The heavy rains in Gaalkacyo District in the months of October-December of 2023 caused significant flooding. Although in the month of December, the rains had reduced, stagnant water led to a surge in mosquito infestation.

According to SoDMA, the number of people impacted by torrential deyr (October to December) seasonal rains and floods across Somalia increased to over 2.4 million, with over one million displaced and 110 killed in at least 36 districts.

Humanitarian partners, the authorities and local communities stepped in to assist those affected, reaching at least 820,000 people, about 30 per cent of those affected with shelter, food, water, medicines, protection, sandbags and other necessities.

Key Highlights

- Majority of Men and Women reported **Multipurpose cash transfers** as their priority need while for children, **the shelter** was a priority need. In addition, **In-kind assistance (NFIs)** and **Education services** were reported for women and men while children identified **nutrition screening/treatment** and **Milk**.
- **Kitchen set and Mosquito net** were reported as an urgent non-food item (NFI) requirement in 12 and 11 sites respectively out of 20 sites.
- **Local Market** was reported as the primary source of food in 14 out of 20 sites although there was a considerable number of sites, 14 out of 20, that reported distance to the local market could last between **1-3 hours** after flooding.
- Additionally, there have been intermittent shortages of food items at nearby markets, along with significant price hikes for staple food commodities.
- There have been reports of **open defecation** in 6 sites out of 20 due to a lack of latrines which puts the affected population at high risk of disease outbreaks such as Cholera and diarrhoea.
- Due to the damage caused by the flooding, health facilities have been adversely affected, leading to an **increased demand for health services** in 16 out of 20 sites. Limited medical outreach services further exacerbate the situation.

**Assessment Overview**

This assessment involved conducting 36 interviews with key informants at the site level in Gaalkacyo from December 5th to 6th, 2023.

A total of 20 sites were covered in this assessment. As explained in the Methodology Overview, the results should be considered as indicative.
**MOVEMENT INTENTIONS**

Movement Intentions of the Majority of Flood Survivors, by Site (out of 20)

- Leave once flooding stops or homes become accessible (undefined) 12
- Stay in location (current location is their final destination) 8
- Are undecided 3

**Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)**

The proportion of flood-affected people staying in shelter type, by the site (out of 20)

- Makeshift shelter / tent / buul (%) 27
- Unfinished / non-enclosed building (%) 20
- Solid / finished house or building (%) 18

Top 3 urgent NFI needs, by site

- 12/20 Kitchen Set
- 11/20 Mosquito Net
- 9/20 Sleeping mat

6/20 sites reported that NFIs were unavailable in sufficient quantities at the nearest market.

14/20 sites reported a major increase in the price of NFIs.

**Food Security & Livelihoods**

Common Source for Food Access After the Flood, by site

- 12/20 Local Market
- 10/20 Humanitarian food/Cash Assistance
- 09/20 Donations from neighbors, relatives, or friends

Distance to the Nearest Market Before and After the Flood, by site (out of 20)

- <1 hour away 9
- 1-3 hours away 5
- 3-6 hours away 3
- >6 hours away 0

This indicates that there has been a significant increase in distance, where 3 sites are reporting that the nearest market is close to 6 hours away from them after the flood.

12/20 sites reported that the nearest market was partially destroyed after the flood.

6/20 sites reported that essential food items such as wheat, flour, rice, oil, and sugar were sporadically available in the nearest market after the flood.

14/20 sites reported a slightly increased price for the main food commodities after the flood, compared to the prices before the flooding.

**Priority Needs**

3 Most Common Priority Needs, by Site (out of 20)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Multipurpose cash transfer</th>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th>In-kind assistance (NFIs)</th>
<th>Education services</th>
<th>Milk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♂</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♀</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♂♀</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average loss of livestock due to flooding, on a scale from 1-5

- 2

Average loss of stocked agricultural product due to flooding, on a scale from 1-5

- 2
Water Hygiene & Sanitation

Common Issues with Main Water Sources, by site (out of 20)

11/20 Poor water quality
11/20 Inadequate water volume
8/20 Many people got sick after drinking the water
5/20 The Water network is not operating properly

Common Primary Drinking Water Sources, by Site (out of 20)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Feature</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community borehold paid</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface water (i.e. untreated water from the river surface that is distributed via...)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal water trucking conducted by authorities or an NGO</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informal water trucking conducted by private citizens</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community borehold for free</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Common Sanitation Facilities Problems, by Site (out of 20)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Feature</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanitation facilities not functioning or full</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough sanitation facilities / facilities too crowded</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No accessible sanitation facilities for people with disabilities</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitation facilities are unclean/unhygienic</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No separate sanitation facilities for women and girls</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6/20 sites reported that open defecation is the main practice for latrine usage among flood survivors.
11/20 sites, reported that most of the individuals affected by the floods have inadequate access to soap for menstrual hygiene management.
8/20 Sites reported that a quarter (25%) of the flood survivors have access to sufficient amount of drinking water.

Health

12/20 sites have reported that nearby health facilities have been affected by the recent floods.

Common Flood Impacts on Nearby Health Facilities, by site (out of 20)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population not able to access/arrive to health facility</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility damaged (structural damaged)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction to supply / availability of essential and livesaving medicines (including...)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damage to existing medicines, including vaccines</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility equipment damaged</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff not able to access/arrive to health facility</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16/20 sites reported an increased demand for health services within the community since the flooding
17/20 sites reported increased cases of acute diarrhoea since the flooding within the community
08/20 sites reported increased cases of acute measles since the flooding within the community

Nutrition

11/20 sites reported that there are no nutrition services available either within the site or in the nearby vicinity within a distance of 3 kilometres or a 2-hour walk.

18/20 sites reported signs of malnutrition among children under five due to insufficient food or diseases like diarrhoea, among those affected by floods.

Flood Impact on Nearby Nutrition Facilities and Ongoing Community Programs in Nutrition (out of 20)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobile/outreach activities stopped</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No registration of nutrition beneficiaries (e.g. BSFP)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition facility and/or supplies damaged</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack or inadequate nutrition supplies (e.g. RUTF)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Education**

19/20 sites reported that flooding has affected the attendance of school children.

12/20 Schools/learning spaces are destroyed/damaged

15/20 Schools/learning spaces are inaccessible due to mud

14/20 Lack of sanitation, inadequate WASH facilities in schools

08/20 Schools/learning spaces are inaccessible

**Protection**

**Common Safety & Security Concerns for Women & Girls Flood Survivors, by Site (out of 20)**

- Gender-based violence (GBV): 8
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM): 6
- Suffering from verbal harassment: 4
- Being robbed: 4

**Common Safety & Security Concerns for Men & Boys Flood Survivors, by Site (out of 16)**

- Being robbed: 8
- Being threatened with violence: 6
- Suffering from verbal harassment: 3
- Being recruited by armed groups (Forced recruitment and association): 2

**Infrastructure Functionality**

**Common Primary Means of Access to Sites (out of 20)**

- Path (foot / donkey cart / motorcycle only): 11
- Road (all vehicles): 5
- Road (small vehicles only: no trucks): 4
- No vehicle or foot access: 4

**Infrastructure Status After the Flood by Site (out of 20)**

- Cell Network: 13
- Electricity*: 10

*Electricity functionality is defined as functional (8+ hours/day), irregular (1-7 hours/day), not functional (0 hours/day)

**Accountability to Affected Population (AAP)**

9/20 sites reported that they faced problems obtaining humanitarian assistance after the flood.

**Humanitarian Access**

2/20 reported barrier to humanitarian access was the ongoing insecurity/hostilities affecting the area and the presence of explosive hazards

**Common Challenges Experienced by Flood Survivors**

- 5/9 Reported that entitlement information was not shared with the community. Another 4 sites reported that beneficiary selection criteria were not shared with the community.

**Flood Survivors’ Preferred Communication Method, by Site (out of 20)**

- Hotline: 13
- Phone call: 13
- Government…: 12
- SMS: 9
- From community leader: 8
- Radio programs: 7

**Flood Survivors’ Preferred Feedback Method, by Site (out of 20)**

- Hotline: 13
- Community leaders: 10
- Government officials/staff: 8
- Website: 6
Overview & Methodology

The assessment was conducted between 5-6 December 2023, with 36 quantitative, structured face-to-face key informant (KI) interviews across 20 sites in Gaalkacyo using a survey tool developed and adopted by ICCG and OCHA, deployed through the KoBo tool.

During the cleaning exercise, the interview duration that lasted less than 15 minutes was excluded based on consultation with OCHA, resulting in the omission of no responses. In addition, the analysis of single-choice questions, the responses from different key informants reporting on the same site calculated by “Distinct Count”.

When it comes to single-option indicators, the results are displayed as the number of sites and reported at the district level. For select multiple indicators, all key informant responses are included in the aggregated results. The results are presented as the number of sites where key informants reported a specific outcome (which is the combined result at the site level as explained earlier). For integer responses, the median value was reported at the site level.

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.

KIs by Gender

- Female: 64%
- Male: 36%

KIs by Profession

- Camp manager: 3
- Community leader (host community): 8
- Community leader (IDP): 7
- Healthcare professional: 1
- Member of civil society group: 5
- Local Council Person: 3
- Women’s group leader: 5
- Member of local relief committee: 1
- Other (specify): 2

About iMMAP Inc.

iMMAP Inc. is an international not-for-profit organization that provides information management services to humanitarian and development organizations, enabling partners to make informed decisions that ultimately provide high-quality targeted assistance to the world’s most vulnerable populations.

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