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SOMALIA

FACTSHEET

Rapid Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment of Populations Affected by Conflict Afmadow District, Somalia | August 2024

Background

The Afmadow District Council is distressed by the worsening humanitarian crisis following recent military offensives and airstrikes along the road between Afmadow and Kismayo. These violent conflicts have significantly impacted the local communities, **displacing approximately 810 families.**

Ongoing military operations have drastically worsened conditions for residents in Harbole, Bibi, Well-Marow, and surrounding villages. Airstrikes and armed clashes have damaged infrastructure and disrupted livelihoods.

Consequently, **many residents have been forced to abandon their homes**, seeking safety and humanitarian assistance elsewhere.

Assessment Overview

The assessment was conducted on August 2024, with **21 quantitative, structured face-to-face key informant (KI) interviews across 20 sites in Afmadow** using a survey tool developed and adopted by Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and OCHA, deployed through traditional way of data collection using pen and paper. During the cleaning exercise, the interview's duration that lasted less than 15 minutes were excluded based on consultation with OCHA. In addition, the analysis of single-choice questions, the responses from different key informants reporting on the same site calculated by using 'Mode' method.

KEY FINDINGS

- The **top three most urgent non-food item (NFI)** needs for conflict-affected individuals in Afmadow district are **kitchen sets, sleeping mats, and tents.**
- **76%** of sites reported that nearby markets were **partially destroyed** and **5%** reported **complete destruction.**
- **62%** of sites indicated that **NFIs were sporadically available** at the nearest market.
- **Open defecation is the prevailing practice in 35% of sites**, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks like cholera.
- **40%** of sites reported **limited access to sufficient drinking water** and **18%** reported **no access.**
- **Health facilities are overwhelmed**, leading to increased demand for services across all sites.
- **60%** of sites reported that **women and girls cannot move freely** without fear in the community.
- **50%** of conflict-affected households in the community **live in unfinished/non-enclosed buildings.**
- **23%** of conflict-affected households in the community **live in makeshift shelters (i.e. bulls or tents).**

Priority Needs

The top three priority needs or humanitarian assistance expressed by respondents in the conflict-affected region include:



SHELTER



NON-FOOD ITEMS



CASH-BASED
ASSISTANCE

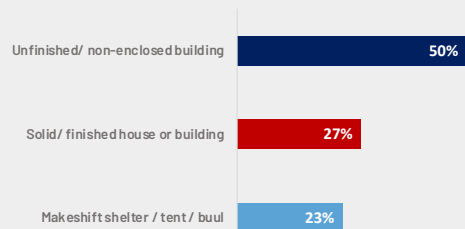
Shelter and NFIs

1,415 shelters have been partially or fully damaged **across 16 sites**.

The top three shelter and NFI needs expressed include:

1. Kitchen sets
2. Tents
3. Sleeping mats

Percentage of conflict affected households living in each type of shelter (out of 20)



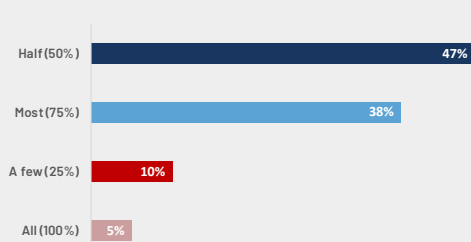
Food Security and Livelihoods

11,244 livestock have perished and **2,664 KM²** of agricultural land, including farmland and crops, have sustained damage as a result of the ongoing conflict in the region.

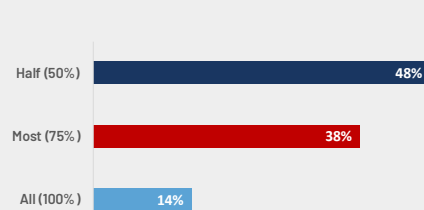
The primary three sources of food in the region:

1. Own stocks
2. Local market
3. Borrowing

Reported livestock losses (out of 20)



The level of damage to crops (out of 20)



Nutrition

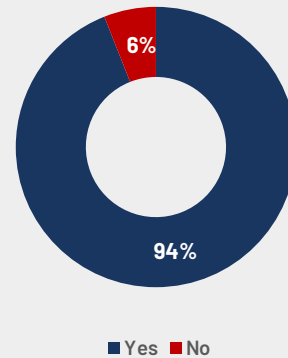
70% of sites indicated that there are **no nutrition services available** either on-site or within a radius of three kilometers or a two-hour walking distance.

80% of sites indicated that **children under the age of five are experiencing malnutrition** as a result of inadequate food availability and disease among conflict-affected populations.

Health

- **95%** of the sites reported an **increased need for health services** in the community.
- **80%** of the sites reported a **noticeable increase** in: acute diarrhea, measles and respiratory illness.
- **25%** of the sites reported that there is **no health facility within 1 hour/5 KM** of walk from the current location.

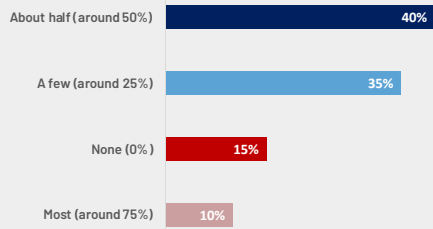
Instances of women unable to access nearby health facilities for childbirth since conflict in 20 sites



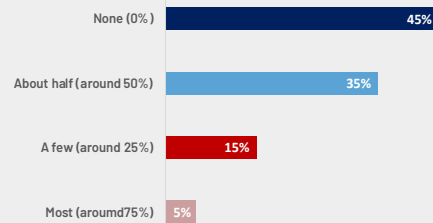
Water Hygiene & Sanitation

15% of respondents reported having **no access to drinking water**, and **45%** reported having **no access to sanitation facilities**.

Access to sufficient drinking water for conflict-affected people in 20 sites



Access to functioning sanitation facilities for conflict-affected people in 20 sites



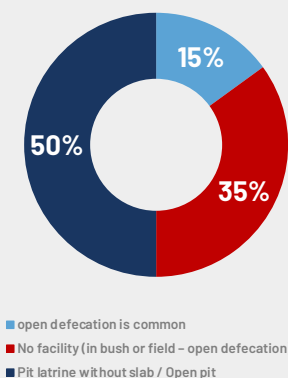
Barriers to adequate menstrual hygiene management for women and girls in nearby sanitation facilities

- Inadequate access to water and soap
- Unclean sanitation facilities
- Lack of discreet menstrual hygiene items disposal mechanisms
- Lack of menstrual hygiene items (i.e sanitary pads, underwear)

Methods of water storage among respondents

- Jerrycan
- No access to water storage container
- Shared big storage tanks

Most common type of latrine or toilet in 20 sites



Protection

- **60%** of sites reported **women and girls face restrictions on their freedom of movement** within the community due to **safety concerns and pervasive fear**.
- **55%** of sites have reported the **presence of children who have been separated from their primary caregivers** as a result of the ongoing conflict.

Market Access

- **79%** of the surveyed sites reported a **significant increase in market prices**.
- **76%** of the sites indicated that the **nearest market had been partially destroyed**, while **5%** reported that the market **was fully destroyed**.
- **60%** of the sites indicated that **essential food items were available sporadically** in the aftermath of the conflict.

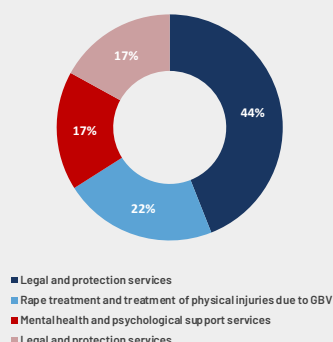
Education

43% of the surveyed sites indicated that the ongoing conflict **has adversely impacted children's school attendance**.

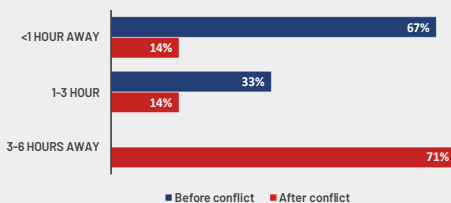
Critical educational needs of conflict-affected populations, disaggregated by site:

- Learning spaces needed
- Individual learning materials
- School feeding programs
- Cash support to HHs to cover education cost

Availability of support services for women and girls, disaggregated by site (totaling 20 sites).



Reported distance to the nearest physically accessible market, both prior to and following the onset of the conflict, disaggregated by site (totaling 20 locations).



Humanitarian Access and Accountability to Affected People

86% of the sites indicated that affected households in the region **did not receive any form of humanitarian food assistance** (including in-kind, cash, or vouchers) in the month following the onset of the conflict.

100% of the sites reported that **aid will be able to reach affected population** if aid should be transported.

Limitations

The results presented in this assessment are based on the perspectives of the key informants and should be understood as indicative only. It is important to note that the analysis did not assign weights to key informant profiles, which means that some key informants may possess more knowledge on certain subjects compared to others.

Therefore, the aggregated site-level results should be interpreted with this limitation in mind. Additionally, due to the key informant approach used, it is not possible to disaggregate the results by gender, age, or disability status of the respondents.

iMMAP Inc. in Somalia

iMMAP Inc. has been operating in Somalia since 2019 to enhance the coordination of information management in the country, aiming for more effective and efficient humanitarian responses nationwide. In 2023, we established a specialized IM Unit, and also led on the deployment of seven Information Management Officers (IMO) through the Stand-by Partnership, facilitating direct IMO support to the Health, UNHCR Protection, UNICEF Nutrition, and OCHA Coordination clusters.

Current Project: Humanitarian Information Support Team (HIST) model

In late 2023, following the successful testing of the Humanitarian Information Support Team (HIST) model in Ethiopia and Nigeria, iMMAP Inc. introduced HIST to support the roll out of the model in Somalia. This demand-driven and centralized Information Management request system simplifies the support provided to local and international humanitarian actors involved in the Somalia Response.

The initiative, generously supported by USAID - Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), centers on the establishment of an Information Management Unit that supports and collaborates with humanitarian actors, including UN Agencies, NGOs and INGOs working across various clusters and sectors, including UN OCHA Food Security and Livelihood, Nutrition and WASH clusters, to enhance data collection, validation, analysis, and reporting. This initiative includes the capacity building of the partners, development of interactive dashboards, spatial analysis, and mapping to support processes like the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Needs Plan (HRNP).

In the first half of 2024, the project has facilitated the increased involvement of stakeholders in phase two, including the Operational Cell (OC), Area Based Coordination structures (ABCs), Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), and Somalia NGO Consortium (SNC). This expansion has enhanced efforts to meet the urgent needs of Somalia's vulnerable populations amidst the ongoing crisis.

About iMMAP Inc.

iMMAP Inc. is a leading international nonprofit organization specializing in Information Management services for humanitarian and development sectors. Since our inception, we have partnered with organizations worldwide to provide high-quality data-driven solutions that improve decision-making and enhance the efficiency of aid distribution and development projects.

Disclaimer: The Factsheet is prepared based on the rapid needs assessment data collected by partners in sites of the Afmadow district in the Jubaland state of Somalia in August 2024. The findings presented in this Factsheet do not necessarily reflect the views of iMMAP Inc. or USAID/BHA.

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