficial taxation	33%
Theft	26%
Conflict w/in settlement	13%
Sexual violence	8%
Abduction	7%

PROTECTION

Protection incidents occurring in the three months prior to data collection were reported in 64% of assessed settlements.

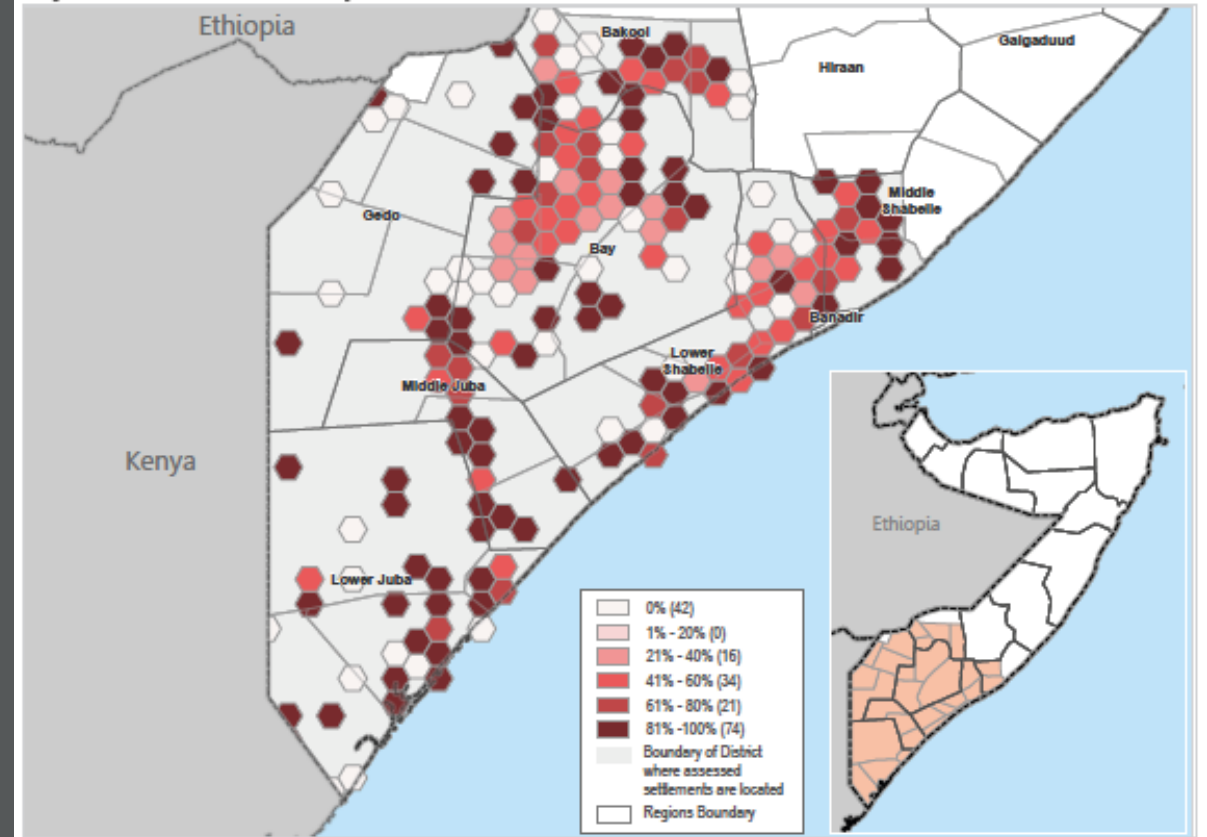
- Unofficial tax collection was the most commonly reported protection incident, reported in one-third of settlements (33%), followed by theft (26% of settlements).
- Protection incidents particularly affecting women were reported in over one fifth of assessed settlements (23%). Across these locations, marriages of girls under the age of 18, physical violence and killing were the most commonly reported types of incidents that had affected women.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Overall, most people were reportedly skipping two or more meals a day in over half of the assessed locations (58%).

- In general, findings suggest that people resorted to a variety of coping strategies when food was insufficient; these included borrowing from others, in over two thirds of settlements (70%).
- Relying on wild foods that are not normally part of the diet was a coping strategy in 14% of assessed settlements, as reported by KIs.

Map 5. % of settlements where most people were reportedly skipping 2 or more meals a day in the three months prior to data collection



% of settlements by main reported source of food



% of settlements by most commonly reported reason why people could not access sufficient food



% of settlements by type of items reportedly available in markets

Type of item	Available	Unavailable	No consensus
Food	84%	8%	7%
Fuel for cooking	33%	57%	10%
Livestock	29%	60%	11%
Tools for farming and seeds	13%	78%	9%
Soap	64%	26%	10%
Jerry cans	46%	44%	10%
Menstrual hygiene items	1%	92%	7%
Mosquito nets	5%	88%	7%
Clothes and materials for sewing	29%	61%	10%
Shoes	67%	23%	10%
Construction materials	9%	83%	9%

MARKETS

Prices of food items had reportedly increased in 88% of all assessed settlements in the month prior to data collection

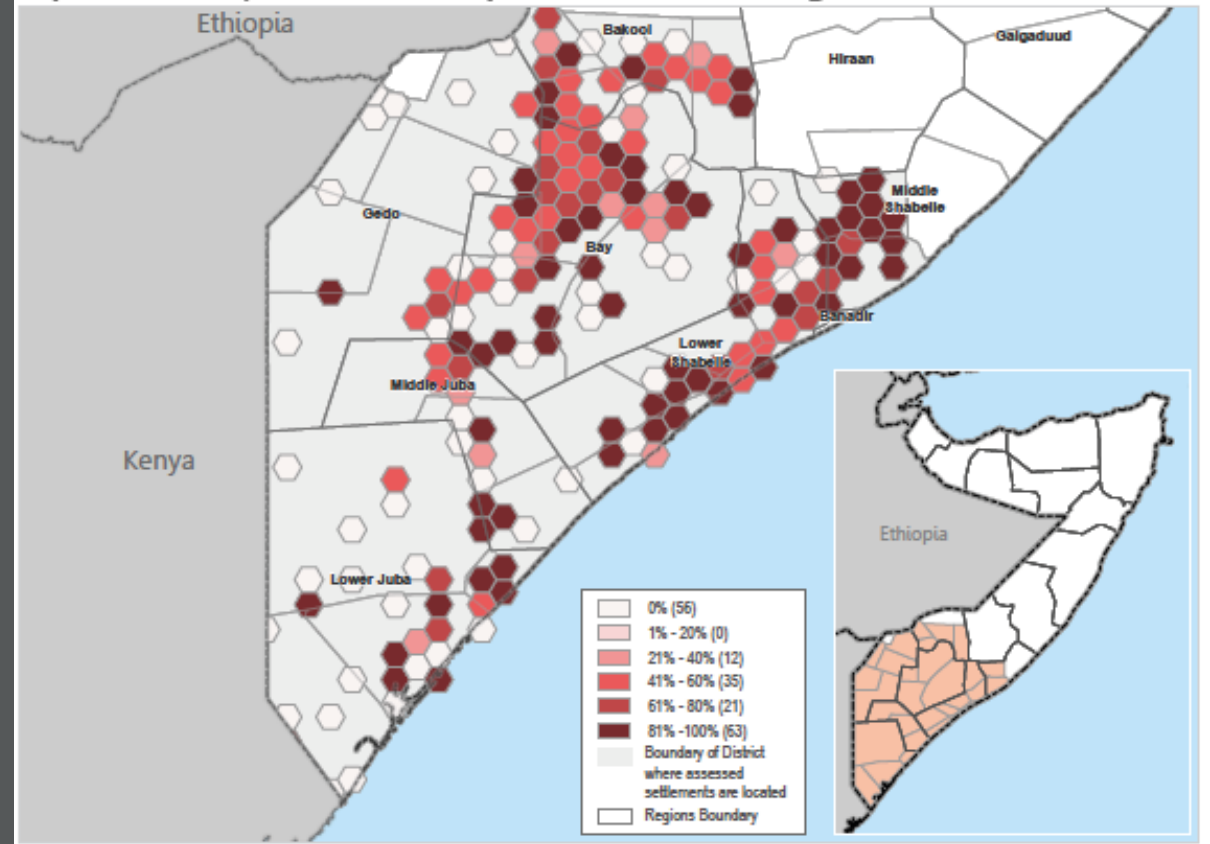
- Similar to food items, it was reported that non-food-item prices had increased in 91% of assessed settlements in the month prior to data collection, compared to the month before.
- **KIs in 6% of all assessed settlements reported that people had no access to markets.** Wherever markets were available or partly available (90% of locations), they were on average over 30 minutes away in a majority of cases (60%), on foot.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Water to meet daily needs was reportedly insufficient for most residents in an overwhelming majority of locations assessed (85%)

- Rivers or ponds were the main source of drinking water for most people in nearly half (45%) of the assessed settlements, followed by unprotected wells (13% of settlements).
- It reportedly took more than 30 minutes of walking to fetch drinking water in over two-thirds (69%) of assessed settlements.

Map 4. % of settlements where unimproved water sources (river/pond, *berkad*, unprotected well) were the main reported source of drinking water



% of settlements where the average reported time to fetch water was more than 30 minutes

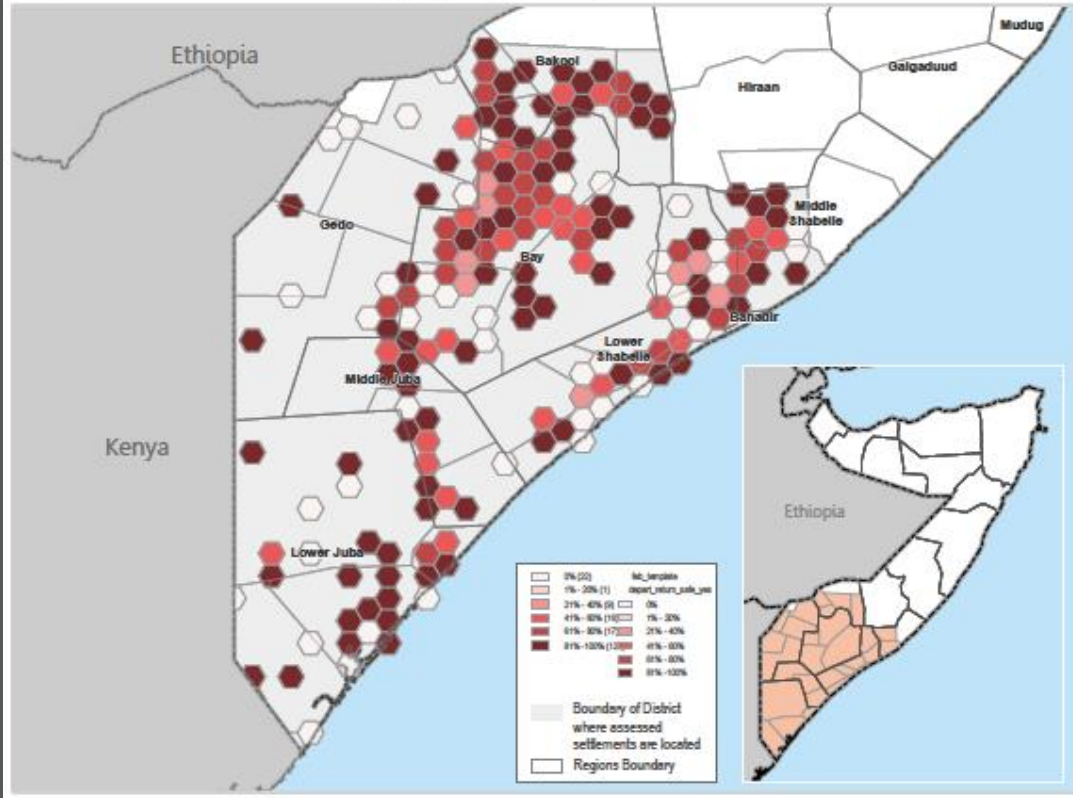
Yes 69%
No 23%
No consensus 8%



% of settlements by reported proportion of people accessing latrines

None 43%
Less than half 15%
Around half 34%
More than half/all 3%
No consensus 6%

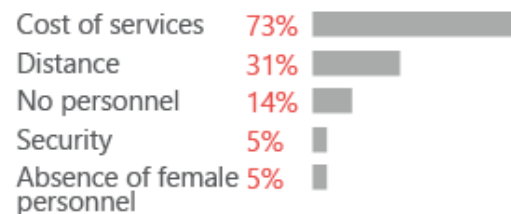
Map 6. % of settlements where people reportedly had no access to health care services



% of settlements by reported frequency of healthcare workers' visits to the settlement



% of settlements by main reported barriers to accessing healthcare



HEALTH

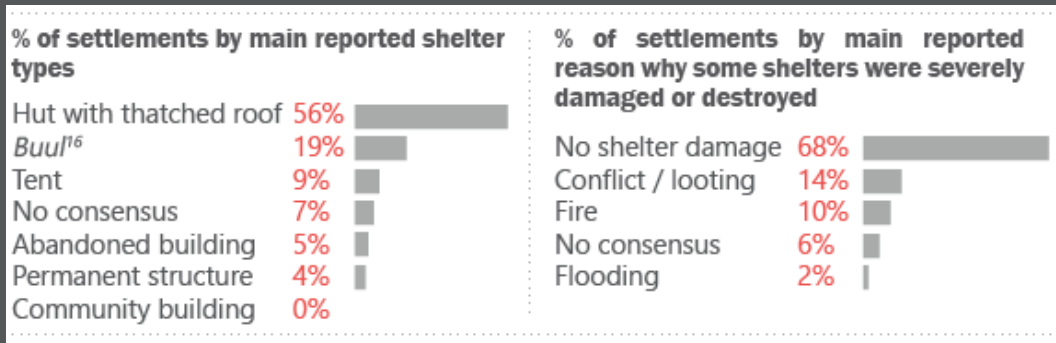
People in over two thirds of settlements reportedly had no access to health facilities or to health professionals in the three months prior to data collection.

- Wherever health facilities had reportedly been available to residents in the three months prior to data collection (23% of assessed settlements), in an overwhelming majority of cases these consisted of drugstores (70%).
- The most commonly reported barrier to accessing healthcare was the cost of services, followed by distance, as reported by KIs in 73% and 31% of the settlements, respectively.

SHELTER

KIs reported the presence of people living in the open air in 15% of the locations assessed.

In 26% of assessed settlements, KIs reported that some shelters had reportedly been destroyed or severely damaged, which they most commonly attributed to conflict or looting, and fire.

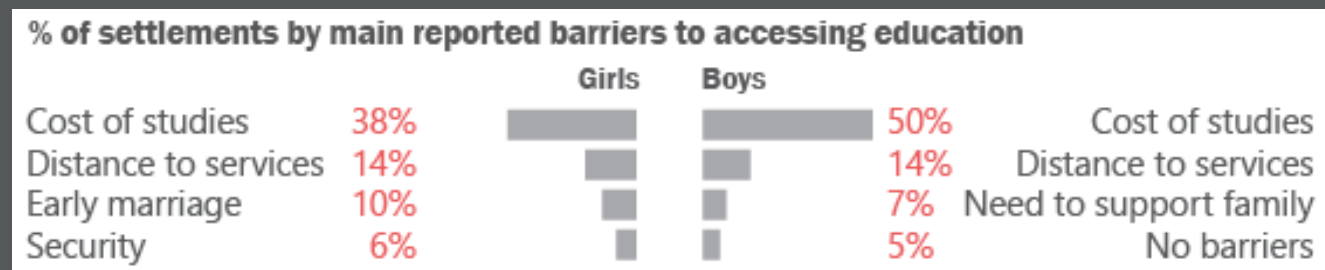


EDUCATION

No state-run or NGO-run school was available in 94% of locations.

It was reported that both boys and girls in 86% of locations had access to quranic schools

In 53% of those settlements where some form of education service was reportedly available, it reportedly took more than 30 minutes of walking to reach those facilities.

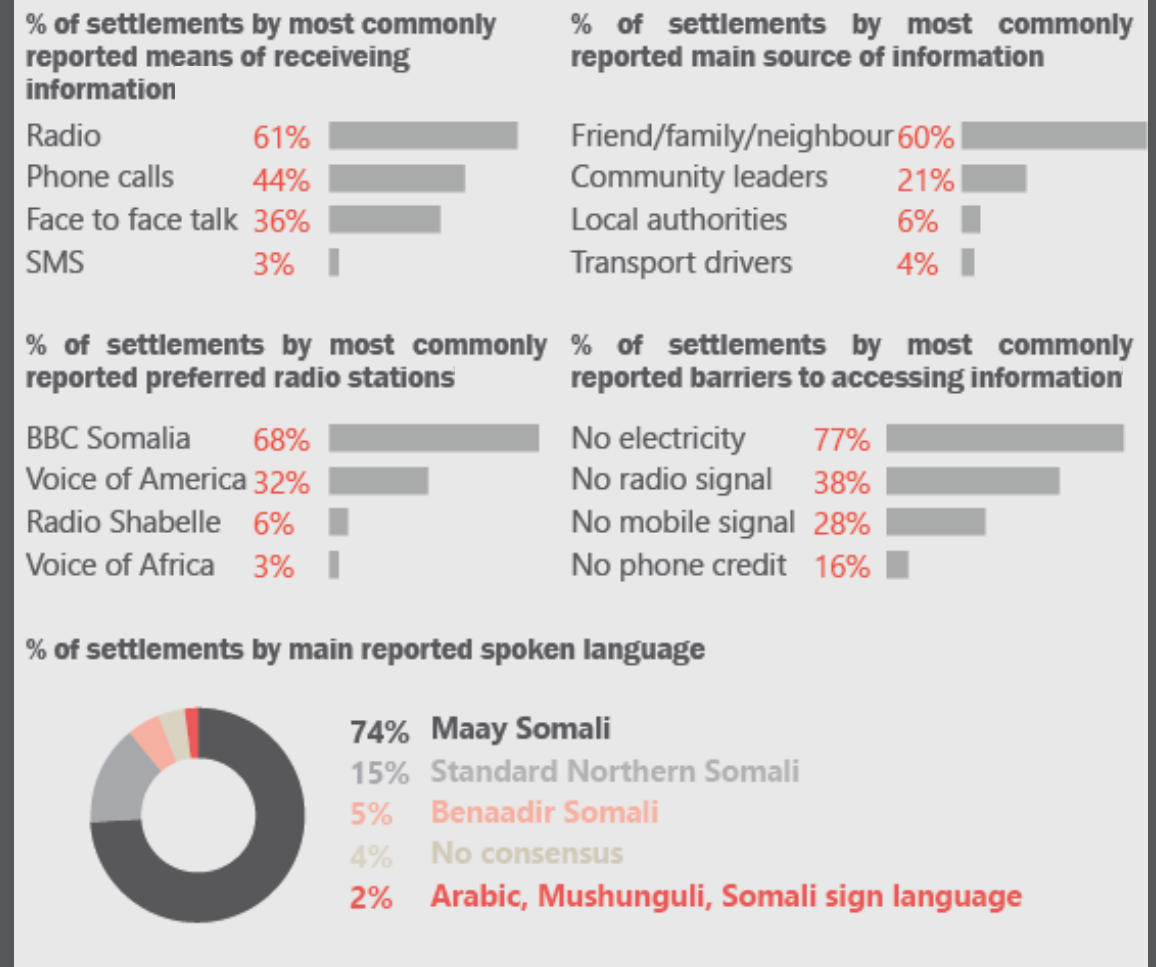


ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

FGD participants frequently mentioned food and water, along with health or education, as the most pressing needs

- However, several FGD participants went on to stress how the first priority was to improve the security situation, through peace building and attempting to open a dialogue between the authorities and armed groups, to restore humanitarian access.
- In almost all settlements (97%), KIs reported that the community had not received any kind of NGO support in the three months prior to data collection.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION





Overall

Drought-related findings

- The food security situation indicated by findings outlined earlier, and the fact that a third consecutive below-average rainfall season was experienced during this time,¹ **can be indicative of a disrupted growing season and of poor harvests due to adverse weather conditions.**
- FGD participants evoked cases in which people in the assessed areas were abandoning farms and losing their whole livestock due to drought, with displacement as a last resort coping mechanism.
- Although the data covers the October and November 2021 rainy season, water to meet daily needs was reportedly insufficient for most residents in an overwhelming majority of locations assessed (85%). Unimproved water sources were the main reported source of drinking water in more than half (60%) of the assessed settlements.
- Low water availability has to be understood in the context of rising water prices on markets,² and a lack of access to health services in the areas assessed, indicating a heightened vulnerability of residents to infections spread through contaminated drinking water and/or a lack of proper sanitation.

¹ Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit. Somalia Food Security Outlook Report for Feb-Sep 2022;

² Cash Working Group. Somalia Cash and Markets Quarterly Dashboard, October-December 2021



Overall

Drought-related findings

- According to some FGD participants, drought also played a part in increasing the prevalence of some protection incidents, in particular the collection of unofficial taxes in the form of requisition of livestock and agricultural produce, and theft. Indeed, some FGD participants reported resorting to displacement due to the increased pressure on their livelihood (loss of livestock due to drought and double taxation).
- **Overall, findings indicate that drought affected needs reported in assessed settlements, directly and indirectly, and eroded residents' coping capacity to face the protracted crisis, with FGD participants expressing strong concerns over persisting drought conditions which were "worsening day by day."**



Overall

Key Findings

Results overall suggest that access to food, water and basic services was significantly limited for the populations residing in the areas assessed in the three months prior to data collection, due to a combination of lack of services, protection concerns and drought conditions.

- Most people were reportedly skipping two or more meals a day in over half of the assessed locations (58%);
- Water to meet daily needs was insufficient for residents in an overwhelming majority of locations assessed (85%)
- Drought played a major role in displacement patterns, and was the primary reason why most people moved out of 87% of the assessed hard-to-reach communities
- KIs in 64% of assessed settlements reported that protection incidents had taken place in the 3 months prior to data collection.
- Access to basic services, such as healthcare and education was limited and, in almost all settlements (97%), KIs reported that no one had received any NGO support in the three months prior to data collection.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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