

Durable Solutions Readiness Assessment (DSRA)

July, 2024 | Baidoa, Somalia.

KEY MESSAGES

- Baidoa showed signs of stability with progress toward durable solutions, with 78% of IDPs and 80% of host community households reporting wanting to remain in their current settlements over the year following data collection.
- Improving access to basic services is crucial for enabling households to progress toward durable solutions. Clean drinking water appeared accessible in Baidoa, with all host community households (100%) and almost all IDP households (90%) reporting no issues. However, healthcare remained a problem, as nearly half (49%) of IDP households reportedly struggled to get medical support due to high costs and a lack of medical staff.
- Households reported dependency on market purchases for their food, with 88% of host community households and 56% of IDP households relying on markets rather than self-production. This dependence leaves households vulnerable to food shortages and price changes, especially as the area remains classified as a hotspot for acute food insecurity and malnutrition according to IPC Jul - Dec 2024 analysis.
- A lack of legal identity and secure land tenure documents was reported in Baidoa, with 86% of IDP households lacking identification documents and only 24% having written land tenure arrangements. These challenges could restrict their access to public services, legal rights and tenure security.

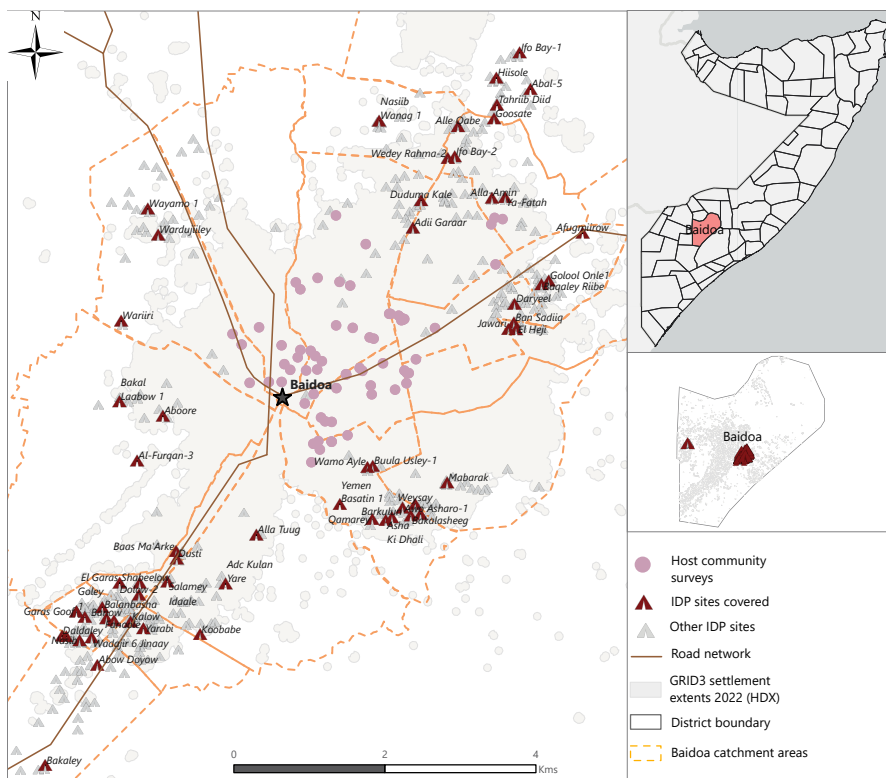
CONTEXT & RATIONALE

Climate shocks and insecurity continue to affect Somali populations, frequently resulting in their displacement. Consequently, an estimated 2.9 million people were displaced in Somalia as of December 2023.¹

Protracted displacement has created a need for development-focused, durable solutions alongside emergency support. To better assess IDP sites' conditions and identify those suitable for long-term solutions, the Detailed Site Assessment (DSA), led by REACH and the CCCM cluster, provides critical data on sites locations, capacities, and humanitarian needs. Building on this, the Durable Solutions Readiness Assessment (DSRA) will examine IDP sites to support development-focused interventions in collaboration with partners, including International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Danwadaag Consortium. Additionally, as a pilot country for the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement, Somalia will develop solution pathways to address vulnerabilities and promote social cohesion among IDPs and host communities, facilitating a shift from emergency to durable solutions.

In light of this, a Durable Solutions Readiness Assessment (DSRA), supported by IOM was conducted by REACH between February and March 2024.

BAIDOA DISTRICT COVERAGE MAP



ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

The DSRA was initiated in partnership with the IOM-led Danwadaag consortium to identify and assess sites that could be considered appropriate for durable solutions and development-oriented interventions.

The Detailed Site Assessment (DSA) VII data has been used to identify the sites that showed enabling factors for durable solutions for programming. REACH and IOM, based on the DSA data and the Somali context, developed the DSRA in order to inform strategic operational decision-making of durable solutions actors for IDPs and identify progress towards durable solutions.²

The data collected is representative of the population type and location (site + nearest city) with a 90% confidence level and a 10% margin of error. Each Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) site and the closest city in the area were clustered separately as a single area, location or neighbourhood. DSRA data was collected from 26 February 2024 - 01 April 2024.

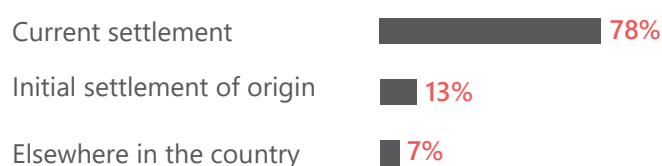
➔ DISPLACEMENT STATUS AND MOVEMENT

The findings show potential movement towards durable solutions, though several gaps need to be addressed. Positive signs of stability include 84% of IDP households and 98% of host community households feeling safe moving freely within their communities, as well as 78% of IDP households and 80% of host community households expressing an intention to remain in their current settlements over 12 months following data collection. However, poor living standards (69%), lack of accommodation (50%), and insufficient humanitarian assistance (50%) were the most reported reasons driving displacement and must be addressed. Tackling these root causes could help reduce the arrival of new displacement, laying the foundation for durable solutions for displaced communities in Baidoa.

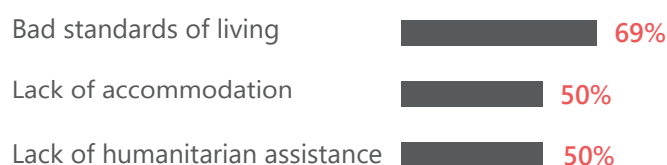
% of hosts and IDP household members reporting free movement without fear in their community:



Top three most commonly reported movement intentions for the 12 months following data collection by % of IDP households:



Three most commonly reported reasons why host and IDP households left their settlement of origin:#



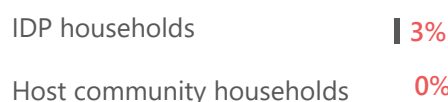
✂ ACCESS TO BASIC NEEDS AND SERVICES

Access to basic needs and services remained a challenge, particularly for host community households in Baidoa district. The data shows that 62% of IDP households reported being unable to meet their basic needs independently in the three months preceding the data collection, in contrast to 31% of host community households facing similar challenges. Additionally, facing discrimination while accessing essential services such as education, healthcare, and administrative support were notably low, with only 3% of IDP households and none of the host community households reporting such experiences.

% of the assessed households that reportedly did not have access to basic needs on their own in the last 3 months prior to data collection:



% of host community and IDP households reporting to have been discriminated against when trying to access basic services (i.e when trying to rent a house), by type of assessed households:#



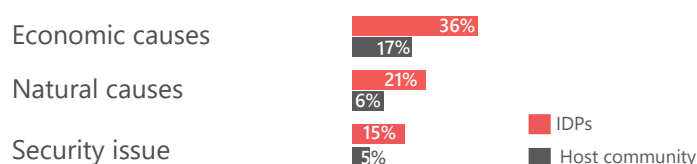
🍷 FOOD SECURITY

In Baidoa, most households primarily relied on market purchases for food, rather than self-production. Most households (88% of host community and 56% of IDP households) depended on market purchases for their main food supply. This aligns with the findings from a [Detailed Site Assessment \(DSA VII\)](#) conducted in March 2024, where KIs in most assessed sites in Somalia reported that households relied primarily on market purchases for food.³ According to the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) for acute food insecurity and malnutrition, Baidoa has consistently been classified as a hotspot (Phase 3 and above) for both acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition of Post-Gu analyses. The analysis from 2022, 2023, and 2024 show its persistent vulnerability compared to other urban populations.⁴ To address these challenges, the IPC analysis recommends prioritizing durable solutions that build resilience, such as investing in climate-resilient agriculture, strengthening early warning systems, and expanding social protection programs, alongside targeted humanitarian assistance for the most vulnerable.

% of households that reportedly depended on market purchases as their main source of food:



Most commonly reported barriers to food access, by type of assessed households:#



Responses could be more than 100% as it was a select multiple question.

ACCESS TO WATER AND HEALTHCARE

Access to drinking water was largely reliable, with 100% of host community households and 90% of IDP households reporting no issues accessing water. This suggests that IDPs in Baidoa are progressing toward durable solutions. However, access to healthcare remained limited, as nearly half of IDP households (49%) and 15% of host community households reported lacking healthcare access in the three months prior to data collection. The most reported barrier to healthcare access was the high cost of medicines and services for 27% of IDP households and 12% of host community households. Overall, IDP households faced more challenges in accessing healthcare compared to host community households.

The three main obstacles reported in accessing healthcare services, by % of assessed households:*

	Host community households	IDP households
High cost of services/medicine	12%	27%
No qualified health staff	2%	9%
Unable to access medical services based on clan identity	3%	10%

% of assessed households that did not have access to healthcare services 3 months prior to the assessment:

IDP households 49%

Host community households 15%

% of assessed households that reported no issues when accessing drinking water (on their way to or at the water sources):

IDP households 90%

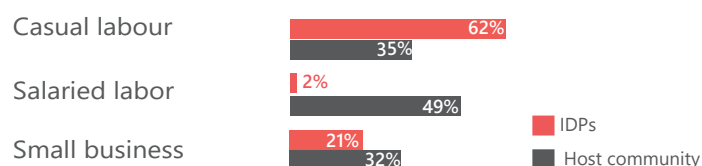
Host community households 100%

ACCESS TO LIVELIHOODS AND MARKETS

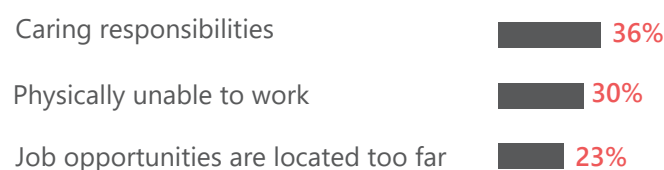
In Baidoa, households primarily relied on casual labor and small businesses as their main sources of income. Casual labor was the livelihood for 62% of IDP households and 35% of host community households. In contrast, salaried labor was more prevalent among the host community (49% compared to 2% of IDP households), as were small businesses (32% of host community households compared to 21% of IDP households). Temporary employment remained common with 23% of IDP households' and 20% of host community households' main income earner reported to have a temporary job in the three months prior to data collection. However, challenges in accessing employment existed, with 36% of households reporting caregiving responsibilities (taking care of other hh members) as the primary reason for unemployment, followed by 30% reporting physical inability to work, and 23% identifying the distant location of job opportunities. Despite these disparities, the reported income diversification suggests some progress toward economic stability and self-reliance, which are essential for achieving durable solutions for displaced households.⁵

The time taken to access markets varied between IDP and host community households. Among IDP households, 35% reported taking between 31 minutes to 1 hour to reach the nearest market, compared to 20% of host community households. Additionally, a smaller proportion of IDP households (5%) faced longer travel times of over 1 hour, while no host community households reported such extended travel times.

Top three most commonly reported sources of income, by % of assessed households:*



The three main reasons why IDP household members were unemployed, by % of assessed households:*



% of households that reported temporary jobs as their employment conditions for the main income earner in the last 3 months prior to data collection:

IDP households 23%

Host community households 20%

The reported time taken by the assessed households (host and IDPs) using their usual means of transport to get to the nearest market, by type of assessed household:

	Host community households	IDP households
Less than 15 minutes	28%	7%
Between 15 minutes and 30 minutes	52%	52%
Between 31 minutes and 1 hour	20%	35%
More than 1 hour	0%	5%

* Responses could be more than 100% as it was a select multiple question.

EDUCATION

Education was accessible in Baidoa district, with many assessed households reporting the availability of education facilities in their current settlements. However, a notable gap exists, as 88% of host community households had access compared to only 56% of IDP households. This aligns with the Education Cluster report, which identifies Baidoa as one of the districts with full education coverage and a strong presence of education partners.⁶

Targeted programming is needed to address this disparity by focusing on expanding education facilities in IDP settlements and reducing barriers. Bridging this gap between population groups is necessary, as widespread access to education provides a strong foundation for durable solutions, fostering long-term development and stability for both displaced and host community households.

% of the assessed households (both hosts and IDPs) that reportedly had an education facility available in their current settlement.



ACCESS TO HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY (HLP)

Results suggest access to housing, land, and property (HLP) was notably constrained, particularly for displaced households. The reliance on oral land tenure arrangements was widespread, with 62% of IDPs and 20% of host community households depending on oral agreements rather than formal documentation. This reliance on non-written agreements indicates a gap in land tenure security, exposing these populations to potential, eviction, land disputes and instability.

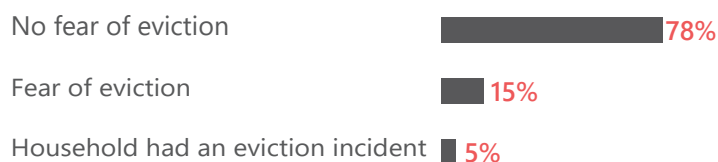
The current state of housing reflects widespread vulnerability, with data showing that more than half of households reportedly lived in shelters that were either moderately or severely damaged. Specifically, 51% of host community households and 24% of IDP households reported moderately damaged housing, while 11% of host community households and 33% of IDP households lived in severely damaged shelters.

Eviction risks remained a concern for IDP households in Baidoa, with 15% of households fearing eviction in the near term and 5% having already faced eviction incidents in the six months prior to data collection. Despite 78% of households reporting no immediate fear of eviction, findings further show that a more than half 62% of the IDP households remains at risk, particularly those without formal land tenure arrangements.

Most commonly reported types of land tenure arrangement, by % of assessed households:

	Host community households	IDP households
Written	80%	24%
Oral	20%	62%
Do not know	0%	14%

Fear of being evicted from current shelter or occurrence of eviction incidents in the 6 months prior to data collection, by % of assessed IDP households:



Top three most commonly reported current states of shelter/housing, by % of assessed households:

	Host community households	IDP households
Moderately damaged	51%	54%
Not damaged	39%	8%
Severely damaged	11%	33%

ACCESS TO DOCUMENTATION

Host community households in Baidoa reported commonly holding ID cards (52% of host community households and 4% of IDP households), birth certificates, and voter registration cards. However, the majority of IDP households (86%) reported lacking any form of documentation, reflecting limited access to key legal identity documents essential for accessing public services and social protection. This lack of legal identity creates significant barriers to basic services and increases vulnerability.

Strengthening access to key legal documents, in line with [Inter Agency Standing Committee \(IASC\) guidelines](#), is necessary for supporting durable solutions by enhancing IDPs' ability to access rights, secure livelihoods, and integrate fully into host communities, thus paving the way for sustainable self-reliance and protection.

Top three commonly reported types of legal identification documentation that the assessed households possessed, by % of assessed households:*

	Host community households	IDP households
ID Card	52%	4%
Birth certificate	14%	0%
Voter registration	8%	0%
None	20%	86%

* Responses could be more than 100% as it was a select multiple question.

GOVERNANCE AND SAFETY

Baidoa demonstrates a good position in both governance and safety, with effective local governance structures and security measures contributing to a stable and secure environment for the community, despite notable disparities between IDP and host community households. While a considerable majority of IDP households (88%) were reportedly not actively participating in community life, this figure was lower for host community households (66%). Similarly, host community households were more likely to have a representative speaking on their behalf (85%) compared to IDP households (71%). The presence of representative speakers reported by both IDP and host community households is a sign of progress toward achieving durable solutions.

Regarding factors influencing social cohesion, both groups reported a sense of trust/solidarity/unity as the most important (66% for host community households, 72% for IDP households). Sharing a similar cultural identity was the second most important factor (41% for host community households, 42% for IDP households). Sharing a similar language was the third most important factor (41% for host community households, 27% for IDP households). IDP households reporting a higher sense of trust and solidarity further indicate a strong potential for durable solutions that facilitate local integration. The remarkably low levels of reported friction between IDP households (1%) and host community households (0%) in Baidoa were a positive indicator of social cohesion. This mutual harmony highlighted an opportunity to build on existing goodwill and promoted collaboration and peaceful coexistence.

% of households that reportedly did not participate actively in the social and political life of the community:*



% of households that reported to have a representative that can speak on behalf of the population:



Top three most commonly reported positive factors reported by the households that influence social cohesion in the settlements:*

	Host community households	IDP households
A sense of trust/solidarity/unity	66%	72%
Sharing same cultural identity	41%	42%
Sharing a similar language	41%	27%

Three main safety and security incidents reported by the households in the last 3 months prior to data collection:*

	Host community households	IDP households
Illegal taxation non-government actors	100%	33%
Incidents due to UXO*	0%	4%
Friction between community and surrounding host communities	0%	1%

* Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) is any sort of military ammunition or explosive ordnance which has failed to function as intended"

Responses could be more than 100% as it was a select multiple question.

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

The DSRA used the quantitative method to conduct this assessment. Household-level, face-to-face interviews were conducted in the host settlements (16 nearest cities) and IDP sites (161). REACH used structured household surveys, referencing the existing global standards on durable solutions (DSs) like Joint IDP profiling service (JIPS) indicator library and Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs, to understand the demographic characteristics of the households in sites showing DSs enabling factors. The population per site and city was randomly selected using a stratified random sampling technique. The data is representative of the population type and location (site + nearest city) with a 90% confidence level and a 10% margin of error. As such, each IDP site and the closest city in the area were clustered separately as a single location. The DSA VII has been used to identify the sites showing enabling factors of durable solutions and hence a positive score for the durable solutions index. 164 sites out of 2,043 assessed sites scored 25 out of 39 for Durable Solutions Scoring Index (DSSI). The assessment has mapped out the categorization of different conditions and readiness of sites showing durable solutions enabling factors and serves to support both those IDP sites on track for more development-oriented activities, as well as maintaining prioritization for urgent crisis interventions (through the site prioritization matrix). You can find more information about the methodology and assessment in the terms of reference [here](#) ⁷

The data collection took place between the 26th of February 2024 and continued until the 1st of April 2024. 2,974 household surveys were collected in Baidoa. All findings presented in this factsheet relate to the proportion of assessed households with a given response as reported by household members from hosts and IDPs, and should be considered representative of the humanitarian situation in assessed sites.

LIMITATIONS

The type of potential bias related to the choice of quantitative method used in the analysis of data and presentation of results must be acknowledged. Assessing the nearest host community households for all IDP sites was difficult since there was no clear demarcation or boundary that separated the hosts from the IDPs. In this assessment, “progress toward durable solutions” refers to indicators of stability, self-reliance, and integration among IDPs in Baidoa. This includes households’ willingness to remain in their current settlements, access to essential services like water and education, economic self-reliance through stable income sources, and social cohesion with host communities. However, this progress reflects current conditions and does not account for long-term trends or comprehensive time series data. The findings should be viewed as a baseline to inform future interventions and ongoing monitoring efforts.

Endnotes

- 1 CCCM [Cluster Somalia-Estimated IDP populations in Somalia](#),
- 2 REACH - [Somalia Detailed Site Assessment \(DSA\) VII data](#) Somalia Factsheet March 2024
- 3 REACH - [Somalia Detailed Site Assessment \(DSA\) VII data](#) Somalia Factsheet March 2024
- 4
- 5 IASC [Framework of durable solutions for displaced persons](#) April 2010. IPC. Somalia: [Acute Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition Analysis](#), January - June 2024. 15 Feb. 2024.
- 6 Education cluster 2024 [response snapshot](#), September 2024
- 7 REACH - Somalia Durable Solutions Readiness Assessment (DSRA) [Terms of Reference](#) January 2024

ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).