

DADAAB REFUGEES' INTENTIONS AND CROSS- BORDER MOVEMENT MONITORING

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NRC

NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

REACH An initiative of
IMPACT Initiatives
ACTED and UNOSAT

A black and white photograph of a refugee camp. In the foreground, a group of people, including children, are walking on a dirt path. To the left, there are several small, rectangular buildings with multiple windows. In the background, there are rolling hills under a clear sky. A large, vertical grey bar is positioned to the right of the number '01'.

01

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY



BACKGROUND

- Assessment triggered due to the need to strengthen the knowledge of future return intentions and movement patterns of the refugee population in Dadaab and along the Kenya-Somalia border.
- To understand refugees' intentions to return and monitor critical displacement patterns in Dadaab and along the Kenya-Somalia border.
- REACH conducted household level intentions surveys in Dadaab refugee complex (Ifo, Hagadera and Dagahaley), Individual interviews at Dhobley district (Dhobley town, Degelema and Tuula-Barwaqo crossing points), and at Bus termini in Dadaab, as well as Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) in Dadaab camps and in Dhobley.
- Findings presented here are from February 2019 assessment, unless otherwise indicated.



BACKGROUND - LIMITATIONS

- At all instances, data collection took place during the day. For the individual interviews at the Kenya-Somalia border and at the bus termini in Dadaab, as many persons traveled at night or early in the morning, especially those entering into Dadaab, it is possible that enumerators didn't interview some individuals."
- FGD participants in Dhobley said that individuals travelled early in the morning and in the evening because the weather during such periods was more conducive to road travelling.



METHODOLOGY – HH SURVEY

- Three rounds of Household (HH) surveys were conducted: in July 2018, November 2018 and February 2019. HHs were sampled at a 95% level of confidence and 5% margin of error. A total of 381 HHs were interviewed in February 2019. (Dagahaley 126, Hagadera 127, IFO 128).
- First round of intentions monitoring was conducted in the three camps of Dadaab refugee complex (Dagahaley, Hagadera, Ifo) from 11 to 13 July 2018, a second round took place from 14 to 16 November 2018 and the final round from 11 to 13 February 2019.
- Household level questionnaire covered several issues including, registration, documentation, push and pull factors for displacement, likelihood of return, previous returns and cyclical movements.



METHODOLOGY – INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS

- Individual interviews were conducted with persons crossing the Kenya-Somalia border in Dhobley district (at Dhobley, Degelema and Tuula-Barwaqo crossing points) from 11 to 16 November 2018 and from 10 to 16 February 2019.
- Total of 1235 persons were interviewed at the Kenya-Somalia border crossing points.
- Individual interviews were also conducted at the bus termini in Dadaab (Hagadera bus terminus, Ifo bus terminus and Dagahaley bus terminus), with a total of 135 persons interviewed in these 3 locations.



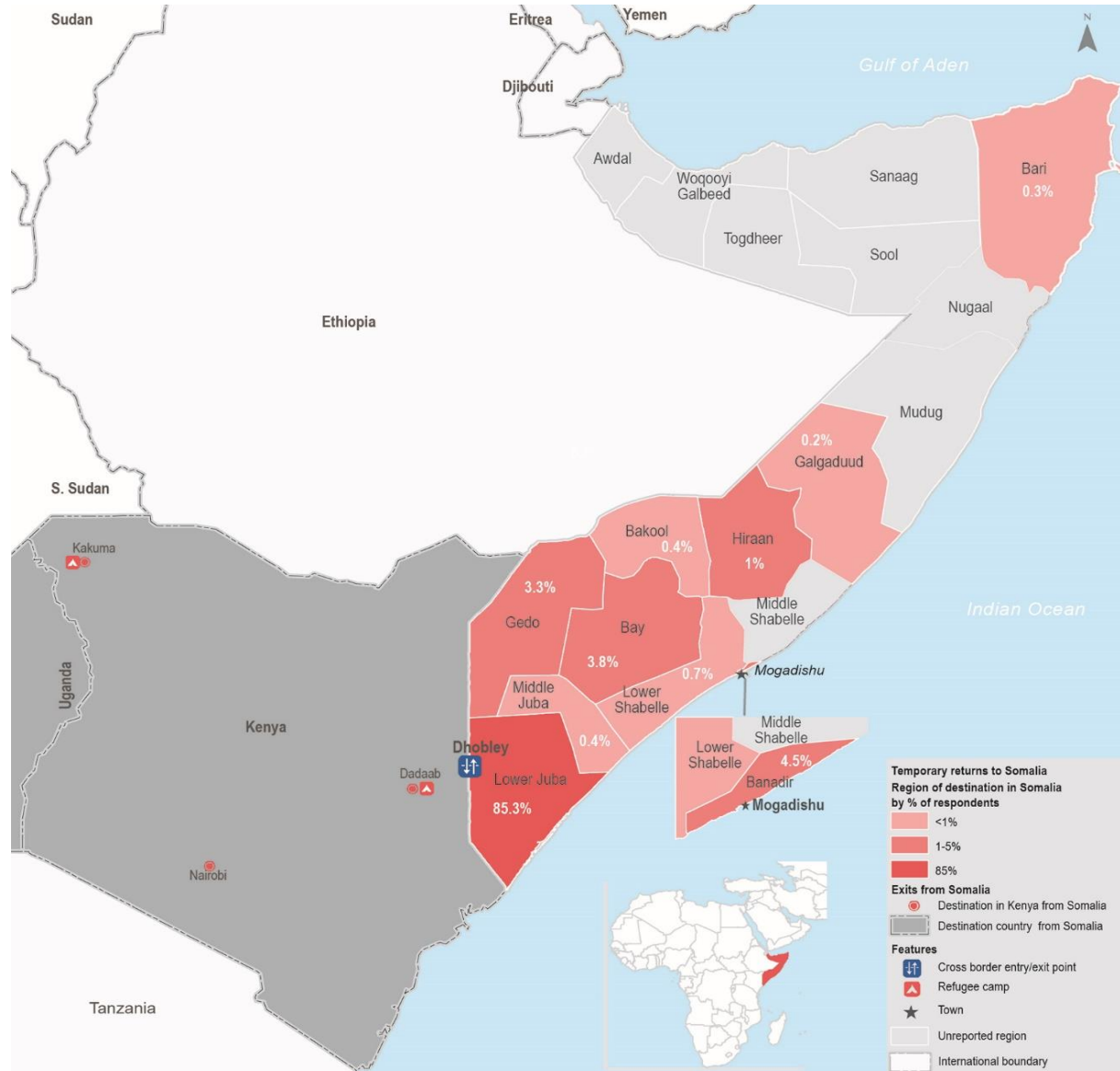
METHODOLOGY – FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (FGD)

- Two FGDs were conducted in each of the three Dadaab camps, one with women and another with men, from 14 to 16 November 2018 and from 14 to 16 February 2019.
- At each of the 3 assessed border points (Dhobley, Degelema and Tuula-Barwaqo), two FGDs (one with men and another with women) were conducted on 10 November 2018 and 9 February 2019.
- The FGDs were mainly qualitative, to complement the quantitative data obtained from the HH survey.



02 | MAIN FINDINGS

Cross border movement and destination locations





PUSH FACTORS

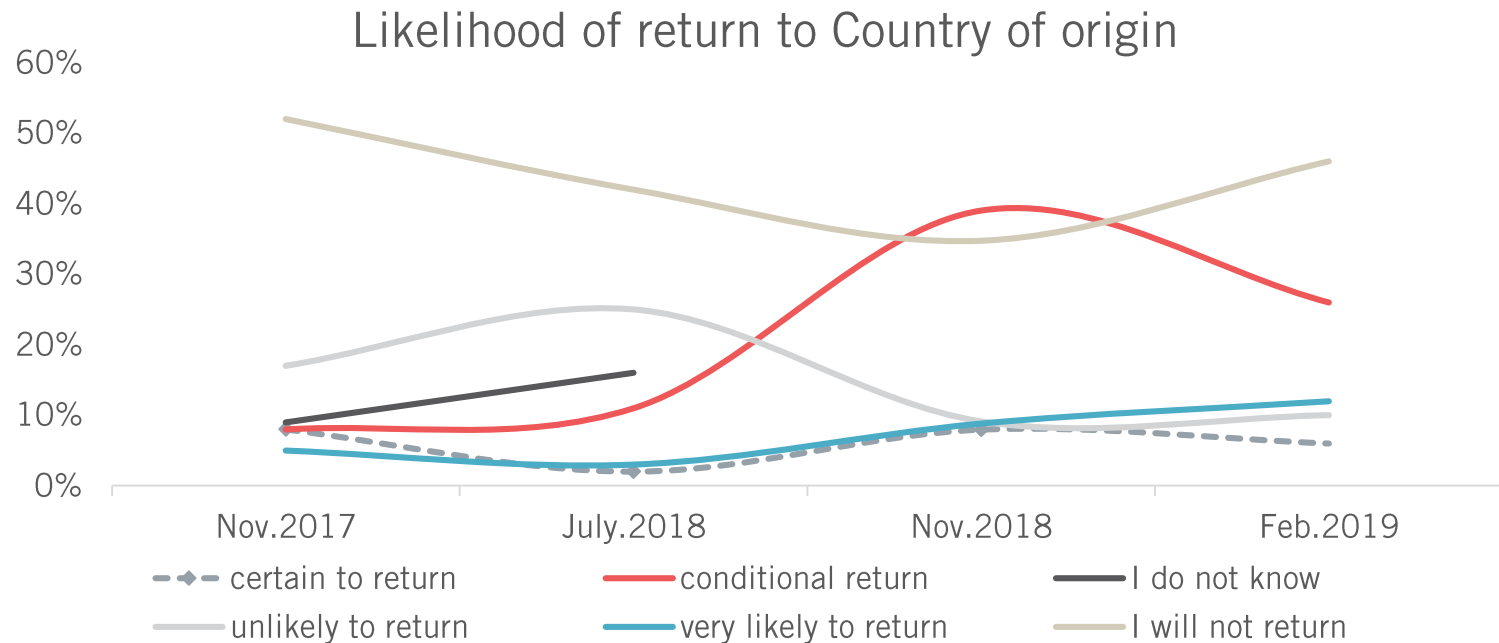
- Across the 3 rounds of intentions monitoring in Dadaab camps, the top reported push factors by households leaving their countries of origin were:
 - 1) Actual conflict in the community
 - 2) Fear of conflict in the community
 - 3) Drought
 - 4) Arrival of armed groups
 - 5) Lack of livelihood opportunities
- 32% of the respondents interviewed in Dhobley, who were exiting Somalia, reported that they left due to fear of conflict.
- FGD participants in Dadaab cited clan conflict, drought and lack of education as the main push factors from their countries of origin.



PULL FACTORS

- Across the 3 rounds of intentions monitoring in Dadaab camps, the top reported pull factors to Dadaab camps were:
 - 1) No conflict in Dadaab
 - 2) Availability of humanitarian assistance
 - 3) Law and order
 - 4) Access to education services
 - 5) Access to refugee status
 - 6) Availability of income
- FGD participants in Dadaab cited availability of education and security as primary pull factors for choosing to come to Dadaab.

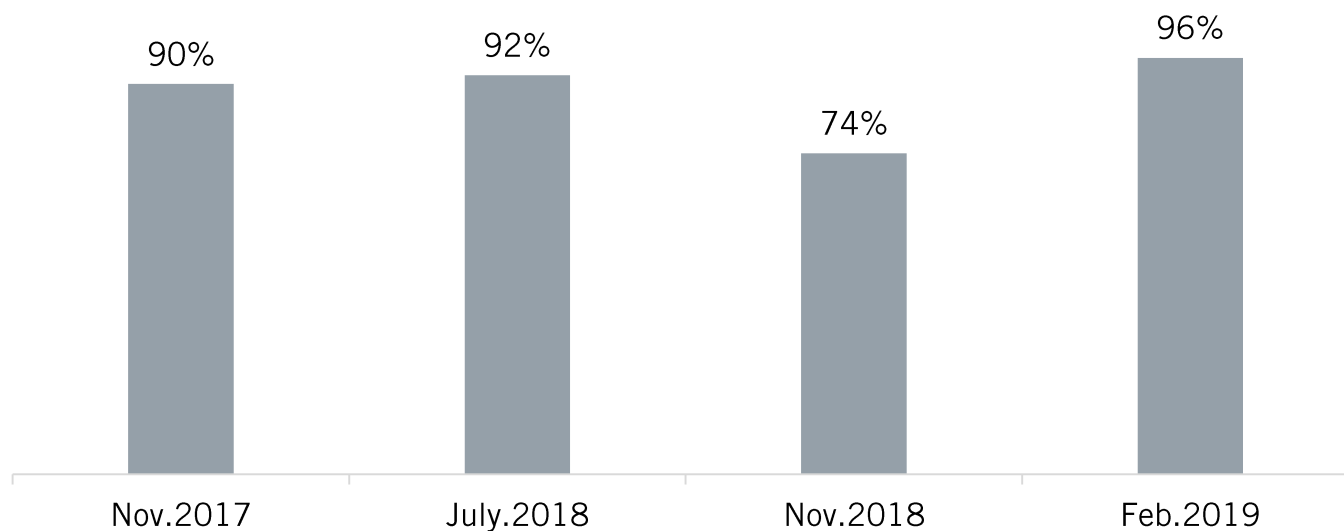
INTENTIONS



- 80% of HHs that said they were certain to return, had arrived in Dadaab between 1992 and 2008.
- 43% of HHs that arrived in Dadaab between 2011 and 2015, said they will not return while 25% cited conditional return and only 3% said they will return.

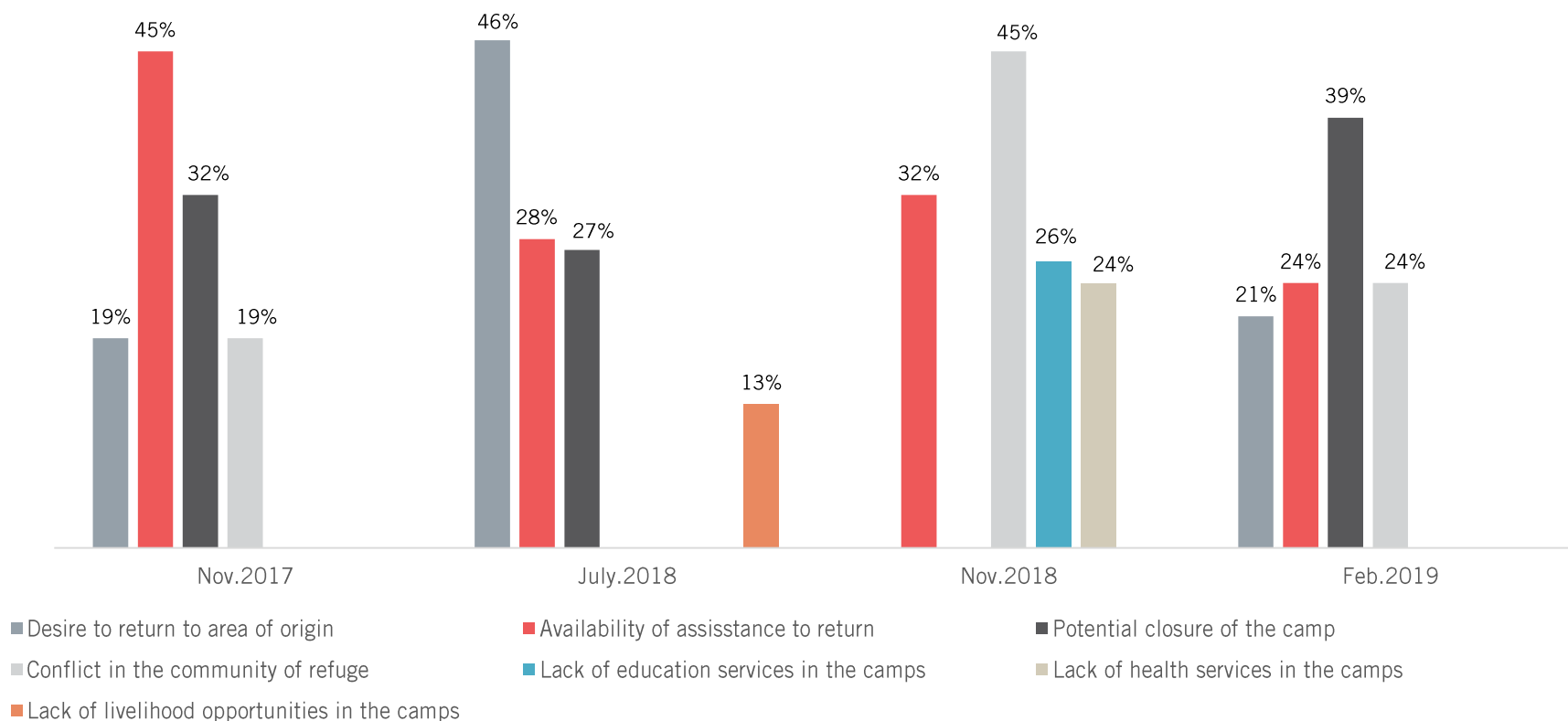
INTENTIONS

% of HHs who would return to their district of origin, for the HHs that were certain or likely to return to their country of origin



INTENTIONS

Reported reasons for considering to return to Somalia, as reported by % of HHs who were certain or likely to return to their country of origin



Note: HHs could select multiple answers

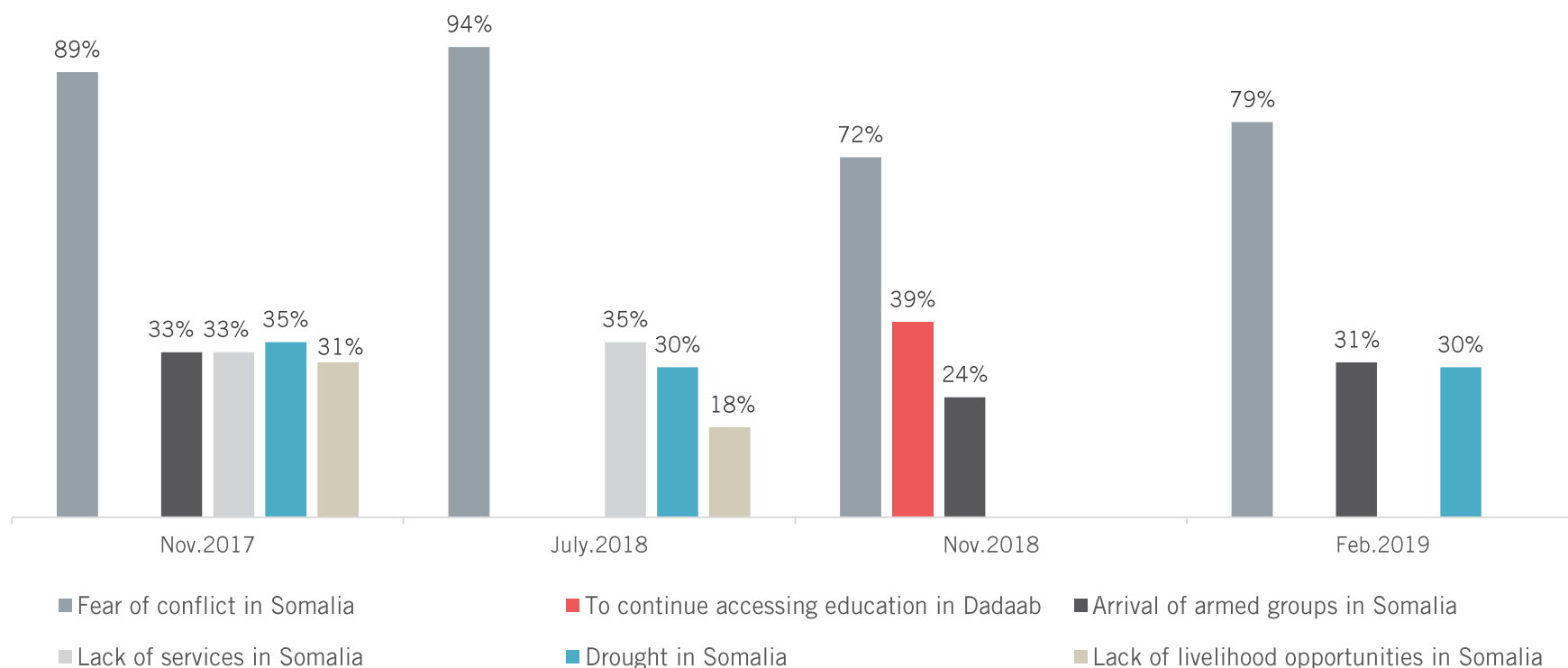
INTENTIONS



- FGD participants in Dadaab camps reported that most members considering to return would do so due to a desire to go back to their home country, to have freedom of movement and due to potential closure of Dadaab camps.
- FGDs in Dadaab camps and at the border points revealed different reasons between men, women and youth for intending to return to their country of origin.
- Most men would return to do farming and check on their spouses living in their country of origin, whereas some women, particularly those who are married to Kenyan host community members, would return temporarily to Somalia to visit their other relatives. Other women would return to join their husbands. Most youths would return to Somalia to get married or search for jobs

INTENTIONS

Reported reasons for not considering to return to Somalia, as reported by % of HHs who were not willing to return or were unlikely to return.



Note: HHs could select multiple answers

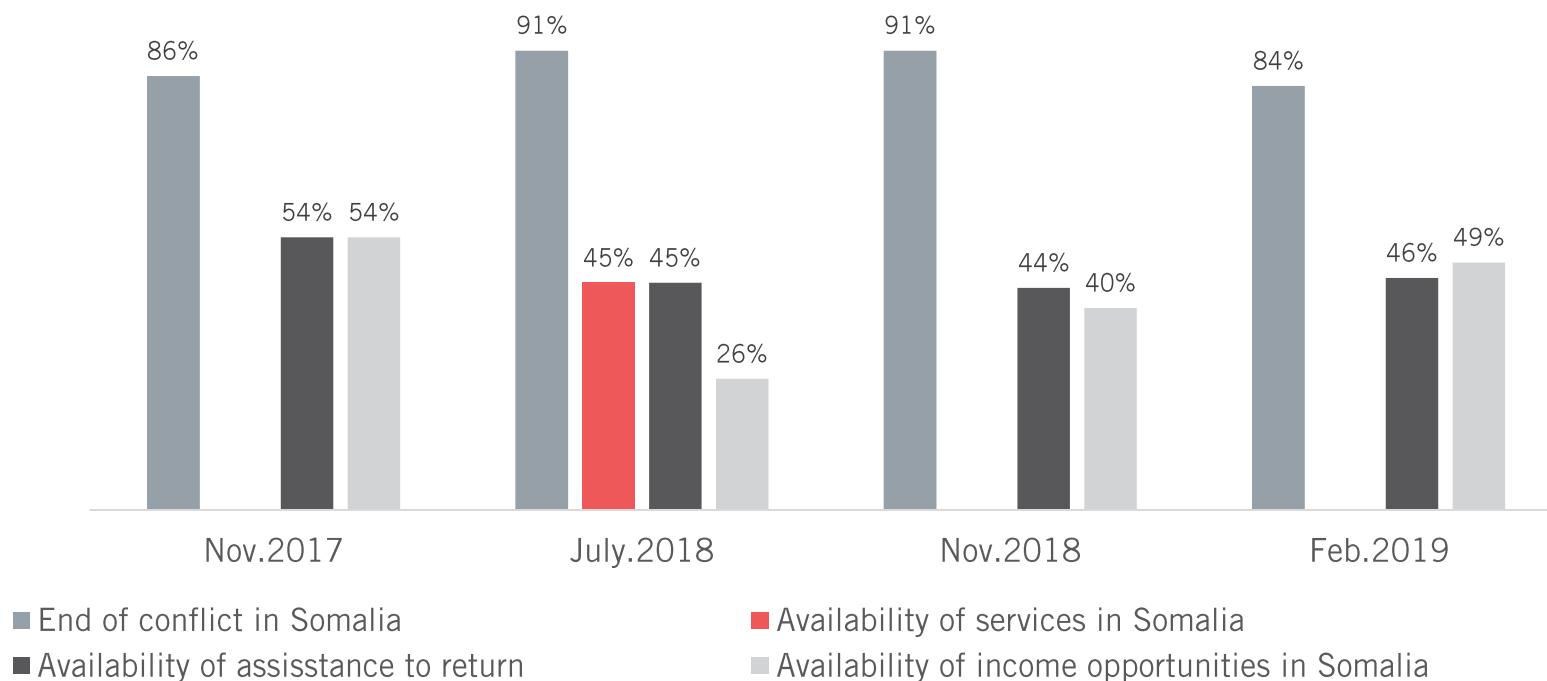


INTENTIONS

- FGD participants in Dadaab camps reported that most people in the camps would not return to Somalia due to conflict and lack of services, such as education and health.
- FGD participants in Dadaab reported that if members of their community returned, not all members of a household would return at the same time, as some members, especially the youth, would remain in Dadaab to finish their education.

INTENTIONS - WHAT WOULD INCREASE WILLINGNESS TO RETURN TO SOMALIA

Reported factors that would increase willingness to return to Somalia, as reported by HHs that were unlikely to return or not willing to return



Note: HHs could select multiple answers



RETURNS TO SOMALIA

- 5% of HHs reported that they had members who returned to Somalia since first arriving in Dadaab camps. 81% of these had returned to Somalia for a temporary visit.
- 29% of the individuals interviewed at Dhobley, who were entering Kenya from Somalia, said that they were in Dadaab before and had returned to Somalia, usually for a temporary visit.
- 33% of the persons interviewed at Dhobley, who were entering Somalia from Dadaab, said they were not registered for voluntary repatriation, mainly because the process takes too long or they did not want to lose their refugee status.
- 29% of the people exiting Somalia and entering Kenya had been in Kenya before and had previously returned to Somalia for a temporary trip.

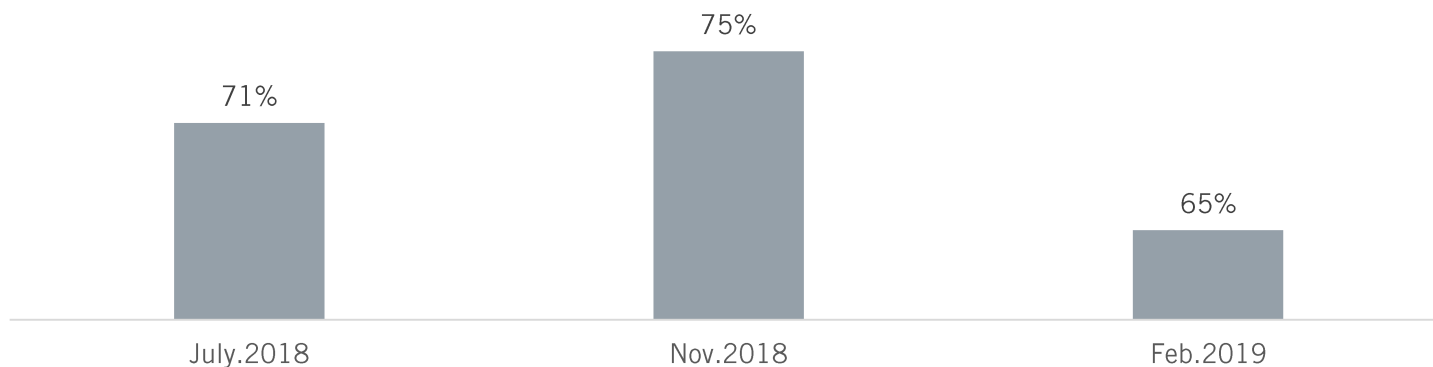


VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

- 88% of the HHs that had members who returned to Somalia from Dadaab camps said that these members did not register for voluntary repatriation (Volrep) with UNHCR or authorities in Kenya, mainly because they had planned it as a temporary return.
- The majority of people interviewed at the bus termini in Dadaab who were going to Somalia (99%) had not registered for Volrep. Most of these spontaneous returns were planned as temporary, with many of these returnees citing plans to come back to Dadaab.
- FGD participants in Dadaab cited that most spontaneous returnees did not wish to register for Volrep since they were only planning for a temporary return, did not want to lose their refugee status, or the voluntary repatriation process was perceived to take too long.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

% of HHs that would return to Somalia through voluntary repatriation, for those who were likely to return to Somalia:



Top reported reasons for HHs not intending to return to Somalia through voluntary repatriation, among the interviewed HHs in Dadaab who were likely to return:

- 49% Do not want to lose refugee status
- 28% Would plan as temporary return
- 19% Not eligible for voluntary repatriation



"RISKS FOR SPONTANEOUS RETURNEES

- According to the individual interviewees at the Kenya-Somalia border, the top reported categories of people with special needs reported to be travelling from Somalia to Kenya or vice-versa were: The elderly (reported by 52% of the interviewees), malnourished children (42%) and pregnant or lactating women (40%).
- FGD participants in Dadaab reported rumors of kidnapping and sexual and gender-based violence during transit.
- FGD participants in Dhobley cited rumors of unaccompanied children in transit, while others reported witnessing persons that were separated from their families while en route.
- FGD participants in Dhobley reported incidents related to family separation during transit, with assistance received in these cases, especially from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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