



# SOMALI HEALTH & DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY (SHDS)



16<sup>th</sup> July 2019

used have been adapted to the Somali context without compromising international standards.

The survey is being done in conjunction with the Somali statistical offices throughout the country. At the core heart of this project is capacity building. This project aims to enhance the expertise of the Somali statistical offices, through strenuous training, data collection, analysis and interpretation and oversight being delivered and provided by UNFPA Somalia, to allow the Somali statistical offices to carry out similar surveys in the future with minimal supervision.

**T**he Somali Health and Demographic Survey (SHDS) is a national sample survey whose main objective is to provide evidence in health and demography to guide development of programs, monitor and evaluate Somali national, sub-national and sector development plans including the Sustainable Development Goals as well as form the key ingredients in the formulation of effective policies through the use of data by all stakeholders for evidence decision-making.

Effort has been made to implement the SHDS following the international standards of conducting sample surveys in the fields of survey method-

ology, sample design, questionnaire development, training of survey teams, data editing, tabulation and analysis. Methodologies and tools



Training Somali female professional on the use of the CAPI app on the phone used for surveying



Ongoing data collection by trained enumerators in the field

# Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR)



**The MMR report** is the first of a series of the SHDS survey results. The aim of the MMR survey is to provide crucial health indicators regarding the current state of maternal mortality of the country.

The Maternal Mortality (MMR) estimation survey was conducted during listing for the Somali Health and Demographic Survey (SHDS) to enable coverage of a large sample size

(100,000+ households) that is required to obtain estimates from recent death occurrence in the population.

The MMR survey was completed in December 2018. The surveying and listing was entirely done by Somalis trained by the UNFPA team. The quality of training given to the trainees has given the opportunity to hundreds of young Somali women and men to gain hands on experience and practice and

**Enumeration for MMR.** Respondents were mostly women as they were present during the time of interview. A lot of times the participants went about their chores and tasks while being interviewed, whether that was cooking, taking care of kids or cleaning. Enumerators were trained to be flexible and accommodate for this.

The MMR report will present a number of long awaited indicators such as; crude birth rate, total fertility rates, crude death rates, maternal mortality ratio, maternal mortality rates and lifetime risk of maternal mortality.

February to the 2nd of March attended by Director Generals and director of statistics from the planning ministries, demographers/statisticians and data analysts. During the workshop, drafting of the 'Thematic Report on Maternal Mortality' commenced. There is currently a national draft report ready for validation which has been completed and is undergoing extensive and detailed reviewing by all parties before being finalized and disseminated.

has given them capacity which they can now take back to their respective ministries and institutions.

This was followed by cleaning and processing of the data collected by a team comprised of data analysts and specialists from Somali statistical offices with technical guidance from UNFPA.

A high level meeting took place in Kigali, Rwanda from the 16th of

The MMR report will present a number of long awaited indicators such as; crude birth rate, total fertility rates, crude death rates, maternal mortality ratio, maternal mortality rates and lifetime risk of maternal mortality. The indicators from the MMR report will be used to monitor mortality indicators in the National Development Plans (2017-2019) particularly relating to maternal health.

Consultation between UNFPA and Somali authorities leading the process in Kigali, Rwanda. Data results were scrutinized, challenges and limitations discussed. Report writing also commenced with participation from all federal states.



# Main Survey



'Trained female Somali health practitioner carrying out main survey enumeration'

**SHDS is the first** DHS-like survey conducted in Somalia; it aims to be a rich source of accurate and present population related information. This will not only allow the Somali government and its partners to plan and make policy with the use of data-based evidence, but it will also allow for the monitoring of the SDG's (sustainable development goals) and NDP's (National Development Goals).

The ongoing main survey is using three separate questionnaires which are being administered by the trained Somali enumerators.

- Household Questionnaire
- Ever Married Woman's Questionnaire
- Never Married Women's Questions

The questions are primarily based on health, demographic and socio-economic factors. The main survey will provide a number of indicators such as; Household characteristics, chronic disease, social habits and disability, occupation and economic activities, reproductive health birth spacing, fertility preferences, child immunization, nutrition, HIV/STI rates, female genital mutilation (FGM), gender based violence (GBV) and a number of other health issues. Despite of all the challenges faced during enumeration such as insecurity, poor weather which made some EA's inaccessible over 90% of surveying for rural and urban households has been completed throughout the country and the merging and cleaning of data is underway to yield the much-awaited results.

## Nomadic Surveying

The survey of the nomadic population is due to begin in the course of the coming month. The significant nomadic population creates a lot of challenges related to surveying. Nomads are not stationary and live in great stretches of land. This means a different methodological approach will be employed for effective enumeration. The results of the nomadic survey will be crucial to create an inclusive set of data that will provide indicators across the whole population, for Somalis that

