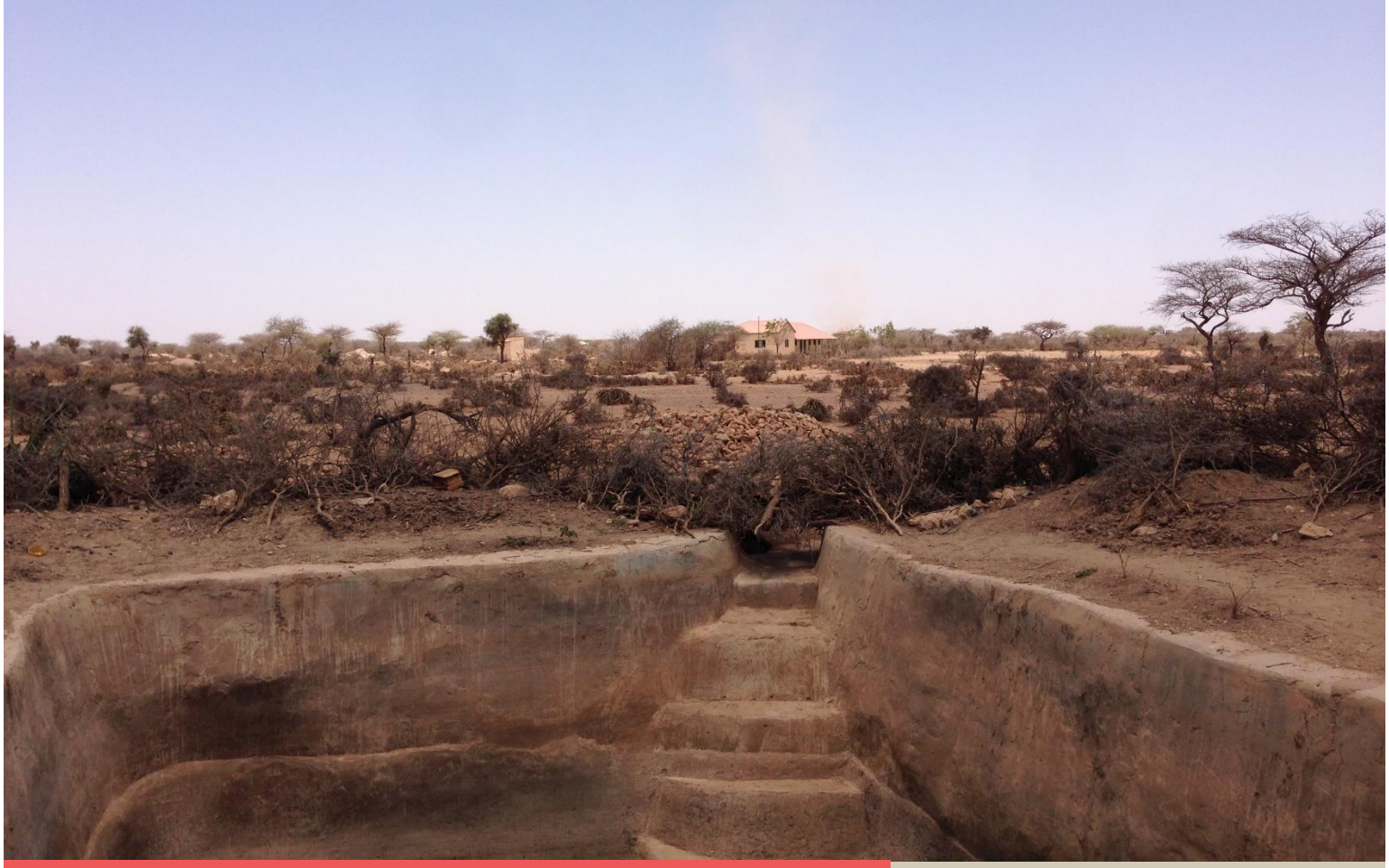


SOMALIA INITIAL RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT (SIRNA)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

V3, JULY 2016

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Humanitarian Aid

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

OCHA

REACH
Informing more effective humanitarian action

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) has tried in the past to adopt specific tools like the Multi-Sector Inter-agency Rapid Assessment (MIRA) and the rapid go-and-see checklist. However, these tools do not provide enough information to inform strategic short to medium term activities especially when these are required at scale. As such, while the go-and-see checklist is able to identify whether an immediate humanitarian response is needed through key informant interviews, the SIRNA allows for a nuanced appropriately targeted response based on strong household level data.

Clusters and partners, alike, have identified the need to employ a more comprehensive tool which has questions specifically designed by each cluster to inform the overall strategic planning and prioritization process for emergencies. This led to the development of the Somalia Initial Rapid Needs Assessment (SIRNA) to reflect the changing dynamics, drivers, and needs in Somalia as a basis for overall and cluster strategy development in emergencies.

SIRNA is a standard, easily accessible inter-Cluster tool that can provide detailed information of the situation after a crisis is reported. OCHA and the ICCG have long committed to purposive and effective rapid assessments after the onset of a shock. When a sudden onset disaster occurs, there is need to gather information within a short period of time. SIRNA is designed to serve as a standard, easily accessible inter-Ccluster tool that can provide a comprehensive needs overview of a population after a crisis is first reported.

The SIRNA operates within the guidelines of analytical framework that advocates for systematic collection, organization and analysis of both secondary and primary data. The tool has received technical input from all clusters and has been adapted to be applicable to both IDP and host communities as well as urban and rural populations.

SIRNA has been deployed twice in order to inform flood responses in Middle Shabelle, and the current document relates to simultaneous deployment in Somaliland and Puntland in March 2016 in response to the drought conditions.

In February 2016 following successive low precipitation rainy seasons the Government of Somaliland issued a declaration of drought as result of the El Nino weather system and appealed for humanitarian assistance, following on a similar appeal on behalf of the Somaliland and Puntland administrations in January 2016. The drought is reported to have a high impact on the primarily pastoralist communities and livestock within the affected regions of western Somaliland, border areas of Sanaag and Sool, and the Bari region of Puntland. While data is available on the food security and nutrition implications from FSNAU and FEWSNET, other sectors lack detail on the implications of drought-induced displacement, existing vulnerabilities and response capacities.

AUDIENCE

The SIRNA assessment is targeted to inform humanitarian coordination mechanisms, operational actors and governmental actors. The outputs are designed to inform cluster strategic decision makers through provision of information on needs and humanitarian gaps, and to provide an evidence base for response planning.

Within the context of Somaliland and Puntland the existing information outside of Food Security and Nutrition is lacking in detail and methodological strength, and coordination limitations is leading to a duplication of implementation among actors. The SIRNA is thus targeted particularly at the identification of key humanitarian needs and gap areas where funding should be prioritised for the second stage of the response.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the SIRNA deployment is to identify the impacts of the current drought situation in areas of Somaliland and Puntland on vulnerable communities, resilience measures and coping mechanisms undertaken and required assistance to support communities.

Specific objectives:

- To assess the degree of access to and needs and vulnerabilities across the sectors of shelter, WASH, food security, health, education, protection and other essential sectors through a household profiling methodology;
- To identify community and household level service access, through facility mapping
- To develop programmatic recommendations for all actors involved in the response;
- To identify the feasibility of upscaling school services in response to current and potential drought effects, particularly in reference to school feeding programmes and WASH facilities
- To gather profile information on the local population that can be used as a reference to orient future targeting for particular types of assistance;

METHODOLOGY

The SIRNA will be comprised of three components: household survey, key informant survey and facility mapping; to be conducted simultaneously.

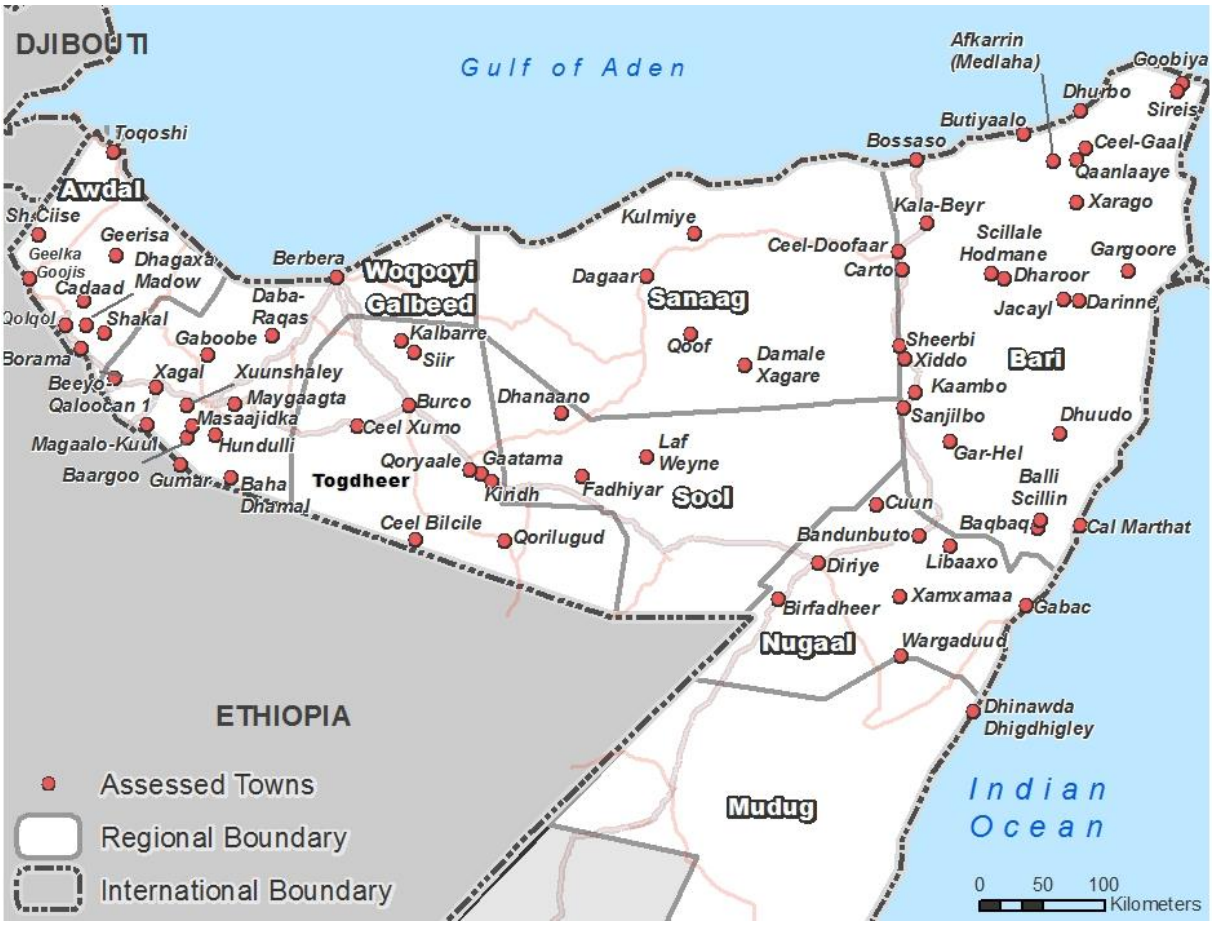
Household data collection will be conducted using a sample representative at the state level at a 92% level of confidence and 5% margin of error. Findings will be representative for currently drought affected areas and areas with anticipated low rainfall in the Gu season at 95% level of confidence and 5% margin of error. The SIRNA will utilise a cluster sampling approach. The sample has been predicted based on the average expected design effect, therefore on some variables the confidence interval may be more or less precise in the final sample.

The sample has been calculated using worldpop population density estimates, 2015 adjusted for the UN overall population estimate.[1] [2] This allows the construction of a sample not linked to the regional administrative level, which is the greatest level of precision available from the existing UNFPA data. Worldpop population estimates were joined to the nearest town or village on the UNOCHA settlement CODs, giving a populated area polygon arounf each settlement. These settlements were then used as the clusters for the sample.

Clusters were selecting using the Population Proportional to Size method, with replacement. The sample was constructed for the whole assessment area, but because of the lower population and less dense urbanisation of Puntland compared to Somaliland, an additional top up was conducted, again using the PPS method, in order to ensure results for Puntland are representative at the desired level. This means that post-weighting should be employed in the analysis phase. The impact of design effect was accounted for in the construction of the sample.

The overall sample is 1210 household interview, across 94 total clusters and 71 unique clusters.

Map 1: Cluster Locations for Somaliland and Puntland States



[1] Worldpop methodologies can be found at their website: http://www.worldpop.org.uk/

[2] Somalia data from: http://www.worldpop.org.uk/data/summary/?contselect=Africa&countselect=Somalia&typeselect=Population

Key informant data collection will gather overall community trends and vulnerabilities at the community level in each cluster. It will be conducted as a minimum one key informant per assessment area, and will also be utilised to gather further information on community access to services, especially mobile and remote facilities. A key informant is defined as an individual with the capacity to speak for conditions within a defined community, which may constitute a geographic agglomeration (e.g. a specific village), a livelihood group (e.g. pastoralists) or population profile (e.g. IDPs). The community definitions are defined by each key informant.

Facility mapping will identify key resources accessible by assessed communities, including waterpoints, health facilities, nutrition facilities, schools, food markets, non-food markets and latrines. All facilities within the defined assessment area (town, village etc) will be mapped. Where specific facilities are not available within the assessed area, but are accessible by residents in a second location, those services will also be mapped.

In addition, and on specific request of the Education and WASH clusters, a separate mapping of schools will be conducted, aimed specifically at identifying possible primary level education facilities that could be used as hubs for provision of services in the event of the long-term continuation or exacerbation of drought conditions. As not all schools are able to be assessed in the short timeframe and with the resource limitations of the server, prioritisation will be given to:

1. Schools not currently included and georeferenced on the WASH cluster identification of existing nutrition and WASH services, but included on the EMIS report of schools
2. Validation of schools reporting water and/or school feeding programmes

RESEARCH PRODUCTS

- Assessment report (Somaliland and Puntland)
- Analytical mapping
- Facility mapping of assessed clusters
- School WASH, Education and Feeding programme provision maps
- Current and potential caseload to WASH and Nutrition 'hubs'
- Factsheets (regional, state)
- Raw dataset
- Clean dataset
- Data cleaning logbook
- Geo-tagged photograph repository

TIMELINE

Activity	Week (commencing Sat, ending Thur)						
	12-17/03	19-24/03	26-31/03	02-07/04	09-14/04	16-21/04	23-28/04
SIRNA trigger confirmed							
Tool finalisation							
Sample development							
Recruitment of field staff							
Training of field staff							
Data collection							
Factsheet publication	11/05/2016						
Report publication	30/05/2016						

DOCUMENTATION PLAN/ ANNEXES

- *ToRs*
- *SIRNA Guidance Document*
- *Analysis Framework*
- *Data collection tools:*
    - *Household*
    - *Key informant*
    - *Facility*
- *Clean Database (soft copy)*
- *Data Cleaning Logbook*
- *Presentation(s)*
- *Report*