

SOMALIA PROTECTION CLUSTER: NEWSLETTER

15th September - 15th October 2024

Key figures

3.8M

People in Need

2.7M

Targeted people



Beneficiaries reached

Cumulative reach by age & gender

87.6KBoys

102.6KGirls

K i

301.0KWomen

29.3K

16.1K
People with
Disability

Monthly beneficiary trends 166,189 117.366 90.110 78,704 65.555 64,590 48,296 26.484 18,649 Jan Feb March Apr May June July August September

The August beneficiary reach data includes Protection, Housing, Land and Property, & Explosive Hazards Areas of Responsibility

Funding status 2024 Requirement: USD 173.3M USD 31.3 M 18.1 % funded. USD 142.0 M 81.9% funding gap

Key Highlights

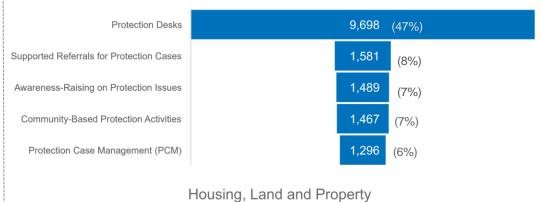
- An escalated clan conflict in Luuq, Gedo Region of Somalia, has resulted in the deaths of three people and the displacement of 30,000 individuals to nearby villages, including Dogob, Dhuycaley, Shadillay, Kulmiye, Yurkud, Bashiiro, and Xaano-Weyn. This displacement has disproportionately affected vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Many are currently sheltering in overcrowded, open areas with limited to no access to essential services like food, shelter, non-food items (NFIs), and WASH, exacerbating the already dire humanitarian situation.
- Humanity & Inclusion (HI) conducted three days of training sessions and a one-day technical support meeting to strengthen the technical capacity of 36 members of the Disability Inclusion Working Group (DIWG) within the Protection Cluster. These trainings enabled participants to provide technical support on disability-inclusive humanitarian programming to various humanitarian actors, thereby reinforcing the localization of inter-agency disability inclusion technical support mechanisms.
- ❖ In September 2024, three explosive ordnance-related accidents were reported in the Gedo, Lower Shabelle, and Galgaduud regions, involving six individuals—two girls, three boys, and one man. Tragically, two boys were killed in these incidents, while the remaining four individuals sustained injuries.
- displaced persons (IDPs) have been forcibly evicted from various camps in Somalia between September and early October 2024. Of these, 8,628 evictions took place in IDP camps located in Garasbaaleey, Hodan, and Kahda districts in Banadir, with the remainder occurring in Kismayo and Bosaso. The affected families are predominantly long-term IDPs, with 77% being protracted cases and 23% newly displaced individuals from districts like Shalanbood, Buulo Mareer, and Qoryoleey in the Lower Shabelle region, who originally fled their homes due to insecurity, drought, and climate-related disasters such as floods. Many of these families had been living in temporary shelters and now face the devastating reality of homelessness once again.

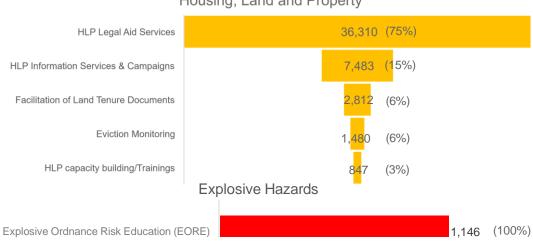
Response Overview

In September, the protection cluster reached 78,704 individuals through its response. Afgooye (16,139) received the highest number of beneficiaries followed by Banadira (15,767), Baydhaba (11,069), Jowhar (7,778) and Belet Weyne (6,875districts)

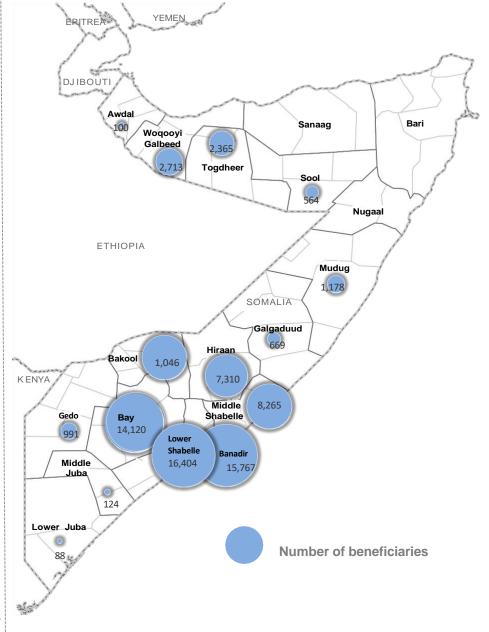
Activities with highest reach in August by AoR







Protection response coverage in September by Region













Sources: Somalia Protection Custer

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CLUSTER CORE FUNCTIONS

Core function 1: - TO SUPPORT SERVICE DELIVERY

❖ Early October 2024, Somalia Protection Cluster along with its four Areas of Responsibility organized a 4- day workshop to bring together more than 25 participants from the Jubaland line ministries, chairs of the four AoRs and key partners with the objective of strengthening efforts to protect vulnerable populations in the region with special focus on the Protection Cluster Response Strategy four strategic pillars: protection of civilians, response prioritization, integrated approaches across sectors, and operationalization of frontline protection responses.



Figure 1. Protection Cluster Workshop - Kismayo

❖ UNMAS visited 26 hazard sites, successfully closing 14 existing hazards and addressing 12 newly reported hazard spots. The teams cleared 26 unexploded ordnances (UXO) and 8 small arms ammunition (SAA), preventing potential harm to the civilian population. Additionally, they responded to 189 remnants of ammunition free from explosives (FFE), which were collected and marked to avoid repeated callouts from the communities. In total, the teams cleared 82,500 m² of land and confirmed 168,809 m² of hazardous areas during their site visits. Furthermore, UNMAS Somalia provided technical advisory support to the Director General of the Somali Explosive Management Authority (SEMA), who participated in the 12th Meeting of States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (12 MSP), held from 10 to 12 September in Geneva, Switzerland.



Figure 2. Stockpiles of Explosive Hazards in Las Caanood

Together with UNOCHA's Information Management and Access Units, the Protection Cluster has been co-chairing the Conflict Shock analysis and prioritization for the 2025 HNRP. This is the first time for Somalia to include the Conflict Shock as part of the JIAF 2.0 for the identification of the districts and population estimates most affected by conflict across the country. As a result of this process, the inter-sectoral analysis has identified 20 districts, and 4.4 million people affected by conflict. This conflict shock analysis will support the Cluster's protection frontline operational response planning and ensure that conflict is considered a priority for the humanitarian response in Somalia.

Core function 2: - TO INFORM THE HC/HCT'S STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING

❖ The Protection Cluster, in close collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and the Area-Based Approach Operational Cell (ABC − OC), has been working on defining the minimum package and timelines for the Protection response under the Integrated Response Framework (IRF). The IRF is an inter-sectoral and integrated response aimed at addressing emergencies in Somalia within 7 to 14 days after the incident. The Protection response now includes a well-established package that consists of: a) Protection desks for providing specialized protection services such as Protection monitoring, Individual Response Services such as case management and Individual Protection Assistance, feedback mechanism, psycho-social support, and referrals; and b) Protection of civilians, including Community-led Protection initiatives and support for inter-sectoral coordination and response through Conflict Sensitivity Analysis, mediation, civilian character of IDPs, etc.

Core Function 4: TO MONITOR & EVALUATE RESPONSES

Humanity and Inclusion (HI) supported the adaptation of sector-specific assessment tools to be more disability-inclusive through the Review, Adapt, and Action Learning Laboratory (RAAL-Lab) trainings. In collaboration with the Disability Reference Group (DRG), HI facilitated seven trainings for protection actors in Somalia and Somaliland. A total of 94 participants (39 female and 55 male) from 40 organizations— comprising 1 government body, 11 INGOs, 23 NGOs, and 5 OPDs—were trained. The trainings focused on reviewing 17 assessment and monitoring tools used by various humanitarian organizations to make them more disability inclusive. Follow-up surveys conducted for 3-6 months post-RAAL-Lab training reported that 76% of respondents had adapted their assessment and monitoring tools to be more disability-inclusive. Additionally, 73% of respondents noted improvements in identifying disability-specific barriers and risks.



Figure 3. DIWG and Protection Cluster Workshop in Hargeisa Somaliland











Protection Cluster Somalia

CLUSTER CORE FUNCTIONS

Core Function 6: TO SUPPORT ROBUST ADVOCACY

- ❖ In October 2024, Somalia Protection Cluster has shared with all members its Advocacy and Communication Strategy. The Strategy defines primary communication and advocacy goals, outlines the priority protection risks being addressed, identifies target audiences, and validate procedures for activity implementation, and a detailed action plan and specific activities, indicators, timelines and roles and responsibilities. The Strategy is adaptable to the emerging protection trends and priorities, evolving protection landscape and key strategic decision making from humanitarian leadership. You can find the strategy here: Somalia Protection Cluster Advocacy and Communications Strategy
- A high-level advocacy convention on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) was held in Hargeisa, organized by government and supported by UNHCR and other organizations. Delegates and Members of Parliaments (MPs) and Senators from Kenya, Ethiopia, and Djibouti, along with civil society organizations, UN agencies, health professionals, religious leaders, activists, and advocates, came together for the convention. The main purpose of the convention was to collaborate on strategies to eradicate FGM in Somaliland. The outcome of the convention outlines an action plan for advocacy and community engagement, emphasizing culturally sensitive approaches to address the impact of FGM in Somaliland.

Core function 7: - AAP/ENGAGEMENT WITH COMMUNITIES

In line with the Humanitarian Country Team's (HCT) commitment to addressing post-delivery aid diversion, a new feedback and complaints analysis report has been introduced by UNHCR. This report consolidates data from humanitarian organizations in Somalia using an aggregated model, summarizing feedback from the second quarter of 2024. Sixteen agencies contributed to the report, up from six in the previous period, with the goal of expanding participation to enhance Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) analysis in Somalia. Of the 19,940 responses received, the top sectors of engagement were Food Security & Livelihoods (24%) and Shelter & Non-Food Items (16%), followed by Health (13%), WASH (12%), and Basic Needs (10%). These sectors accounted for 75% of the total responses, indicating that food security, shelter, and access to health and water services are the primary concerns for affected communities. Other sectors, such as Cash Assistance/Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (5%), Agriculture (3%), Cash for Work (3%), and Durable Solutions (3%), showed moderate engagement, reflecting the ongoing need for livelihood support and long-term solutions. Meanwhile, Protection (2%), Housing, Land & Property (2%), and Education (1%) had lower response rates, suggesting potential gaps in community outreach or prioritization of these sectors.

Sources: Somalia Protection Custer











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