

Gender Based Violence Area of Responsibility

Somalia EL Nino Preparedness & Response Plan

Context

Amidst increasing gender-based violence (GBV) levels as a result of armed and inter-clan conflict, the imminent El Nino event is set to bring about catastrophic impact on the lives of women and girls by exacerbating feminised poverty levels, limiting physical freedom/mobility, and opportunities for formal education; depleting livelihoods and incomes of female-headed households, and interrupting health/social services for pregnant and lactating women. Women from minority clans and those living with disabilities in high-prone risk areas will be more disadvantaged as service sites will become less accessible and humanitarian aid becomes more competitive among clans due to reduced funding. Recent assessments and preparedness plans have communicated urgency in mobilising action and resources to prevent and mitigate the impact of El Nino. However, limited funding vis-à-vis the population expected to be impacted is a significant barrier, among others.

It is expected that there will be increased exposure to GBV risks of sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual violence, and harassment as populations of women and girls become displaced and more food insecure in the event of severe flooding. Loss of livelihoods may compel women and girls to seek to adopt negative coping mechanisms of begging, street hawking, sex for food and child, early and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation (FGM). This may result in increased incentive for families to undertake FGM to promote the marriageability of their daughters as a way of minimising social and financial insecurity. Intimate partner violence is expected to increase as spouses face challenges of prioritising family resources.

Key Figures

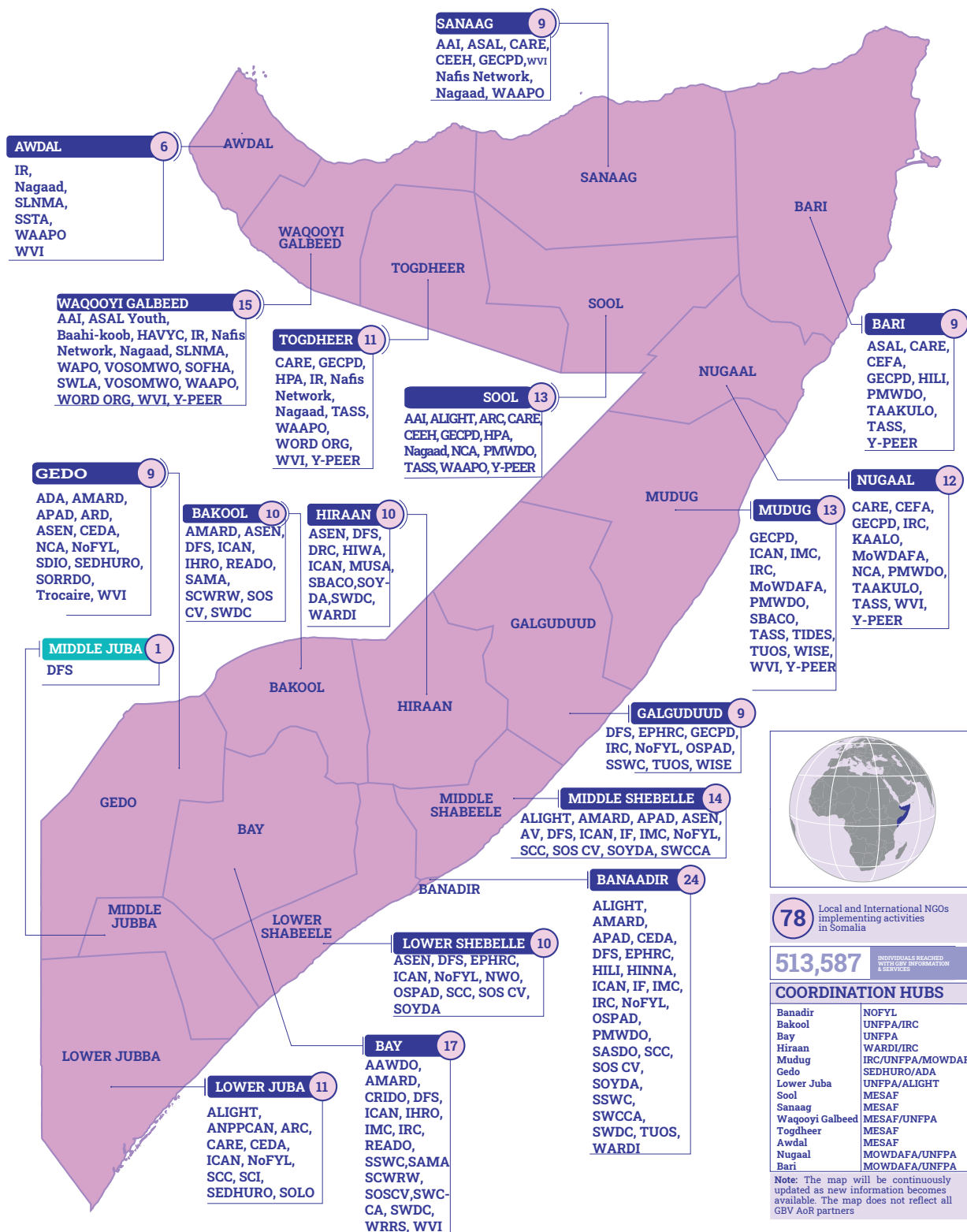
Flood Affected Target: 300,000

**Partner presence and coordination: 78
Partners Including 60 NGOs (77%),
and 17 INGOs (22%).**

The GBV AoR also has effective coordination platforms in the locations that will be impacted by Flooding – Hirshabelle, Jubbaland, South-west state (SWS), and Galmudug.



As of October 2023.



Current Capacities and Gaps

- Lack of dedicated capacity at the sub-national level.
- The GBV AoR has a presence within the 7 hubs; however, only 2 have GBV Coordinators double-hatting programs and coordination.
- Limited GBV service providers with the capacity to provide specialised services.
- Lack of flexible or dedicated funds to respond to emergencies.
- Access to the population needs of women and girls and due to limited services in remote/rural populations.
- Limited knowledge of safe and ethical identification and referral of GBV cases.
- Limited existence of shelters and safe spaces for persons facing GBV risks, especially in hard-to-reach areas.
- Limited support to facilitate recovery and reintegration of survivors through referral or provision of livelihoods and skills training programs.

Stock Status

Stock for dignity kits (available vs required):

- The dignity kits available in Mogadishu currently are 6,600 DKs. To cover the entire districts where El Nino occurrence is highly anticipated, we will need an additional 10,000 dignity kits.
- Currently, Kit 3 is not in stock. However, efforts are being made to secure funding to procure and sustain access to services for survivors of rape and IPV that may result from the El Nino event. The global suppliers of Kit 3 are facing inadequate supplies in some of the contents of the kit, and hence the gaps in logistics.

HRP Required vs Funded:

HRP Required: \$78,698,000

HRP Funded: \$26,757,320

Response Strategy

- Risk identification and mitigation through Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Food Security Cluster(FSC), Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and Nutrition through orientation and training of field actors of key clusters to implement actions that reduce GBV risks/exposure.
- Collaborating with UN and civil society organisations (CSO) partners in remote areas and using their footprints to broaden reach for GBV services.
- Using integrated mobile outreach teams to reach women and girls in need in hard-to-reach areas with limited GBV service provision.
- Integrating cluster focal points into existing GBV/ updated referral pathways to ensure that vulnerable women and girls have access to food/cash and other assistance offered by other clusters.
- Mapping, identification, and relocation of services sites at risk to higher grounds and areas not prone to flooding.

Preparedness Priorities

- Provide GBV case management and PSS for GBV and non-GBV survivors.
- Provision of Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) services & medical treatment for IPV.
- Provision of menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and Dignity Kits for the affected women and girls.
- Cash Voucher assistance integrated through case management for the affected population.
- Strengthen and establish the GBV Referral pathways.
- Dissemination of GBV prevention and response messages to the affected IDPs.
- Strengthen coordination through building the capacity of GBV Actors.

Response Priorities


- Provision of GBV case management services.
- Provision of CVA to the affected women and girls.
- Procuring and prepositioning the MHM and Dignity kits for distribution to the affected communities.
- Building the capacity of first responders from GBV and Non-GBV actors.
- Raising GBV awareness in the affected communities and disseminating life-saving GBV information.
- Strengthening coordination within the 7 hubs by deploying GBV coordinators.
- Mapping of existing GBV services; update and disseminate referral pathways.

Cost of Inaction

- Floods and other natural disasters often disproportionately affect women and girls, resulting in displacement, loss of household items, weakened social protection, and limited access to health services and dignity items.
- Floods are likely to impact and impede normal mobility and social engagement, especially for women and girls. This, in turn, increases exposure to IPVs and other forms of violence among women and girls.
- Young girls are more likely to face poverty and protection risks when their families' livelihoods are destroyed by floods.
- Women and girls are likely to be displaced from their homes as IDPs travel outside their settlement areas, exposing them to different forms of violence and exploitation, including GBV, due to the weakening of formal and informal protection structures in the community.
- Floods are likely to impact the livelihoods of households and increase negative coping mechanisms for women and girls, including forced/child marriage and other forms of sexual exploitation and abuse.



Data Sources: Partner 5W reports, GBV AoR Strategy for integrating GBV service provision in Drought Emergency in Somalia (2021)


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