

Assessment Report On The El Nino Deyr Rains Situation In Southwestern Region Of Somalia



Assessment of the Impact Of Floods in Baidoa

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context and Background

1.1.1 Geographic Overview

Baidoa, a city situated in the southwestern region of Somalia, is facing a flood crisis triggered by the ongoing El Nino Deyr Rains. Strategically located in the Bay region, Baidoa is a key economic and cultural hub, yet its geographical location renders it vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate-related events, particularly during the Deyr season.

1.1.2 Climate and Environmental Vulnerabilities

Somalia, as a whole, is prone to climatic fluctuations, and the El Nino Deyr Rains, expectedly heavy and prolonged, have historically presented challenges in terms of flooding and infrastructure resilience. Baidoa, with its complex network of rivers and low-lying topography, is particularly susceptible to the cascading effects of high rainfall, leading to widespread flooding.

1.1.3 Pre-existing Humanitarian Conditions

Prior to the onset of the current crisis, Baidoa was already contending with a numerous challenge, including food insecurity, displacement, and limited access to basic services. The city hosts a significant population of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), many of whom had sought refuge due to previous climate-related events and conflicts in the region.

1.2 Purpose of the Report

In light of the unfolding crisis, this report seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of the impact of the ongoing floods in Baidoa. Through a thorough assessment of critical areas, including infrastructure, housing, water, sanitation, and health facilities, the report aims to highlight the multifaceted challenges faced by the IDP and host communities.

2. KEY HIGHLIGHTS

2.1 Summary of Critical Needs

- **Infrastructure:** Multiple roads and bridges, vital for transportation and access, have been washed away or severely damaged.
- **Housing and Shelter:** Approximately 862 IDP houses were destroyed, leaving around 860 households displaced and relocated to the Baidoa Animal Market without shelters.
- **Water and Sanitation:** Flooding has contaminated latrines in IDP areas, posing a significant health risk and increasing the potential for waterborne diseases.
- **Humanitarian Impact:** Both IDP and host communities are affected, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive response.
- **Food Security:** Disruption in city movement and transportation, including agriculture and livestock loss, has led to food shortages and increased vulnerability.

2.2 Urgency of the Situation

- **Health Concerns:** Local health facilities, including 17 Maternal and Child Health (MCH) facilities, have been damaged, limiting access to medical services.
- **Vulnerable Populations:** Specific groups such as children, pregnant women, and the elderly are particularly vulnerable and require targeted assistance.
- **No Humanitarian Response:** As of now, there has been no significant humanitarian response, exacerbating challenges faced by affected communities.

3. SITUATION OVERVIEW

The ongoing floods in Baidoa, spurred by prolonged El Nino Deyr Rains, have resulted in severe infrastructure damage, displacement, and humanitarian challenges. Lack of a humanitarian response and compromised water and sanitation necessitate urgent attention.

4. ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the assessment were to:

- i. Evaluate the impact of floods on infrastructure, housing, and sanitation.
- ii. Assess the displacement and vulnerability of affected populations.
- iii. Examine the state of health facilities and potential health risks.
- iv. Identify specific needs of vulnerable groups such as children, pregnant women, and the elderly.

5. METHODOLOGY OF THE ASSESSMENT

The assessment involved visiting 30 IDPs in Baidoa, evaluating the extent of damage, and understanding the needs of affected populations. The evaluation focused on infrastructure, housing, water, sanitation, and health facilities.

6. COVERED AREAS

The assessment covered various areas in Baidoa, including Isha Village, Darusalam Village, Wadajir Village, and Howlwadag Village.

7. ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

7.1 Infrastructure

Finding: Several critical roads and bridges have been washed away, impeding transportation and access to affected areas.

Impact: The extensive damage to roads and bridges has created a dire situation, significantly impeding transportation and access to essential services. The severing of key routes, such as Sharif Game Road, Mogadishu Road, and Suqa Xoolaha Road, has isolated communities, hindering the delivery of aid and making evacuation efforts challenging.

Effects on IDPs:

- Limited access to emergency medical services and supplies for displaced populations.
- Increased isolation worsening the vulnerability of the IDP communities.

7.2 Housing and Shelter

Finding: Approximately 862 IDP houses assessed were destroyed, leaving around 860 households displaced and relocated to the Baidoa Animal Market without shelters.

Impact: The destruction of approximately 862 IDP houses has left a substantial portion of the population without adequate shelter. The relocation of around 860 households to the Baidoa Animal Market, devoid of proper housing, compounds the severity of the crisis.

Effects on IDPs:

- Exposure to the elements, leading to heightened health risks, especially for vulnerable groups.
- Displaced families lacking secure and stable living conditions.

7.3 Water and Sanitation

Finding: Latrines in IDP areas have flooded, posing a significant health risk and increasing the potential for waterborne diseases.

Impact: The flooding has contaminated latrines in IDP areas, posing a severe health risk due to the mixing of water and sewage. The potential for waterborne diseases, including cholera, is significantly heightened.

Effects on IDPs:

- Increased susceptibility to waterborne diseases among the IDP population.
- Lack of access to clean water and sanitation facilities, further compromising hygiene.

7.4 Humanitarian Impact

Finding: Both IDP and host communities are affected, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive response.

Impact: The absence of a significant humanitarian response escalates the challenges faced by affected communities. The lack of emergency supplies, including food, water, and medical aid, intensifies the suffering of the IDP and host communities.

Effects on IDPs:

- Heightened vulnerability as essential needs remain unmet.
- Limited capacity to cope with the aftermath of the floods without external assistance.

7.5 Food Security

Finding: Disruption in city movement, transportation, agriculture, and livestock loss has led to food shortages and increased vulnerability.

Impact: Disruption in city movement, transportation, and agriculture, coupled with the loss of livestock, has led to food shortages, deepening the existing food security crisis.

Effects on IDPs:

- Increased malnutrition and food insecurity among displaced populations.
- Limited access to adequate and nutritious food.

7.6 Health Concerns

Finding: Local health facilities, including 17 MCH facilities, have been damaged, limiting access to medical services.

Impact: Local health facilities, including 17 MCH facilities, have been damaged, limiting access to medical services. The flooding of health facilities by water further compounds the health crisis.

Effects on IDPs:

- Reduced access to critical healthcare services, particularly for pregnant women and children.
- Elevated risk of disease outbreaks due to compromised health infrastructure.

7.7 Vulnerable Populations

Finding: Specific groups, such as children, pregnant women, and the elderly, are particularly vulnerable and require targeted assistance.

Impact: Specific groups, such as children, pregnant women, and the elderly, are disproportionately affected, facing heightened vulnerabilities in the aftermath of the floods.

Effects on IDPs:

- Increased risks of malnutrition, illness, and mortality among vulnerable groups.
- Specific needs of these populations, including healthcare and shelter, are exacerbated.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Immediate Response

8.1.1 Emergency Humanitarian Assistance

- **Mobilize Immediate Aid:** Launch a swift and coordinated effort to provide emergency supplies, including food, clean water, and medical aid, to the affected populations, with a specific focus on the 30 IDPs identified during the assessment.
- **Targeted Support for Vulnerable Groups:** Prioritize assistance to vulnerable populations, such as children, pregnant women, and the elderly, ensuring they receive specialized care, nutrition, and medical attention.
- **Shelter Provision:** Urgently provide temporary shelters for the approximately 860 households currently displaced and relocated to the Baidoa Animal Market. Address their immediate need for secure and habitable living conditions.

8.1.2 Water and Sanitation

- **Decontamination Efforts:** Initiate immediate actions to decontaminate flooded latrines and sewage-affected areas in IDP zones. Deploy resources for the proper disposal of sewage to mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases.
- **Provision of Clean Water:** Establish and maintain water distribution points to ensure a sustainable supply of clean water for both IDP and host communities, reducing the risk of water-related health issues.

8.2 Short-Term Recovery

8.2.1 Infrastructure Rehabilitation

- **Road and Bridge Reconstruction:** Prioritize the repair and reconstruction of critical roads and bridges, particularly Sharif Game Road, Mogadishu Road, and Suqa Xoolaha Road, to restore transportation routes and facilitate access to affected areas.
- **Community Infrastructure:** Invest in the restoration of damaged community infrastructure, including housing units, to expedite the return of displaced families to secure and habitable dwellings.

8.2.2 Water and Sanitation Infrastructure

- **Rehabilitation of Latrines:** Undertake the rehabilitation of latrines in IDP areas, ensuring they are resilient to future flooding. Implement proper waste disposal mechanisms to prevent contamination during future heavy rains.
- **Infrastructure for Clean Water:** Invest in the reconstruction and protection of water supply infrastructure to safeguard against contamination and enhance the resilience of water sources.

8.3 Coordination and Collaboration

8.3.1 Strengthening Coordination

- **Inter-Agency Cooperation:** Facilitate collaboration among various response agencies, including local government bodies, non-governmental organizations, and international humanitarian organizations, to ensure a harmonized and effective response.

- **Information Sharing:** Establish a centralized information-sharing mechanism to enhance coordination, avoid duplication of efforts, and streamline resource allocation for a more efficient response.

8.4 Long-Term Resilience Building

8.4.1 Community Empowerment

- **Capacity Building:** Implement programs focused on community empowerment, providing training and resources to enhance the resilience of both IDP and host communities in the face of recurrent climate-related challenges.
- **Early Warning Systems:** Invest in and strengthen early warning systems to improve preparedness for future extreme weather events, allowing for timely evacuations and reducing the impact on vulnerable populations.

8.4.2 Infrastructure Planning

- **Climate-Resilient Infrastructure:** Integrate climate-resilient design principles into infrastructure planning, ensuring that future developments can withstand the impacts of extreme weather events, including flooding.
- **Urban Planning:** Incorporate flood mitigation strategies into urban planning, taking into account the unique geographical vulnerabilities of Baidoa to prevent or minimize the impact of future floods.

9. ANNEX

9.1 Assessed IDPs

A detailed annex provides information on 30 assessed IDPs, including their location, number of households, number of households displaced, relocation sites, and the number of houses destroyed.

	IDP Name	location	No of HH	N of HH displaced	Displaced to	N of HH Destroyed
1	Fanole two	Isha Village	185	35	Temporary to the neighbouring villages	37
2	Gargaar IDP	Isha Village	172	23	Near IDPS	23
3	Wajer IDP	Isha Village	115	11	Higher ground in the animal market	11
4	Bakala Sheik	Isha Village	180	40	Higher ground in the animal market	40
5	Bula Usley 1 IDP	Isha Village	74	5	Higher ground in the animal market	5
6	Bula Usley 2 IDP	Isha Village	111	11	Higher ground in the animal market	11
7	Wamo Abawle IDP	Isha	137	19	Higher ground in the animal market	19
8	Wargadud IDP	Isha	155	7	Higher ground in the animal market	7
9	Tamasho IDP	Isha Village	171	9	Higher ground in the animal market	9
10	Asha kadali IDP	Isha Village	170	17	Higher ground in the animal market	17
11	Raydabale IDP	Isha Village	112	27	Higher ground in the animal market	27
12	Barariye IDP	Isha Village	169	45	Higher ground in the animal market	45
13	Bur iyo shabelow	Isha Village	148	35	Higher ground in the animal market	35
14	El afdhubow	Isha Village	165	13	Higher ground in the animal market	13
15	Garba dhare IDP	Darusalam Vilage	124	50	Higher ground in Kawan duredka	50
16	Bula Sheb 1 IDP	Isha Village	189	22	Higher ground in the animal market	22
17	Bula sheb 2 IDP	Isha Village	96	27	Higher ground in the animal market	27
18	Kedegsoy IDP	Isha Village	60	18	Higher ground in the animal market	18
19	Edingalbengle	Isha Village	120	17	Higher ground in the animal market	17
20	Malmal IDP	Isha Village	100	20	Higher ground in the animal market	20
21	Goobroong	Darusalam Village	96	32	Higher ground in Kawan duredka	32
22	Lowi iskarogow	Darusalam Village	78	20	Higher ground in Kawan duredka	20

23	ADC 1	Wadajir Village	147	29	With in the IDP cam	29
24	Hamingguray IDP	Wadajir Village		16	A private land opposite the IDP	16
25	Tawal 1 IDP	Howlwadag Village	178	25	Higher ground near the camp	25
26	Qodqode isakgab	Darusalam Village	205	17	Higher ground in the animal market	17
27	Adablaweyn	Wadajir	105	95	An open land in wadajir Village	95
28	Midnimo Wadajir	Wadajir	202	82	An open land in wadajir Village	82
29	Shanta	Wadajir	147	48	An open land in wadajir Village	48
30	Beledul Amin 2	Wadajir	194	45	An open land in wadajir Village	45
			1031	860		862

9.2 Photos of the Assessment



