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# UNFPA RESPONSE IN SOMALIA

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## Situation Report

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# FASTFACTS



Total people  
in need of  
humanitarian  
assistance in 2022

7.7M



Internally Displaced  
Persons

2.9M



Women of  
Reproductive Age  
(age 15-49, estimated)

1.8M



Pregnant  
Women (estimated)

380,983



Adolescents and  
Youth (Age 10-24)

2.0M

# GENERAL OVERVIEW

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The severe drought in Somalia has deteriorated the situation of women and girls. As per the recent Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) drought monitoring, based on field reports and the Combined Drought Index (CDI), about 80 per cent of the country is facing extreme drought conditions. Water and food prices remain high and continue to increase in many areas of the country. Around 4.9 million people across the country are currently affected by the ongoing drought, resulting in the displacement of over 600,000 people. The severe negative impact of the drought on women and girls has been reported across several platforms. Currently, a total of 2.9 million people are internally displaced across the country, a majority of whom are women, girls and children.

According to a forecast by IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Center (ICPAC), issued on 28 March 2022, below average rainfall and high temperatures are expected in April in the southern parts of Somalia, as well as the Ethiopian highlands. High temperatures will lead to increased evaporation and increased demand for water among livestock, resulting in overall worsening conditions.

UNFPA Somalia prioritizes the continuity of essential and life-saving health and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) services, targeting vulnerable women and girls, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and persons with disabilities.



During March 2022, UNFPA and its partners reached **54,220** persons with Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services and **22,655** persons with prevention and response to GBV, including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) for women and girls. In addition, UNFPA reached **820** young people through youth-related activities.

Furthermore, the capacity of UNFPA partners is strengthened to support the delivery of SRH and GBV services, and responding to increased needs. Health facilities and mobile clinics are providing services to support maternal and newborn health, birth-spacing options and the Clinical Management of Rape (CMR). Safe spaces for women, girls and young people and one-stop centers for survivors of GBV are offering MHPSS services.



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## COVID-19 UPDATES

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The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge the already ill-equipped health service delivery in Somalia. As of 2 March 2022, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Somalia had reached **26,410** with **1,361** fatalities. The COVID-19 testing capacity across the country remains extremely limited, resulting in the true number of infections likely being underreported. The steady increase in number of infections reveals that the epidemiological situation in the country is continuously evolving and remains volatile, particularly in areas with high numbers of IDPs and limited access to health services.

# FUNDING NEEDS

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- Despite being a key humanitarian agency, UNFPA Somalia received only US\$3 million in 2021, out of the \$16.4 million requested to address urgent needs. In 2022, and in light of worsening developments, the needs have increased to \$19.5 million.
- The 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Somalia was met with major funding shortfalls compared with previous years. Due to the increasingly severe humanitarian crises in Somalia, vulnerable women, children and men are at risk of losing access to some, or all, of the lifesaving and protection services they desperately need. UNFPA and its partners are committed to scaling-up the response, but a lack of funds continues to challenge efforts. Urgent and more sustainable mid- to longer-term investment in reducing risk and vulnerability is required.

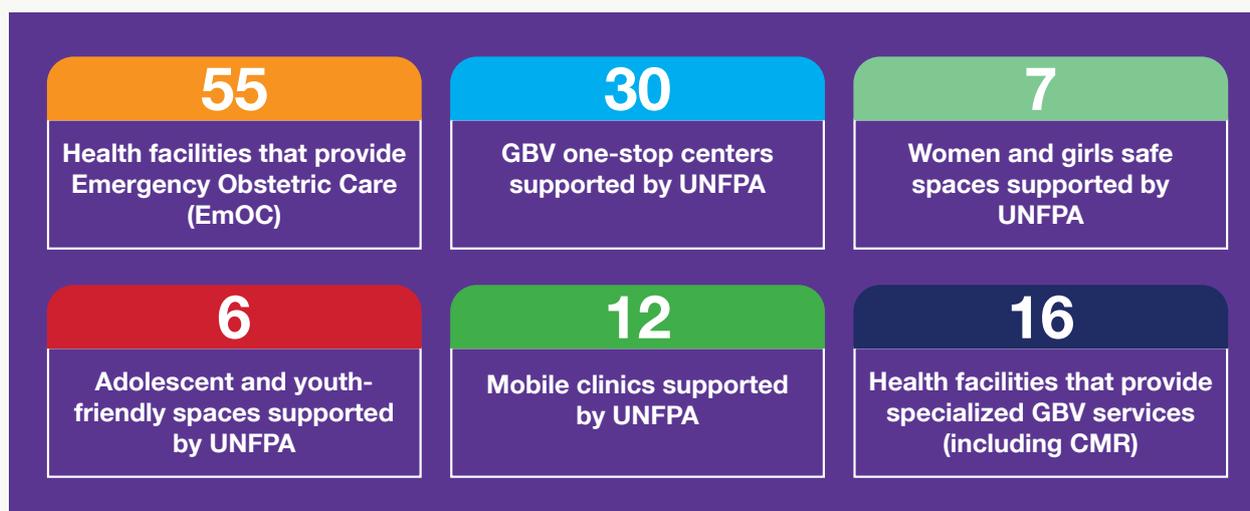
## SUMMARY OF UNFPA RESPONSE

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Through UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) resources, UNFPA Somalia has scaled-up the SRH and GBV response for the people affected by drought in Somalia. The response activities target pregnant women, adolescent girls, men and boys in IDP camps and in hard-to-reach areas, by providing quality lifesaving and age-appropriate SRH services through Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC) and integrated SRH/GBV outreach. UNFPA works closely with the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States (FMS), other UN agencies, and partners to ensure access to and the continuity of SRH and GBV services. UNFPA is engaged in the various coordination mechanisms, including the UNCT and HCT, and supports the national COVID-19 preparedness and response plans, ensuring integration of SRH and GBV concerns.



## Services Delivered



### Data from UNFPA Supported Services Since March 2022

Sexual/Reproductive Health	
# People reached with sexual/reproductive health services	20,342
# People reached with family planning services, information and counselling	786
# Normal / assisted deliveries	2,195
# C-Sections assisted	141
# People reached with ante-natal care consultations	7,845
# People reached with post-natal care consultations	676
# People reached with SRH information and community awareness activities	22,203
# People with disabilities reached through SRH services and information	32
Gender-Based Violence	
# People reached with GBV programming/services	778
# People provided with GBV case management	39
# People reached with GBV information and community awareness activities	21,807
# People with disabilities reached through GBV services and information	31
Youth Services	
# Adolescents and young people reached with youth programming	820
Capacity Strengthening	
# Personnel trained on SRH, including the Minimum Initial Service Package	18
# Personnel trained on GBV in areas such as clinical management of rape	10
# Personnel trained on COVID-19 prevention and control	20
# Youth facilitators, peers and volunteers trained on SRH and GBV	15

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF UNFPA ACTIVITIES

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## SRH interventions, including protection of health workforce

- UNFPA Somalia remains committed to ensuring the continuity of and access to lifesaving SRH services and information during the COVID-19 pandemic. Such services include the provision of safe delivery, management of pregnancy related complications, referral, birth-spacing counseling and assistance for pregnant mothers, and psychosocial support.
- Through CERF resources, UNFPA has scaled-up the SRH and GBV response services for people affected by the drought in Jubaland and South-West and Galmudug states.
- UNFPA has distributed 45 Inter-Agency Emergency Reproductive Health kits (IAERH) in drought-affected locations in the Federal Member States.
- The Southwest and Jubaland Health and Demographic Survey Report was launched in Baidoa and Kismayo, respectively. The survey report provides reliable data on health, nutrition & demographic characteristics.



## Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- Through the GBV AoR, UNFPA strongly advocates for funds and resources to respond to the current drought in Somalia. UNFPA is working with UN agencies, NGOs, clusters and the Federal Government to ensure that GBV response and risk mitigation activities are prioritized.
- UNFPA remains committed to ensuring the continuity of and access to lifesaving GBV prevention and response services, such as the provision of clinical care, psychosocial support, legal aid and material support to survivors of GBV, especially for women, adolescents and youth.
- UNFPA continues to strengthen GBV one-stop centers across the country, integrating care for survivors of GBV with reproductive health services.
- In the worst drought-affected districts in Jubbaland, Galmudug and Southwest, UNFPA is implementing GBV activities through UN-CERF resources.
- UNFPA and its partners distributed a total of 2,500 hygiene kits to women in Ceel Afwayn, Somaliland. The kits assure dignity for women/young girls and promote women's' right for privacy in difficult times.
- UNFPA facilitated a two-day GBV Case Management meeting with service providers in Mogadishu. We reached consensus on how to establish workable coordination arrangements for GBV case managers in Somalia, to ensure we contribute to quality, safe, ethical and comprehensive services.
- UNFPA facilitated a two-day refresh training on GBVIMS and GBV 5W Matrix reporting template for 30 GBV AoR partners in Kismayo. The training aimed to provide GBVIMS tools, standards, principles, approaches, practical sessions and knowledge on how to fill the 5W matrix, and ensure high-quality data from partners.

## Youth Program Activities

- UNFPA organized awareness campaigns for 80 youth at Abdiaziz Youth Centre in Mogadishu on SRH information and community awareness on FGM, child spacing, forceful marriage, drug abuse, domestic violence, sexually transmitted diseases and early marriages and their challenges/health complications
- In partnership with the Federal Ministry of Youth and sports, UNFPA organized an outreach campaign on peacebuilding dialogue and civic engagement and protection of civic spaces, reaching an estimated 300 youth in Banadir region.

- UNFPA in partnership with Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA), the Swedish government agency for peace, security and development conducted a forum on youth, elections, and democratizations. The forum was attended by over 120 youth from Puntland, focusing on political participation by young men and women.
- In collaboration with Jubaland Ministry of Youth and Sports, UNFPA conducted an outreach campaign on menstrual hygiene management and distributed sanitary pads to school going girls, as part of a cross-country campaign on menstrual hygiene management interventions. The interventions aim to reduce school absenteeism, break taboos and end stigma surrounding menstruation. The campaign reached more than 150 women and girls in Kismayu.
- UNFPA conducted a training on volunteerism for 30 young women and men in Gebiley town, Somaliland. The training aimed provide knowledge on how young men and women can support their communities by delivering awareness-raising messages on SRH, FGM and child marriage.
- UNFPA and its partners conducted a five-day ideation bootcamp training on design thinking for social innovation for young people in Kismayo.



## COORDINATION LEADERSHIP

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UNFPA continues to co-lead the national and sub-national GBV sub-cluster and the Reproductive Health Working Group (RH-WG). UNFPA is leading the efforts to ensure that the supply of reproductive health commodities is maintained and that midwives and other health personnel have the personal protection equipment needed to stay safe amidst COVID-19 response and the drought in Somalia.

Through the GBV AoR, UNFPA strongly advocates for funds and resources to respond to the severe drought in Somalia. UNFPA is working with other UN agencies, NGOs, Clusters and the Federal Government to ensure that GBV response and risk mitigation activities are prioritized.



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