

COVID-19 Situation Report

Fast Facts



Confirmed
COVID-19 cases
In Somalia

3,941



Recovered
cases

3,185



Reported
Fatalities

104

Key Population Groups



Internally
Displaced Persons

2.6M



Women of
Reproductive Age

3.5M



Pregnant
Women

387,450



Adolescents and
Youth (Age 10-24)

2.7M

1. Overview

- The Somali population continues to face one of the most complex and protracted humanitarian crises in the world. About 5.2 million people need humanitarian assistance through 2021 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, climatic shocks, desert locust and conflict. The number of displaced people across the country is at 2.6 million. In 2020 flooding has affected nearly 1.6 million people, and since January 685,000 people have been affected by a desert locust infestation and this has further worsened food insecurity in the country. Confirmed daily COVID-19 cases continue to decline in Somalia; according to the Federal Ministry of Health and WHO Somalia, the cumulative positive testing rate has declined gradually. A total of 3,941 COVID-19 cases were confirmed in Somalia as of 28 October 2020, with 3,185 recoveries and 104 fatalities. The number of women and girls facing abuse, including sexual violence, has significantly increased due to the economic and social stresses induced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- UNFPA Somalia, with the support of donors and partners, continues to provide leadership, coordination and programming for the access and availability of the lifesaving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services in most affected locations in the country. This is being done to support the priority needs of vulnerable women and girls. UNFPA Somalia and its partners also support the COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), provides personal protective equipment (PPE) and supports the safety of patients and health workers through strengthening infection, prevention and control.
- Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak this year, UNFPA Somalia has updated and activated its business continuity plan to ensure time-critical activities and functions related to managing the safety and security of staff despite the crisis and restrictions on physical movement in Somalia. The UNFPA country office has established systems and tools, including e-signatures and e-filing system, required to continue signing work plans and disbursing cash in a paperless fashion.

2. UNFPA Supported Services and Beneficiaries (29 September to 28 October 2020)

Women benefitting from SRH services (including antenatal and postnatal care, emergency obstetric and newborn care services)	People benefitting from birth spacing services, information, and counseling	People reached with services related to gender-based violence (prevention, risk mitigation, and response)	People benefitting from SRH and GBV awareness-raising and information campaign including coronavirus prevention	Health care providers and midwives benefitting from the training on coronavirus prevention guidelines
10,454 including 7,521 of normal deliveries assisted by Skilled Birth Attendants	485	2,732	92,124	31

3. UNFPA Response Summary

Coordination

- UNFPA Somalia continues to work with the Federal Government and the Federal Member States, UN agencies and other partners to ensure the prioritization and continuity of SRH and GBV services. UNFPA is engaged in the various coordination mechanisms including the UN Country Team and Humanitarian Coordination Team and supports the national COVID-19 preparedness and response plans ensuring integration of SRH and GBV concerns
- UNFPA leads the national and sub-national GBV sub-cluster under the protection cluster and the reproductive health working group under the health cluster



- UNFPA continue to provide leadership, programing and advocacy required to ensure that the supply of reproductive health commodities is maintained and that midwives and other health personnel have the personal protective equipment they need to stay safe amidst COVID-19 response and the floods situation in Somalia
- UNFPA supports the production of the COVID-19 vulnerability mapping by risk factor and related indicators from the Somali Health and Demographic Survey (SHDS) for the major towns in the country including Benadir Region, Baidoa, Garowe, Kismayo and Galkayo. The products are designed to guide the humanitarian partners for targeted COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities

Continuity of SRH interventions, including protection of health workforce

- UNFPA provides strong leadership and coordination required to prioritize and support the continuity of and access to quality lifesaving essential SRH information and services for women, adolescents and youth during the COVID-19 pandemic
- UNFPA and its partners continue to provide support to the De Martino Hospital in Mogadishu which is currently serving as the government-designated national referral centre for COVID-19 case management and isolation for the entire country
- UNFPA and its partners continue to provide support towards the prevention and mitigation efforts of the spread and transmission of COVID-19 in Emergency Obstetric Care and Neonatal Care (EmONC) facilities across the country and supporting the procurement of PPE for Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for health care workers, including midwives
- UNFPA and its partners are supporting and implementing the training of health care workers including midwives on IPC and case management using WHO guidelines for service providers
- UNFPA and its partners are implementing the provision of family planning services while responding to COVID-19 and the floods situation across Somalia
- Over 100 midwives in Puntland, including 20 new graduates from UNFPA-supported midwifery schools, have committed not to participate in the medicalization of FGM in which health care providers perform the act. They have pledged to be anti-FGM champions in the EndFGM campaign

Addressing Gender Based Violence

- UNFPA is leading the efforts to ensure the continuity of and access to lifesaving gender-based violence prevention, mitigation and response services such as the provision of clinical care, psychosocial support, legal aid and material support to survivors of GBV for women, adolescents and youth



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- UNFPA continues to support the capacity strengthening trainings for service providers in providing basic psychosocial support for survivors of GBV amidst COVID-19 response
- UNFPA and partners continue to strengthen GBV One Stop Centres across the country which integrate care for survivors of GBV with reproductive health services
- UNFPA and its partners have trained 50 journalists on reporting protocols of gender-based violence and to prioritize the fight against GBV and FGM amidst COVID-19 response in Baidoa
- UNFPA continues to support the development of GBV COVID-19 messages, including guidelines. These are disseminated using service sites and during the distribution of dignity and hygiene kits
- UNFPA and its partners have trained 20 alternative dispute resolution officers on sexual offences law, human rights and gender, the rule of law & referral mechanism of GBV cases to formal courts in Puntland
- UNFPA and its partners have trained 250 girls in tailoring, cooking, makeup and beauty in Somaliland to equip young people to be able to validate their leadership during this COVID-19 pandemic

Risk communication and community engagement

- UNFPA Somalia continues to provide leadership and support and to engage with the Government and partners in the risk communication and community engagement
- UNFPA continues to participate in the risk communication and community engagement working groups at the national and sub-national levels in the COVID-19 taskforce pillars



- UNFPA Somalia in partnership with the ministries of Planning of the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States has been preparing population density maps that show hotspots and areas that present vulnerability to COVID-19 by various risk factors. The maps are providing better visualization, understanding, and targeting of the population and situation. The information and maps strengthen an appropriate response plan for the Ministry of Health and other local and international agencies in Somalia

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- The maps produced integrate population densities with the locations of various social amenities, including markets, hospitals, places of worship and information on critical risk factors, such as levels of chronic diseases, disability, aged population and internally displaced person (IDP) sites. These maps provide a standard frame of reference for COVID-19 risk factors, thereby serving as tools in identifying where critical resources are needed and in prioritizing interventions. This is helping the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders to slow the spread of COVID-19



- UNFPA continues to support the joint awareness-raising on the risks of FGM, GBV and SRH education, and activism with a wide range of partners, including communities targeting women of reproductive age, youth, elderly men and women, female health workers and Internally Displaced Populations
- UNFPA and its partners continue to support and guide young people's engagement in Somalia through mobile caravans. Communities are informed on the significance of staying at home and social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19

4. Resource Mobilization

- The women and girls in Somalia continue to face the worst consequences of the humanitarian crises and the COVID-19 pandemic. UNFPA and its partners continue to advocate for the prioritization and resources to address the needs of vulnerable women and girls. However, concerns exist over the overall declining trend for funds for GBV service provision due to reprioritization within the existing resource mobilization forums
- UNFPA Somalia is committed to providing the leadership required and will continue to reach out to bilateral donors to mobilize the needed funding for UNFPA Somalia's COVID-19 response plan for SRH and GBV activities including services, supplies, information and coordination



Anders Thomsen
Representative

thomsen@unfpa.org
+252 613 992 565

Ridwaan Abdi
Humanitarian Specialist

rabdi@unfpa.org
+252 615 131 030

Pilirani Semu-Banda
Communications &
Partnerships Specialist

semu-banda@unfpa.org
+254 734 500 439

UNFPA Somalia, Ocean Plot, Next to the Embassy of China, IOM Compound - MIA
(AMISOM Protected Area, Mogadishu, Somalia)

<https://somalia.unfpa.org/en>

