FACTSHEET

Rapid Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment of populations affected by Deyr flooding

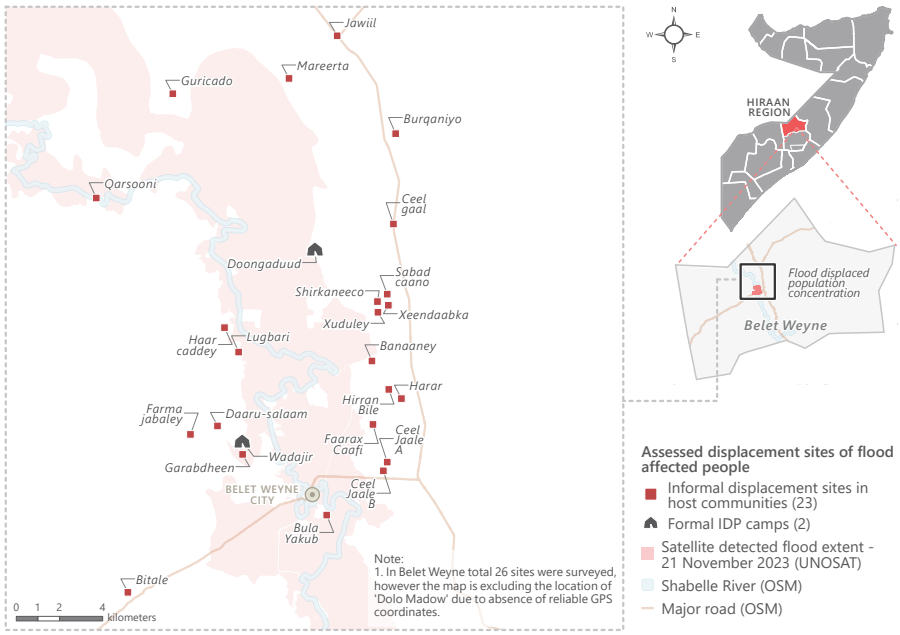
Belet Weyne District, Somalia
November 2023

KEY MESSAGES

- **Shelter** was the most reported priority for flood-affected men, women, and children in evacuation sites. 26/26 sites* reported **tents** as an urgent NFI need.
- 23/26 sites* reported **local markets** as a main food source, yet for the majority of sites,* the nearest market was **>1 hour away**. Reportedly, there has been **sporadic food item availability** at nearby markets, as well as **slight or drastic price increases** of main food commodities.
- In 18/26 sites,* it was reported that **open defecation** is the most commonly used latrine practice, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks, including cholera.
- All sites* reported an **increased need for health services**, as flooding has **damaged health facilities** and **medical outreach is limited**.

24 sites* (out of 26) report that there are **not enough sanitation facilities** (latrines/bathing) at the site

17 sites* (out of 26) reported that the nearest market was **partially or fully destroyed**, after flooding



Assessed displacement sites of flood affected people
- Informal displacement sites in host communities (23)
- Formal IDP camps (2)
- Satellite detected flood extent - 21 November 2023 (UNOSAT)
- Shabelle River (OSM)
- Major road (OSM)

*evacuation sites

CONTEXT & RATIONALE

IN MID-OCTOBER 2023, during the Deyr rainy season, southern Somalia experienced heavy rainfall driven by the El Niño climate cycle and a positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), eventually resulting in large-scale riverine flooding from the Shabelle river. Belet Weyne district was heavily impacted by this "once in 100 years" rainfall. By November 14, an estimated 120K people had been affected in Belet Weyne, as flooding destroyed homes, properties, and livelihoods.[1] At the time of writing, 220K residents of Belet Weyne have been displaced;[2] this number is expected to increase as flooding continue over the coming weeks.[3]

This comes against the backdrop of multiple shocks experienced by Belet Weyne in recent years, from large-scale riverine flooding in April-May 2023[4], to the historic, country-wide drought in 2022 which displaced 1.1 million and exacerbated vulnerability in the region.[5]

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

This assessment was carried out within 72 hours of large-scale river breakages that caused widespread flooding in Belet Weyne. The multi-sectoral needs assessment provides timely information on the initial emergency needs of flood-affected communities.

This assessment consists of 111 key informant (KI) interviews conducted at a site level from 14 to 16 November 2023, covering 26 evacuation sites in Belet Weyne. As described in the Methodology Overview, results are indicative.

MOVEMENT INTENTIONS

Movement intentions of the majority of flood-affected persons, by site* (out of 26)

Leave once flooding stops or homes become accessible (undefined)	16
Stay in this location (current location is their final destination)	6
Are undecided	3

Note: 1 site reported No consensus

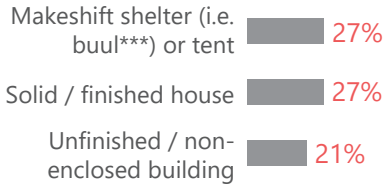
PRIORITY NEEDS

Top 3 most commonly reported priority needs, by site (out of 28)* **

Men	25/26	18/26	17/26
Women	26/26	16/26	15/26
Children	25/26	20/26	MILK 20/26

SHELTER & NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

Proportion of flood-affected people staying in shelter types, by site*
including those staying with relatives, as estimated by KIs



Top 3 most urgent NFI needs, by site* **

26/26	Tent
25/26	Mosquito net
24/26	Kitchen set

14 sites* (out of 26) reported that NFIs were **not available** in sufficient quantities at the nearest market

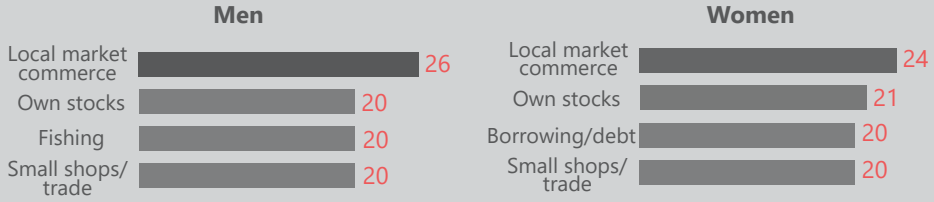
26 sites* (out of 26) reported **major price increases** of NFIs

FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

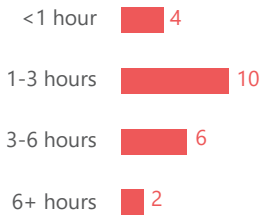
Most common sources of accessing food after the flooding, by site* **

23/26	Local market
22/26	Work for food
21/26	Own stocks

Most common income sources for men and women before flooding, by site (out of 26)* **



Reported distance to the nearest physically accessible market after flooding, by site* (out of 26)



Note: No consensus was reached in 4 sites

This represents a large increase in distance, as 16/26 sites* reported that, **prior to the flooding,** the nearest physically accessible market was <1 hours away

17 sites* (out of 26) reported that the nearest market was **partially or fully destroyed**, after flooding

21 sites* (out of 26) reported that main food commodities (e.g. wheat flour, rice, oil, sugar) were **sporadically or not at all available** at the nearest market, after flooding

24 sites* (out of 26) reported **slight or drastic price increases** of main food commodities, compared to prices before flooding

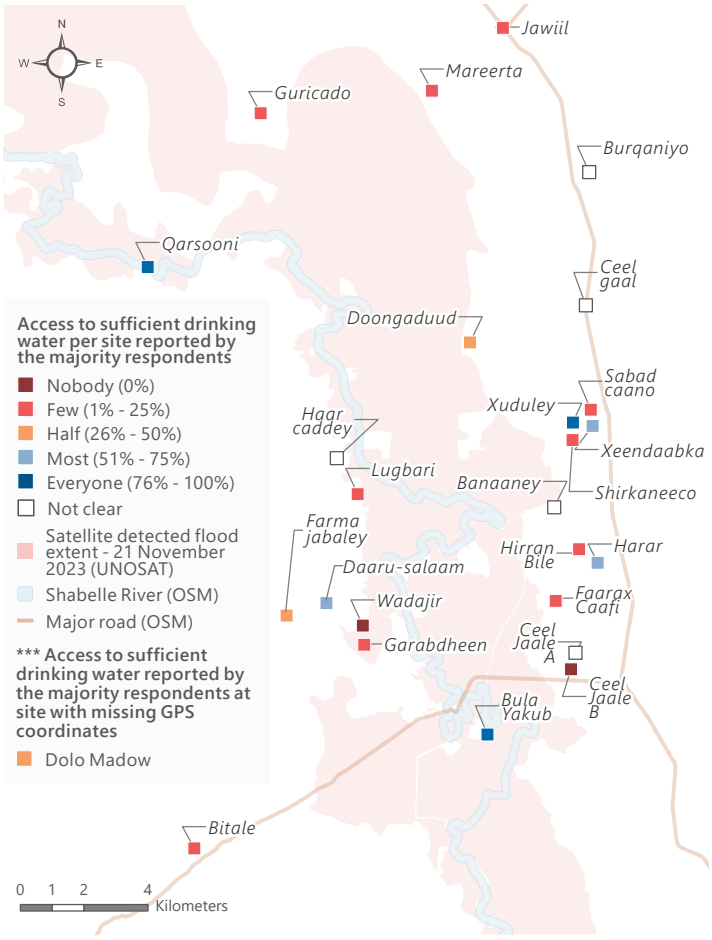
Average loss to livestock due to flooding, on a scale from 1-5
where 1 represents miminal loss

4

Average damage to stocked agricultural products due to flooding, on a scale from 1-5
where 1 represents minimal damage

3

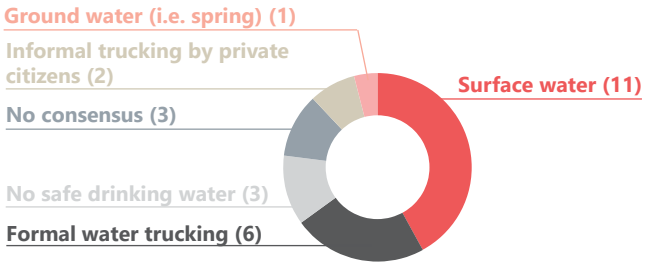
*evacuation site
**select multiple
***temporary shelter made of materials like plastic bags, timber



10 sites (out of 26) reported that **only a few** flood-affected people have access to **sufficient quantities of drinking water,** while a further 2 sites reported that **nobody** has access.

WATER, HYGIENE, AND SANITATION

Most commonly reported primary source of drinking water, by site* (out of 26)

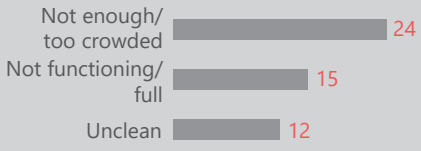


Most commonly reported issues with main water source in the site, by site* **

21/26	Water is not available
16/26	Water volume is not enough
13/26	Water tastes/smells/looks bad

18 sites* (out of 26) reported that **open defecation** is the most common latrine practice by flood-affected people

Most common problems with sanitation facilities (bathing/ latrine), by site (out of 26)* **



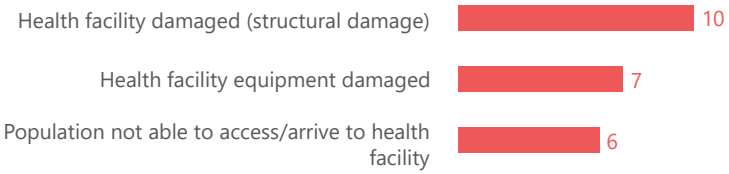
The most common barriers to menstrual hygiene management, reported by sites with female KIs,* ** were that there is **inadequate access to water** (15/17) and **soap** (10/17) and that sanitation facilities are **not private** (5/17) and **unclean** (5/17).

HEALTH

16 sites* (out of 26) reported that there is **no health facility/medical outreach team** in the community

26 sites* (out of 26) reported an **increased need** for health services in the community since the flooding

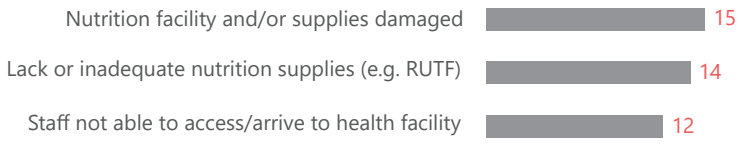
Most common flooding impacts on health facilities within 45 minutes/1km walking distance**
from the 12 sites which reported impacted health facilities*



Most commonly reported health service needs
from the 26 sites reporting needs, captured through text response*

13/26	Construction of health facilities (e.g. hospitals)
13/26	Maternal and child health services (e.g. MCH)
9/26	Nutrition services

Reported impact of flooding on nearby nutrition facilities or ongoing community-based nutrition activities**
from the 17 sites which reported impacted nutrition facilities/activities*



*evacuation sites
**select multiple

NUTRITION

14 sites* (out of 26) reported that **no nutrition services** are available within the site or nearby (3km or 2 hour walk)

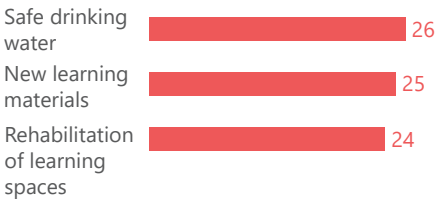
EDUCATION

26 sites* (out of 26) reported that flooding **has impacted** children's school attendance

Most common ways in which attendance was impacted**
from the 26 sites which reported impacted school attendance*

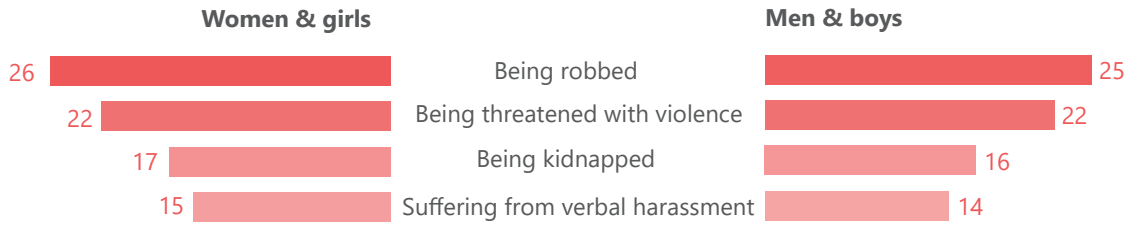
- 23/26 Schools are destroyed/damaged
- 22/26 Schools/learning spaces are not accessible due to mud
- 21/26 Schools are used for affected population shelter

Most critical education needs of flood-affected persons, by site (out of 26)* **



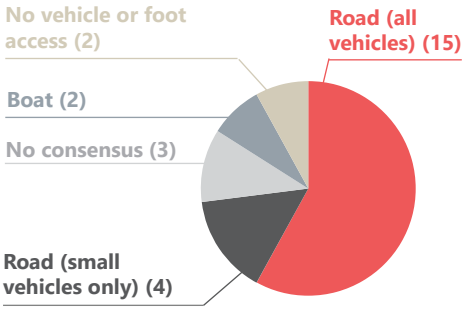
PROTECTION

Most commonly reported safety & security concerns for flood-affected populations, by site (out of 26)* **



INFRASTRUCTURE FUNCTIONALITY

Most commonly reported primary means of access to sites* (out of 26)



Infrastructure functionality status in the community after flooding, by site* (out of 26)

	Not functional	Irregularly/ partially functional	Fully functional	Did not previously exist
Cell network	4	11	5	1
Electricity[1]	10	5	2	6

1 Electricity functionality defined as functional (8+ hours/day), irregular (1-7 hours/day), not functional (0 hours/day)

Note: No consensus reached in 5 sites on cell network functionality and in 3 sites on electricity functionality

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS (AAP)

13 sites* (out of 26) reported that **no affected households** have received humanitarian food and cash

Most commonly reported challenges for flood affected people accessing humanitarian assistance**
from the 15 sites reporting challenges*

- 15/15 Information on entitlement was not shared
- 8/15 Beneficiary selection criteria was not shared

Sites reported* ** that flood affected populations prefer receiving communication through **phone calls** (26/26), **SMS** (12/26), and over a **loudspeaker** (12/26).

Sites reported* ** that flood affected populations prefer providing feedback through a **hotline** (25/26), over **SMS** (13/26), and through **community leaders** (10/26).

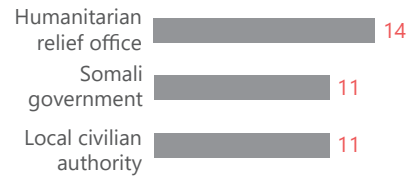
*evacuation sites
**select multiple

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

*This section was only asked to camp managers, gatekeepers, NGO staff, and community leaders among 17 sites**

The most commonly reported barrier to humanitarian access was **ongoing insecurity/hostilities** affecting the area, reported by 13/17 sites.*

Most commonly reported actors with whom coordination is required for aid delivery, by site (out of 17)* **



METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

From 14 to 16 November 2023, REACH conducted 111 quantitative, structured face-to-face key informant (KI) interviews across 26 evacuation sites in Belet Weyne district using a survey tool, co-owned by OCHA and deployed through KoBo software. This assessment was conceptualized within the framework of the REACH and OCHA co-led Assessment Working Group (AAWG). A team of 12 enumerators received a virtual 1-day training from the REACH assessment team.

The target population was defined as flood-affected communities, comprised of populations displaced due to flooding during the Deyr rainy season. Site selection was triangulated from IOM Somalia displacement tracker and Hirshabelle State Inter-Cluster Coordination group (S-ICCG) and targeted evacuation sites. The majority of interviews were held face-to-face, but where accessibility was limited, enumerators used phone interviews.

A minimum of 3 KIs were interviewed per site,* whose responses to each question were aggregated to obtain a single, triangulated response per site.* Due to access constraints, some (4) sites* had fewer than the minimum threshold; these were included in analysis and can be found in the clean dataset. For single-choice questions, responses of different KIs reporting on the same site* were aggregated by mode (most frequent response). For example, if for a given question 1 KI responds "no" and 2 KIs respond "yes", the aggregated response for the site* is "yes"). When there was no consensus between a majority of KIs, responses were coded as "No consensus" (NC). For single option indicators, results are presented as number of sites* and reported at district level. For select multiple, all KI responses are retained in the aggregated results. Results are presented as number of sites* where KIs reported X (X being the aggregated site* level result as described above). For integer responses, the median was reported at the site*

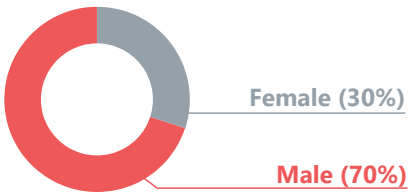
LIMITATIONS

Widespread riverine flooding, in addition to continously heavy rainfall encountered in the field during data collection, necessitated adaptations to the research design, which subsequently evolved to a hybrid data collection methodology, relying on phone interviews for inaccessible evacuation sites. Heavy rainfall drove temporary displacement in some evacuation sites, meaning that some key informants, reached through snowball sampling, had been displaced from the site on which they were reporting at the time of data collection, introducing the potential for recall bias. This also complicated efforts to plot GPS points in a reliable way; though OCHA spatial data were used for the majority of the sites, field coordinates supplemented information gaps for informal sites, where validated.

Results reflect the views of the KI and are indicative only. Analysis did not weight KI profiles, so some KIs may be more informed on certain subjects than others and the aggregated site-level results should therefore be contextualized with this limitation in mind. Due to the KI approach, results cannot be disaggregated by gender, age, or disability status of the respondent.

KI PROFILES

By gender



By type

6 Camp manager/gatekeepers
7 Community leaders (host community)
17 Community leaders (IDP)
2 Registration focal persons
7 Local relief committee members
2 Local councilpersons
63 Civil society group members
1 School headmaster
5 Teachers
1 Women's group leaders

*evacuation sites

ENDNOTES

1 OCHA. Somalia: Deyr Rainy Season 2023 Flash Update No.7. 14 Nov 2023.
2 UNHCR Somalia: Displacement due to Floods and Heavy Rain (1 to 21 November 2023). 23 Nov 2023.
3 FAO SWALIM. Flood Advisory for Juba and Shabelle River Catchments, Somalia (Issued 20th November 2023) 20 Nov 2023.
4 OCHA. Somalia: 2023 Flash and Riverine Floods Situation Report No. 3 (as of 13 July 2023). 17 July 2023.
5 UNHCR. The Horn of Africa Drought Situation Appeal (January - December 2023). Feb 2023

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).

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