



ISSUE # 05 MAY 2022

UNFPA RESPONSE IN SOMALIA

Situation Report





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

At present, Somalia is the most drought-affected country in the Horn of Africa. The current rainy season has thus far been below-average, making it the longest drought in the Horn of Africa in at least four decades. The number of people affected by the drought has reached 6.1 million, with over 771,000 people displaced from their homes in search of water, food and pasture. The situation is projected to further deteriorate in the coming weeks. Following a fourth consecutively failed rainy season, the country faces a heightened risk of localized famine in six areas, if food prices continue to rise and humanitarian assistance is not sustained to reach the most vulnerable populations.

The drought is threatening those already vulnerable, in particular displaced women and girls. The situation is likely to worsen if resources ensuring access to and availability of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) services are not received. As a result of people losing their livelihoods, there is a growing need for cash and voucher assistance across the country. The need similarly correlates with people's inability to secure basic materials, such as menstrual hygiene and sanitary items, and respond to urgent protection needs.

UNFPA Somalia prioritizes the continuity of essential and life-saving SRH and GBV services during humanitarian crises, targeting vulnerable women and girls, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and persons with disabilities. During the month of May 2022, UNFPA and its partners reached **46,671** persons, including internally displaced persons (IDPs), with SRH services and **22,164** persons with prevention and response to GBV, including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) for women and girls.

In addition, UNFPA reached **1,900** young people through youth-related activities.



The capacity of UNFPA partners is further strengthened to support the delivery of SRH and GBV services, and responding to increasing needs. Health facilities and mobile clinics are providing services to support maternal and newborn health, birth-spacing options, and 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

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge the already ill-equipped health service delivery in Somalia. As of 2 June 2022, COVID-19 cases in Somalia had reached **26,439** 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

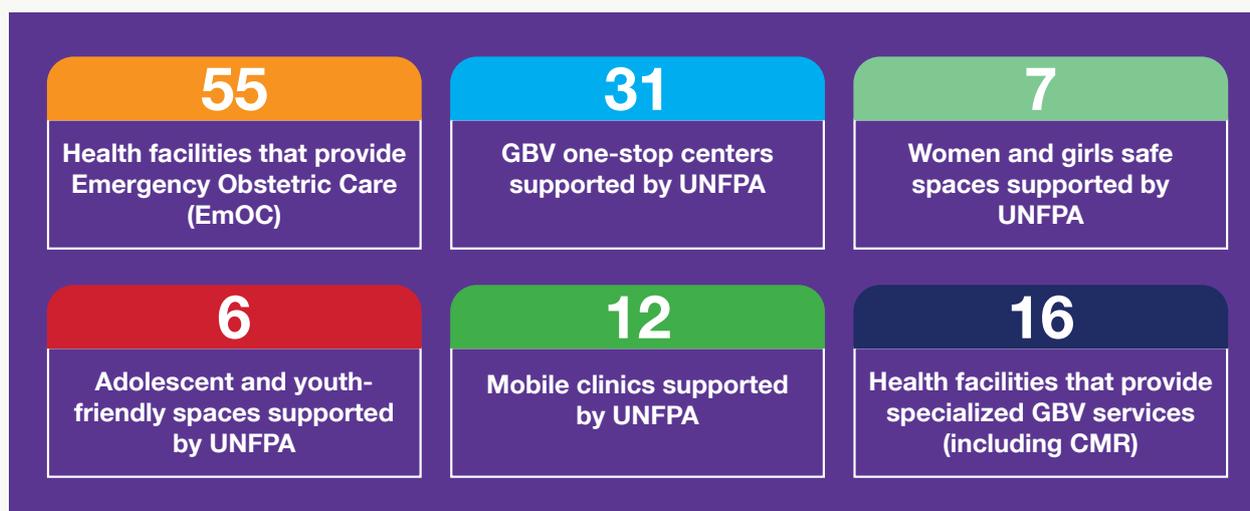
- The situation of women and girls in Somalia is likely to deteriorate in the coming weeks and months. Due to a lack of funding, UNFPA and humanitarian partners are unable to ensure access to life-saving SRH and GBV services for all those in need, with special attention to internally displaced persons (IDPs) across the country. In 2022, UNFPA Somalia requires US\$19.5 million to ensure access to SRH and GBV services for women and girls affected by the drought.
- The 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Somalia was met with major funding shortfalls compared with previous years. Due to the increasingly severe humanitarian crisis 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; however the 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

UNFPA Somalia has developed a plan to ensure access to and availability of life-saving SRH and GBV services in the worst affected regions and locations. UNFPA response activities target pregnant women, adolescent girls, boys and men in IDP camps and in hard-to-reach areas, and include the provision of 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 UN Country Team (UNCT) and Humanitarian Country Team (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 May 2022

Sexual/Reproductive Health	
# People reached with sexual/reproductive health services	16,321
# People reached with family planning services, information and counselling	622
# Normal / assisted deliveries	2,573
# C-Sections assisted	129
# People reached with ante-natal care consultations	7,787
# People reached with post-natal care consultations	801
# People reached with SRH information and community awareness activities	18,404
# People with disabilities reached through SRH services and information	34
Gender-Based Violence	
# People reached with GBV programming/services	676
# People provided with GBV case management	32
# People reached with GBV information and community awareness activities	21,435
# People with disabilities reached through GBV services and information	21
Youth Services	
# Adolescents and young people reached with youth programming	1900
Capacity Strengthening	
# Personnel trained on SRH, including the Minimum Initial Service Package	35
# Personnel trained on GBV in areas such as clinical management of rape	11
# Personnel trained on COVID-19 prevention and control	10
# Youth facilitators, peers and volunteers trained on SRH and GBV	15

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF UNFPA ACTIVITIES

SRH interventions, including protection of health workforce

- Through CERF resources, UNFPA has scaled-up SRH and GBV response services for people affected by the drought in Jubaland and South-West states.
- UNFPA continues to strengthen the access to and continuity of quality life-saving essentials, SRH information and services for women, adolescents and youth during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- UNFPA and SouthWest State Ministry of Health (MoH) completed a five-day Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Training for 35 participants, including doctors, nurses, qualified midwives and RH managers based in Baidoa. The training is part of an effort to enhance the capacity of SRH partners to prepare and respond to SRH emergencies.



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 ensure the continuity of and access to lifesaving GBV prevention and response services, such as the provision of clinical care, Psychosocial Support (PS), legal aid and material support to survivors of GBV, especially for women, adolescents and youth.
- UNFPA continues to strengthen the capacity of GBV one-stop centers across the country, integrating care for survivors of GBV with RH services.
- UNFPA has established a Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) in Hodan district of Mogadishu. The new center intends congregate women to socialize with their peers and build social networks. Beneficiaries will receive contextually relevant skills, access safe and non-stigmatizing multi-sectoral GBV response services, such as psychosocial support (PSS), legal aid and medical services. The center will use revised guidelines for WGSS, to maximize its functionality.
- In an effort to meet the increasing demand for women's protection services, UNFPA established a new GBV One Stop Centers (OSC) in Kahda district. The location was chosen based on being a gateway for new IDPs from the mainland of Southern regions of Somalia. The new OSC has already provided psychosocial support and CMR services.

Adolescents and Youth Activities

- Together with national partners, UNFPA supported Mogadishu Cultural Festival, aiming to empower women and youth by providing them with a platform to showcase their skills and creativity. A total of 100 young men and women attended the festival.
- Through UNFPA support, 80 young people were trained on soft life skills, including tailoring, beauty salon, basic computer and web development at Abdiaziz Youth Centre in Mogadishu.
- UNFPA commemorated Menstrual Hygiene Day in Mogadishu by organizing an event estimated to have been attended by 120 young girls and women. Sessions on menstrual hygiene education were carried out and hygiene products were distributed to those who attended.

- In partnership with UNDP, UNFPA organized a six-day workshop in Hargeisa for 18 youth center managers from across Somaliland and Somalia. The youth center managers were trained on design thinking methods and how to apply them practically to reflect on the user journey and experiences of youth who come to the centers for services.
- In collaboration with national partners, UNFPA conducted a theater performance session on child marriage for about 200 young girls and women in Nugal region to create awareness on the adverse effects of child marriage on young girls.
- In collaboration with partners, UNFPA organized HIV awareness sessions in schools and communities in Somalia and developed communication campaigns on HIV preventions. An estimated 1,500 Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials were distributed in IDP camps, schools, and youth centers.



COORDINATION LEADERSHIP

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 RH commodities is maintained and that midwives and other health personnel have the Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) 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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