Context of Response: Gender Based Violence (GBV) remains one of the most serious threats to the health and safety of women and girls globally. The situation is dire in Somalia where women and girls are at more risk of rape, IPV, early and forced marriage and FGM. The situation has worsened with the recent increase in displacement caused by flooding, droughts and conflict. The Somalia context is fraught with GBV and protection concerns for women, girls, men and boys. The drivers of displacement during the reporting period include the tropical cyclone in northern regions, above normal Gu rainfall in South Central regions and conflict. GBV is a protection concern affecting mostly the displaced women and girls. The activities during the reporting period focused on:

- Capacity Building for service delivery
- Community Engagement and Advocacy focused towards mobilization of communities on availability of services
- Coordination for enhanced service delivery and mitigation of GBV risks
- Service Delivery based on GBV standards and principles using the referral pathways.
- Policy and Legislative Reforms to strengthen legislative environment for the protection of the rights of women and girls.

During this quarter:

12,511 provided GBV response services including

- 6,485 received psychosocial support;
- 2,361 received material assistance;
- 1,857 received medical assistance;
- 667 accessed legal assistance support.

27,469 gained knowledge on GBV services and information

1,896 gained capacity for case management, clinical management of rape & GBVIMS data analysis

The numbers indicated in this report represent only reported incidents. Majority of the incidents especially those related to sexual violence are not reported probably due to fear of reprisal from known perpetrators, culture of silence and limited access to services. Accordingly, there is need for accelerated improvement in quality and scope of services.
Overview

Somalia experienced the tropical cyclone Sagar on 19th May which resulted in above normal rainfall (cf. Somalia Water and Land Information Management) that affected 229,000 people due to heavy rains and flooding in northern regions and caused at least 53 deaths. The above normal rainfall in South Central regions following prolonged drought led to flash floods that affected an estimated 795,000 people including 230,000 displaced and 21 deaths. The floods destroyed basic infrastructure such as GBV one stop centers, hospitals and schools further weakening the fragile humanitarian context. The conflict in northern regions and other parts was also a driver of displacement during the reporting period. UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) Somalia recorded 407,366 displacements during the reporting period, with April recording the highest number in 2018 at 247,920 displacements possibly due to the floods and the conflict. This displacement situation increases the vulnerability of women and girls to GBV.

GBV Service Provision

12,511 Provided GBV response services this quarter

Breakdown Per Type of GBV Service

GBV response services include lifesaving medical assistance including the post rape treatment, temporary protection accommodation for GBV survivors, legal, psychosocial, material and livelihood assistance. Emphasis was placed on the integrated response and multi-sectoral coordinated interventions to facilitate access of survivors to basic needs - food, shelter, health care and water which represent majority needs of survivors. Banadir region recorded the highest number of people reached with GBV response services during the reporting period due to the large of displaced persons. According to UNHCR’s PRMN, Banadir region hosts 429,000 out of 2,077,000 Somalia’s displaced persons, followed by Bay and Lower Shabelle regions with 337,000 and 198,000 displaced persons. GBV Sub Cluster 4W matrix for quarter 2 of 2018 showed gaps in GBV response services are in Lower Juba, Sool and Awdal regions.

Increase of GBV services provided:

⇒ quarter 2 of 2018: 12,511
⇒ quarter 2 of 2017: 15,232
⇒ quarter 2 of 2016: 8,368
Capacity Building

Capacity update for service providers on applying GBV guidelines, standards and principles is essential to enhance the quality of services. During the period reporting, GBV sub Cluster members mobilized and enhanced the capacity of 1,896 GBV service providers to better provide quality, timely, safe and confidential services to GBV survivors. Some highlights include:

Clinical Management of Rape Protocol training for 30 GBV service providers and stakeholders from health facilities between 28th and 30th April in Mogadishu.

Training on FGM and HIV/AIDS for school clubs through Peer to Peer approaches on 18th June. Beneficiaries are supported to conduct peer orientation in FGM/HIV/AIDS.

Training on GBV and the justice system for 30 traditional elders gained capacity on accountability on application of formal justice system for GBV survivors on 8th May in Baidoa.

Coordination

Following the flood emergency in Beletweyne and other locations, referral pathways were activated through broad dissemination and utilization of service providers to guide survivors to GBV services and information. Also, missions were conducted to the regions affected by the drought and conflict in order to identify gaps and needs, and strategize how to reinvigorate coordination for improved service delivery. The regular coordination meetings in Baidoa, Beletweyne, Berbera, Borama, Bosaso, Burao, Dhooley, Dhusamareeb, Dolow, Galkayo, Garowe, Hargeisa, Kismayo and Mogadishu facilitated the sharing of information and of best practices. It also enabled the identification of gaps, guided service delivery to eliminate overlaps and maximize the use of limited financial/human resources.
Community Engagement/ Advocacy

Communities were mobilized to access GBV services through deliberate information sensitization and awareness activities. GBV sub Cluster members mobilized and provided information and services to 27,469 community members. Below are highlights of some of the activities:

Hiraan GBV Sub Cluster members organized awareness raising to mark International Day for the Elimination of conflict related sexual violence (CRSV) on 19 June 2018. This opportunity was utilized to further advance advocacy for stronger legislative protection for women and girls from violence and provide information on the types and sites for GBV services.

Awareness raising on FGM and HIV/AIDS on FGM and HIV/AIDS on 17th June in Hargeisa for principals of Hargeisa schools. The principals are expected to spearhead awareness on FGM and HIV/AIDS in their schools, in collaboration with the FGM and youth peer educators.

Policy and Legislative Reforms

During the 2nd quarter of the year, the GBV sub cluster in collaboration with the Ministry for Woman and Family Affairs in Somaliland accelerated advocacy for the enactment of the draft SOB bill. As a result, on April 7th 2018, Somaliland Upper house of elders (Guurti) approved the Sexual Offences Bill (SOB).

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Photo Credit: WARDI, Awareness raising on CRSV, 19th Jun 2018, Belet Weyne.

Photo Credit: MESAF, SOB Endorsement, 7th Apr 2018, Hargeisa.

Girls 24%
Boys 17%
Women 42%
Men 17%

407,366 displacements between April and June 2018.