

MSNA - Research Terms of Reference

2025 Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) Phase 3 – Food Security and Nutrition Among Urban Populations SOM 2503 Somalia

Dec 2025

REACH Informing more effective humanitarian action


1. Executive Summary

A. General information			
Country of intervention	Somalia		
Type of Emergency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural disaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conflict	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>specify</i>)
Type of Crisis	<input type="checkbox"/> Sudden onset	<input type="checkbox"/> Slow onset	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protracted
Mandating Body/ Agency	Food Security Cluster Nutrition Cluster IPC Core Group		
IMPACT Project Code			
Overall Research Timeframe)	14/12/2025 to 28/02/2026		
Research Timeframe	1. Data Analysis Plan (DAP) sent for validation: 10/12/2025		7. Preliminary presentation/Joint analysis workshop (JAW): 19/01/2026 – 29/01/2021 (Post -Deyr IPC Workshop)
	2. Pilot/training: Training of Trainers (ToT): 15/12/2025 Enumerator Training + Pilot: 16/12/2025 – 18/12/2025		8. Key Findings brief validation: 19/03/2026
	3. Start data collection: <i>MSNA phase 1 data collection: From 21st of December to 6th of January 2026.</i>		
	4. Data collected: 6/01/2026		
	5. Clean dataset sent for validation: 11/01/20256		
	6. Data analysis sent for validation: 13/01/2026		
Humanitarian milestones	Milestone		Deadline
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Donor plan/strategy	__/__/__
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter-cluster plan/strategy	30/03/2026

Specify what will the assessment inform and when e.g. The shelter cluster will use this data to calculate PiN numbers for the HNO analysis	<input type="checkbox"/>	PiN calculation / HNRP	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IPC (Integrated food security Phase Classification)	29/02/2026
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cluster plan/strategy	--/--/----
	<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO platform plan/strategy	--/--/----
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify):	--/--/----
Audience Type & Dissemination Specify who will the assessment inform and how you will disseminate to inform the audience	Audience type		Dissemination
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic	<input type="checkbox"/> Programmatic	<input type="checkbox"/> Operational
Detailed dissemination plan required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
General Objective	To inform the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) in Somalia, particularly the analysis workshop in late January 2026, this study aims to provide updated multi-sectoral analysis, focused on food security and nutrition, for IPC. This analysis will focus on the severity of needs among the crisis-affected population in the context of ongoing climatic shocks such as droughts and floods, as well as the protracted displacement crisis. The goal is to contribute to a more targeted and evidence-based response.		
Specific Objective(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a detailed overview of the current humanitarian needs and gaps of the crisis affected population, by sector and across sectors, in Somalia to inform on humanitarian needs and their severity • Identify variations in needs amongst the target population groups (urban IDPs and urban host communities), and across targeted districts • Aim to have representative coverage per population group at the UoA level 		
Research Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the top three priority humanitarian needs across targeted districts of Somalia? • How does the severity of humanitarian needs vary across selected UoA and population groups? • What are the sectoral humanitarian needs of crisis-affected populations, and how do these differ across household demographics? • Are there overlapping and cross-cutting needs across different sectors that are comparable within assessed population groups and UoA? 		

Geographic Coverage	The MSNA aims for comprehensive geographic representation of selected districts in Somalia. This will be achieved through at Unit of Analysis (UoA) level to inform the IPC: trained enumerators will conduct in person surveys in 14 UoA selected by the IPC group to ensure representative results for urban host population and urban IDPs at this administration level. These UoA were identified respecting (1) priority areas IPC technical working group partners are not covering, and (2) the ability to be accessed by REACH field team. Furthermore, in five districts of Gedo region, REACH will gather data on malnutrition through MUAC measurements.			
Secondary data sources	See Section 3.3 Secondary Data Review			
B. Sampling				
Population groups <i>Select all population group which your assessment will collect data on</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in camp (new IDPs and Protracted IDPs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in informal sites
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs [Other, Specify]
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in camp	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in informal sites
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees [Other, Specify]
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]
Structured questionnaire (Quantitative) – <i>Select all the apply</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Probability sampling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non - Probability sampling
Data collection level:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Household
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify): _ _ _ _ _
If probability sampling				
Sampling method: <input type="checkbox"/> Random sampling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cluster sampling (2 stages random)				
The sampling is stratified: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
If yes what are the stratifications:				
° Geographic: Units of Analysis, districts				
° Population groups: Urban host community and urban IDPs				
° Other: _ _ _ _ _				
What is the Primary sampling unit (PSU): Settlements / IDP sites				
If cluster sampling, what is the minimum cluster size? 8 for regular survey, 5 for MUAC				
Sampling frame:				
Do you have the population number at PSU level for all population groups? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
Selection:				
Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
Selection of PSUs with replacement? : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				

<p>Aimed precision at stratification level:</p> <p>90% level of confidence 10+/- % margin of error Buffer: 10% Total sample size: (Target #): UoA level: 1,992</p> <p>Resampling: Do you have a reserve list of PSUs / households in case of inaccessible area ? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Data collection method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Face to face <input type="checkbox"/> Remote data collection</p>	
C. Questionnaire	
Questionnaire design	<p>MSNA mandatory indicators</p> <p>All the mandatory indicators from the 2025 MSNA indicator bank, have been included without alteration: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>For Food Security, all Tier 1 indicators from the Indicator Bank are included. For Nutrition, all Tier 1 indicators from the Indicator Bank are included. Please refer to 'Annex 1: Modification to the Core Indicators' for any modifications, and to the DAP for a full list of all included indicators.</p> <p>XLSform for mandatory indicators</p> <p>The kobo questionnaire provided for the mandatory indicators was used without alteration: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
Data management platform(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IMPACT <input type="checkbox"/> UNHCR <input type="checkbox"/> Other, Specify
Expected output type(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MSNA Bulletin #: 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation (Preliminary findings) #: 1 (1 per each district) <input type="checkbox"/> Interactive dashboard #: __ <input type="checkbox"/> Report #: __ <input type="checkbox"/> Profile #: __ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation (Final) #: 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Webmap #: __ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Factsheet : 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map #: 2 in total (Coverage map, Accessible/Inaccessible areas map, Maps per sector for the factsheets) <input type="checkbox"/> Other, Specify] #: __
Data publication plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final (anonymised) dataset public, available on REACH resource center <input type="checkbox"/> Final (anonymised) dataset public, through HDX connect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analysis table public, available on REACH resource center

	<input type="checkbox"/> Analysis table public, available on HDX
<p>Visibility Specify which logos should be on outputs</p>	<p>REACH</p>
	<p>Donor:</p> 
	<p>Coordination Framework:</p> 
	<p>Partners:</p> <p>ACTED, Action Aid International, Agency for Peace and Development (APD), Arche noVa, Children's Aid Association (CAA), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), HIRDA Somalia, Ileys Humanitarian and Development Services (IHADS), International Medical Corps (IMC), IOM - UN Migration, International Rescue Committee (IRC), KAALO, Somali Livelihood Initiative and Disability Organization (LIDOSOM), Mercy Corps, Mustaqbal Development and Relief Organization (MUDRO), Nomadic Assistance for Peace and Development (NAPAD), NOMADIC Link, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oxfam, Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), Social Life and Agricultural Development Organization (SADO), Somali Advocacy and Relief Organization (SARO), Save Somali Women and Children (SSWC), and Save the Children (SCI)</p>

2. Rationale

2.1 Background

Somalia's protracted humanitarian crisis continues to be shaped by intensifying conflict, escalating climate shocks, and disease outbreaks. Armed conflict remains [widespread](#) across much of the country, with [significantly more](#) conflict events and fatalities in 2025 than the previous two years. This in turn affected humanitarian actors' ability to reach affected populations, with conflict being the [primary driver](#) of access constraints.

Concurrently, climate volatility has reached unprecedented levels. The Federal Government of Somalia [formally declared](#) a drought emergency on 10 November, which [continued to deepen](#) at the end of 2025: the *deyr* rains (October to December) produced [below-average rainfall](#), with conditions for crops and livestock [expected to worsen](#) entering the 2026 *jilaal* dry season (January to March).

The climate-conflict nexus is [fuelling displacement](#) and extreme vulnerability, with [3.4 million people](#) facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) and 1.8 million children likely to suffer acute malnutrition in early 2026, including 420,000 with severe wasting (these figures pre-date the present drought, which is likely to worsen the situation). These conditions [further exacerbate](#) active outbreaks of communicable diseases like measles, cholera, and acute watery diarrhoea (AWD).

The multifaceted nature of these challenges requires a comprehensive humanitarian response that addresses the immediate needs of vulnerable populations while promoting long-term solutions. However, critical information gaps exist, with more recent data on needs required to account for dynamic conflict and displacement developments and worsening drought conditions. This MSNA addresses these gaps via multi-stage cluster sampling across selected Units of Analysis (UoA) to inform the January 2026 IPC analysis, collecting data on food security, nutrition and other key indicators.

2.2 Intended impact

The third phase of the 2025 MSNA is focused on food security and nutrition and aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of Somalia's humanitarian landscape – offering statistically representative data living conditions and priority needs across various population groups (urban host communities and urban IDPs) and UoA – for Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis in January 2026. By providing a common scale to classify the severity of food insecurity at UoA level, this analysis guides critical interventions and informs the strategic decision-making and response planning of several stakeholders, including government actors, humanitarian agencies, and donors.

The MSNA provides robust, evidence-based insights into the severity and drivers of need at both national and sub-national levels. The assessment enables stakeholders to identify priority needs across key sectors, including food security, nutrition, and WASH, and to tailor responses to the specific vulnerabilities of affected population groups. In doing so, it contributes to more coordinated, efficient, and needs-based humanitarian action, supporting improved targeting and optimised resource allocation for the most vulnerable households in crisis-affected areas of Somalia.

3. Methodology

3.1 Methodology overview

The third phase of the 2025 MSNA is designed to ensure geographical coverage across 14 Units of Analysis (UoAs) in Somalia, with the objective of collecting representative findings for two distinct urban population groups: urban host communities and urban IDPs, to inform IPC food security analysis. For IPC purposes, these findings will be representative at the UoA level, with a 90% confidence level and 10% margin of error. To meet the required sample sizes for representativeness, a 10% buffer will be added to the minimum calculated sample. Data collection will take place in 14 UoAs (see Table 1), selected in close coordination with IPC core group members to avoid duplication. Surveys will be conducted through in-person household interviews by trained REACH enumerators.

Units of Analysis consider a specific population (e.g., urban host communities) within a specific geographic area (e.g., Lower Juba). The geographic area is defined at the administrative level through a collection of districts; these districts are intended to align with [livelihood zones](#), under the assumption that the population therein shares common aspects. UoA are therefore standardised geographic-demographic units used as the primary stratum for data collection, enabling comparable, population-representative analysis of humanitarian conditions across distinct groups (e.g., urban host communities, urban IDPs) within defined boundaries.

For IPC:

- UoAs are pre-defined population groups (e.g., 'Awdal Urban Host Community') within specific administrative boundaries.
- It allows disaggregating analysis of food security and nutrition for: urban host communities, urban IDPs in formal settlements.

Example: IPC reports severity levels (Phase 1-5) per UoA (e.g., 'Bay Urban IDPs face IPC Phase 4')

For MSNA:

- UoAs serve as sampling strata for household surveys.
- It ensures representative data collection for each population subgroup.

Example: In Section 3.1, MSNA samples: the MSNA will target 14 UoAs (e.g., Galgaduud Urban IDPs)

In summary, IPC classifies crisis severity at the UoA level to prioritise interventions. Therefore, MSNA uses UoAs to align with IPC zoning, enabling direct data harmonisation and generating statistically comparable results (90% confidence level, 10% margin of error) per UoA. This approach ensures humanitarian responses are precisely targeted to the most vulnerable groups within their specific geographic and demographic contexts. For methodology details, refer to [IPC Technical Manual](#) and [MSNA Sampling Framework](#).

Table 1. Units of Analysis (to inform IPC food security analysis)

	Units of Analysis	Districts¹
1	Awdal Urban Host Community	Baki, Borama, Lughaye, and Zeylac
2	Awdal Urban IDPs	Baki, Borama, and Lughaye
3	Bari Urban Host Community	Bandarbeyla, Bossaso, Caluula, and Qardho
4	Bari Urban IDPs	Qandala and Qardho
5	Bay Urban Host Community	Bur Hakaba, Diinsor, and Qansax Dheere
6	Bay Urban IDPs	Bur Hakaba, Diinsor, and Qansax Dheere
7	Galgaduud Urban Host Community	Cabudwaaq and Cadaado
8	Galgaduud Urban IDPs	Cabudwaaq and Cadaado
9	Gedo Urban Host Community	Baardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Garbahaarey, and Luuq
10	Gedo Urban IDPs	Baardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Garbahaarey, and Luuq
11	Lower Juba Urban Host Community	Afgooye and Kismaayo
12	Lower Juba Urban IDPs	Afgooye
13	Lower Shabelle Urban Host Community	Afgooye, Baraawe, Marka, Qoryooley, and Wanla Weyn
14	Lower Shabelle Urban IDPs	Baraawe and Marka

Separately, to inform IPC nutrition analysis, the MSNA will also collect data on nutrition indicators, including Middle Upper-Arm Circumference (MUAC). This data is not collected at UoA-level, but at district level, per IPC guidelines. After discussions with the Nutrition Cluster to identify gaps in data collection, only select districts in the Gedo region were prioritised for this portion of data collection (see Table 2). Two tools were developed to cover both components of the assessment as expressed in Tables 1 and 2 (on which, see Section 6: Data Analysis Plan).

Table 2. Districts (to inform IPC nutrition analysis)

	Districts	Population
1	Baardheere	Urban host community
2	Belet Xaawo	Urban host community
3	Ceel Waaq	Urban host community
4	Garbahaarey	Urban host community
5	Luuq	Urban host community
6	Baardheere	Urban IDPs

¹ 'Districts' refers to the constituent districts of a Unit of Analysis that were selected for data collection, after consultation with IPC and Nutrition Cluster aimed at avoiding duplication.

3.2 Population of interest

In alignment with the IPC, target populations for this MSNA are: urban host communities and urban Internal Displaced Population (IDP). A host community is the local population of the community in which displaced persons temporarily reside ([IOM](#), [UNHCR](#), [Somalia Shelter Cluster](#)).

According to the [Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement](#), IDPs are defined as “persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border”.

In the context of Somalia, the country’s [National Policy on Refugee-Returnees and Internally Displaced persons](#) defines IDPs as:

- Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, clan-based or other forms of generalized violence and insecurity, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognised state border.
- Persons or groups of persons who are evicted from their settlement and who have not received adequate housing and/or land alternative or appropriate compensation allowing them to restore their lives in a sustainable manner; and
- Pastoralists who have lost access to their traditional nomadic living space through loss of livestock, or loss of access to grazing and water points or markets and have therefore left their habitual living space.”

3.3 Secondary data review

See secondary data review matrix in [Annex 2](#)

3.4 Primary Data Collection

Cleaning the IDP site Master List for sampling

To support the sampling process, the updated CCCM Q3 2025 Master List for IDP sites served as the primary data source. The lack of reliable secondary sources for triangulating population data necessitated a two-step cleaning process to refine the master lists for sampling:

1. **Geospatial Cleaning:** The GIS team mapped all households’ locations and sites, considering the population groups expected to be addressed in each location. This step aimed to verify whether the coordinates listed in the master list accurately corresponded to actual settlement locations.

2. **Field Site Verification:** Field officers worked closely with enumerators to assess the accessibility of each site, classifying them as accessible, inaccessible, or of unknown accessibility. Given the protracted and dynamic nature of the conflict in Somalia, this step was essential to determine which sites could feasibly be reached by the field team. Accessibility was defined based on logistical feasibility (e.g., road and bridge access), absence of non-state armed actors, and absence of active clan conflicts.

This two-step cleaning process was designed to ensure accurate planning for data collection and to minimise the need for resampling during fieldwork.

Sampling methodology

The sampling approach focuses on targeted assessment areas: 14 selected Units of Analysis (UoA) for IPC food security analysis, and 5 districts in Gedo region for IPC nutrition analysis. For the IPC, the population is stratified by population group: host community or IDP. From this stratification, two distinct groups will be covered in this assessment: urban host communities and urban IDPs. The sampling is tailored to reflect the unique context and needs of each group.

The third phase of the 2025 MSNA uses a structured and statistically robust sampling methodology, aligned with the IPC framework. Given the diverse contexts and operational realities on the ground, the sampling design adopts a two-stage cluster sampling approach based on probability techniques. This ensures that the findings are representative at the UoA level or district level, depending on the respective component of this assessment.

The sampling methodology relies on advanced tools such as the HQ sampling platform and geospatial population data provided by REACH. This ensures rigor in both sampling and field-level implementation. Further details are below.

Urban Host Community Household Sampling

Urban host areas are initially segmented into hexagonal clusters of 1 km². These clusters are overlaid with population density data to identify those that meet specific criteria: a minimum density of 300 persons per km² and a total urban population of at least 5,000. Only clusters that satisfy both conditions are retained for the sampling. To avoid overlapping with IDP data, clusters in which more than 30% of the population consists of IDPs in CCCM-listed IDP, are excluded.

Once cleaned, the remaining clusters undergo PPS sampling via the HQ sampling multi cluster tool. After selection, any known IDP sites within the clusters are manually mapped and excluded. In the second stage, eight households per selected cluster are randomly chosen for interviews using simple random technique.

Urban IDP Household Sampling

For urban IDPs, each verified IDP site from the CCCM dataset is treated as a discrete sampling cluster. PPS sampling is applied at the site level, using the estimated number of households as a basis for selection. Within each sampled IDP site, at least eight households are selected at random using the HQ multi cluster tool. This ensures robust representation of the urban displaced population.

MUAC Sampling – Gedo region

For MUAC data collection, the strategy for Urban Host Communities and IDPs will also be implemented, though sampling will be conducted at the district level instead of the UoA level, following IPC Nutrition Analysis requirements. To guarantee at least 20 clusters per district, a Primary Sampling Unit (PSU) replacement strategy will be applied, which means that a cluster could be selected more than once. Each cluster will include five surveys, and may be repeatedly selected times to ensure an adequate sample size. HH level sampling was used to randomise the selection of households and generate points for interviews; using a 95% confidence interval and 7% margin of error produced a sample size of enough households to gather at least 200 MUAC records per district, in accordance with IPC requirements. Once 200 MUAC records were taken in a district, data collection will stop. Allowing a hexagon (a cluster) to be selected more than once does not compromise representativeness as the selection remains probability-based and each cluster still samples the standard 5 households. This maintains randomness, proportionality, and geographic spread; prevents forced or subjective replacement of clusters, which would introduce bias; and ensures that the minimum 25 clusters can be met even in districts with few appropriate spatial units.

Table 3. Sampling frame by UoA

	UoA	Total pop HH	# clusters	# clusters sampled	HH sampled size	UoA targeted population
1	Awdal – Urban Host Community (Baki, Borama, Lughaye, Zeylac)	74071	61	9	144	Urban Host Community
2	Awdal – Urban IDPs (Baki, Borama and Lughaye)	3820	7	6	264	Urban IDPs
3	Bari – Urban Host Community (Bandarbeyla, Bossaso, Caluula, Qardho)	69337	62	12	120	Urban Host Community
4	Bari – Urban IDPs (Qandala, Qardho)	3946	12	8	192	Urban IDPs
5	Bay – Urban Host Community (Buur Hakaba, Diinsoor, Qansax Dheere)	58018	64	10	128	Urban Host Community
6	Bay – Urban IDPs (Buur Hakaba, Diinsoor, Qansax Dheere)	7906	28	13	120	Urban IDPs
7	Galgaduud – Urban Host Community (Cabudwaaq, Cadaado)	13643	22	11	120	Urban Host Community
8	Galgaduud – Urban IDPs (Cabudwaaq, Cadaado)	6967	9	8	160	Urban IDPs

9	Gedo – Urban Host Community (Baardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Garbahaarey, Luuq)	61095	82	13	112	Urban Host Community
10	Gedo – Urban IDPs (Baardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Garbahaarey, Luuq)	10556	51	10	136	Urban IDPs
11	Lower Juba – Urban Host Community (Afmadow, Kismaayo)	25078	18	10	128	Urban Host Community
12	Lower Juba – Urban IDPs (Afmadow)	11450	19	11	128	Urban IDPs
13	Lower Shabelle – Urban Host Community (Afgooye, Baraawe, Marka, Qoryooley, Wanla Weyn)	244972	263	12	120	Urban Host Community
14	Lower Shabelle – Urban IDPs (Afgooye, Baraawe, Marka, Wanla Weyn)	12884	40	13	120	Urban IDPs
	Total				1992	

Table 4. Sampling frame by district, only for Gedo (MUAC data collection)

	District	Total pop HH	# clusters in sampling frame	# clusters sampled (randomly selected from sampling frame)	# clusters sampled with replacement	HH sampled size	District targeted population
1	Baardheere – Urban Host Community	24800	20	16	66	330	Urban Host Community
2	Belet Xaawo – Urban Host Community	8615	12	12	46	231	Urban Host Community
3	Ceel Waaq – Urban Host Community	4048	7	7	45	225	Urban Host Community
4	Garbahaarey – Urban Host Community	11987	17	16	73	365	Urban Host Community
5	Luuq – Urban Host Community	7505	16	16	46	231	Urban Host Community
6	Baardheere – Urban IDPs	4624	29	14	60	300	Urban IDPs
	Total					1,682	

GPS-Based Point Generation

The physical location of each interview is determined through GPS-based random point selection. These points are generated within the boundaries of the selected clusters or sites and are weighted by population density to ensure equitable geographic coverage. Enumerators navigate to the GPS coordinates using mobile applications such as Maps.me and conduct interviews with the nearest household. This methodology ensures spatial randomness and minimises selection bias.

To successfully implement this approach, the following are required:

- Accurate and current shapefiles for administrative boundaries.
- Reliable population distribution and density data.
- Well-trained data collection teams proficient in using digital navigation tools.

Key requirements for effective sampling:

1. *Detailed Area Mapping:* Relying on the updated CCCM Site Master list, the GIS team will generate a map of the accessible IDP sites in Somalia. This map will clearly mark the boundaries of IDP sites and districts, including any major landmarks near or within the targeted sites. This detailed understanding of the layout is crucial for defining a sampling frame and navigating the area efficiently.
2. *Divide the targeted areas into camp sites:* The targeted areas for urban IDPs will then be divided into sites to implement systemic sampling. If the target site is not of a manageable size, the site will be further divided into sub-sites by direction.

Addressing Probable Implementation Challenges:

1. **Absent Households:** If a selected household is found to be vacant during the initial visit, the neighboring household will be surveyed.
2. **Unforeseen Obstacles:** In situations where the predetermined route is obstructed due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g., construction work), the field team will document the obstacle and deviate slightly to maintain the systematic selection by following the next available pathway within the target site.

While the field team has experience implementing second-stage sampling in previous rounds of MSNA, all field officers and enumerators will be retrained on the methodology to ensure there are no major deviations in the sampling protocol. In cases of required deviations due to unforeseen circumstances, changes will be documented in the cleaning log with proper justifications.

Using replacement list of PSU - To account for unexpected challenges that might prevent data collection from specific locations, the following re-sampling steps will be implemented. Before data collection begins, the same number of backup samples will be generated for each of the two population groups within each livelihood zone (UoA). This ensures we have back-up samples available in case any settlements become inaccessible during the data collection phase. On the day of data

collection, if a settlement cannot be reached, the team will directly switch to collecting data from its designated backup location. To maintain transparency, a clear log will be kept by the SDO (Senior Data Officer) documenting which districts and settlements were replaced using the backup samples.

To streamline the re-sampling process, field officers will be asked to check the accessibility of target location on the Thursday before or Sunday of the working week, coordinating with the field manager. By proactively evaluating accessibility beforehand, we aim to preemptively address any potential obstacles and minimize delays that could arise during the resampling process.

Data collection – Following consultations with IPC leadership (IPC core group), data collection should be finalised in early January to be ready for the IPC analysis in late January. REACH will streamline the assessment tool to meet IPC-specific requirements.

MSNA data collection: From 21st of December 2025 to 6th of January 2026.

The MSNA will be implemented through in-person interviews in targeted districts. The field implementation of the MSNA will be supervised by the REACH Field Officers (FOs), who report to the Field Manager (FM). The FOs and FM will receive MSNA-specific training in December 2025, covering the review of the tool (questionnaire, including technical definitions and concepts) and data cleaning.

During the training of trainers, REACH will collaborate with national assessment specialists to train the FOs on the sectoral section of the tool (e.g., taking MUAC measurements). FOs will then be redeployed to their bases to provide training to enumerators at the regional level. As much as possible, the REACH initiative will hire enumerators with prior experience with MSNA or other assessments conducted by REACH and locally to ensure that we reduce operational challenges related to accessing hard-to-reach locations.

Two full days of training for enumerators will aim to present, explain, and test the MSNA tool before data collection. Following the training, a pilot data collection will be conducted. This will allow the examination of the enumerators' understanding of the content of the questions and functionalities of the tool, through feedback sessions with the FOs and analysis of the data.

Following this, data collection will commence. Enumerators will use the Map.me app with pre-downloaded offline maps and pre-loaded household location data (CSV or KML) to navigate to assigned households via GPS coordinates. However, throughout data collection, REACH FOs will review the targeted locations within each UoA. In case of an inaccessible location, the FOs will immediately communicate this to the data officers to rerun the sampling for that district. Households will be randomly selected according to the final sampling framework, with the questionnaire being administered either to the head of the household or anyone else able to communicate on behalf of the household.

The questionnaire will be coded on the Kobo tool and be accessible to all enumerators on REACH data collection (or partner data collection) smartphones. Enumerators will begin the interview by introducing themselves and requesting the respondents' informed consent to proceed. As FOs will not be able to accompany all enumerator teams on the ground, they will identify team leaders in each team to supervise the progress of data collection and ensure regular communication with their referral

FO. Each day, enumerators, under the supervision of their team leader and/or of the FO, will upload the survey forms and debrief the team leader and/or the FO of any issues encountered during data collection. The FOs, Data Officer, and Assessment Officers (AOs) are responsible for data checking and cleaning procedures at the end of each day and for communicating feedback to the enumerators and team leaders.

Incoming data will be monitored through a data collection tracking tool: each day REACH FOs will communicate with the data team the total number of surveys completed per UoA. The coverage shall be monitored based on the targeted number of surveys per population group. In case one location becomes inaccessible, the REACH data team shall rerun the UoA sampling for the affected UoA only and replace the sample for the affected UoA.

3.5 Data Processing

At the end of each day, the team leaders will oversee the uploading of collected data from enumerators' smartphones to REACH's KoBo Collect server. The REACH data team will then retrieve all datasets for spatial verification, a crucial step involving cross-examination of GPS coordinates of the completed surveys, to ensure they fall within a predetermined radius of the target settlement. Any surveys failing to meet this criterion, in addition to the surveys completed in a short period of time, will be flagged for further attention by field officers.

Upon completion of the preliminary verification, the data team will remove all personally identifiable information (PII) and disaggregate datasets by districts. Any outliers in the data, including translation of any required "other" responses from Somali to English is then reviewed and cross-checked by the field officers. Once cleaned, the data is checked by the assessment team for a secondary review based on logic checks, during which any additional recommendations or follow-ups are communicated to the field officers and enumerators for their daily briefings. Additionally, as part of the quality assurance process, all changes and cleaning made to the submitted surveys are tracked in a comprehensive data cleaning log.

To standardize this process, two tools are used:

- **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for data cleaning:** a step-by-step guide for key data cleaning issues, including checking the time stamp of each survey, issues with skip logic and outliers. The SOP will be developed based on the MSNA household survey tool and REACH's [Data Cleaning Minimum Standards Checklist](#). See Annex 3.
- **Data analysis will be done using the OCHA facilitated Joint Inter-Agency Analytical Framework (JIAF)**, adapted to the Somalia context, with the severity thresholds determined in collaboration with the cluster partners. Following the analysis, individual key findings presentation is organized for different actors – including clusters, working groups and government organizations.

3.6 Analysis Plan

Data Disaggregation and Stratification:

Following a two-stage cluster sampling design, the analysis will disaggregate the cleaned dataset by key strata per UoA for urban host communities and urban IDPs. This stratification ensures a granular understanding of the data by considering factors like economic activity, particularly for UoA (aligned with Livelihood Zones). In addition, the analysis will maintain the disaggregation of the population groups both across the entire dataset and within each UoA, to ensure consistency and comparability across all strata.

Weighting and Aggregation:

Weighting was applied at the Unit of Analysis (UoA) level for each population group to ensure statistically valid inferences and correct potential sampling biases. Stratification was based on UoA–population group combinations. Weights were calculated at the stratum level and aggregated across national, regional, district, and population group levels.

During data cleaning, all inaccessible clusters were excluded from the sampling frame, which included only accessible areas. If clusters became inaccessible during data collection, they were replaced with nearby clusters of similar population size and characteristics to minimise bias. These adjustments were incorporated into the final weights, applied after data collection based on the final sample size and adjusted sampling frame. Population data sources included the most recent CCCM data.

Further Analysis Considerations:

If the data quality allows, the analysis will be further disaggregated by demographic characteristics such as Age, Gender, and Disability (AGD). This will provide a more nuanced understanding of how the data varies across different demographic sub-groups. However, since the samples were not specifically generated considering the AGD component, any analysis based on these demographics will be indicative of household’s situation.

Finally, the analysis results will be presented in a clear and organized manner, separated by sector. Each sector's findings will be further segregated based on the previously mentioned strata (UoA, population groups).

4. Key ethical considerations and related risks

For detailed guidance on how to complete this section, see also Step 5 of the [IMPACT Research Design Guidelines](#)

The proposed research design meets / does not meet the following criteria:

<i>The proposed research design...</i>	<i>Yes/ No</i>	<i>Details if no (including mitigation)</i>
... Has been coordinated with relevant stakeholders to avoid unnecessary duplication of data collection efforts?	Yes	
... Respects respondents, their rights and dignity (<i>specifically by: seeking informed consent, designing length of survey/ discussion</i>)	Yes	

while being considerate of participants' time, ensuring accurate reporting of information provided)?		
... Does not expose data collectors to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not expose respondents / their communities to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not involve collecting information on specific topics which may be stressful and/ or re-traumatising for research participants (both respondents and data collectors)?	No	
... Does not involve data collection with minors i.e. anyone less than 18 years old?	Yes	
... Does not involve data collection with other vulnerable groups e.g. persons with disabilities, victims/ survivors of protection incidents, etc.?	Yes/No	While participant profiles are often, enumerator training prioritizes ethical data collection (non-intrusive questions, sensitivity awareness and option to not respond to the question/not participate in the survey) to protect unidentified vulnerable groups
... Follows IMPACT SOPs for management of personally identifiable information ?	Yes	As per the SOPs, all personally identifiable information will be deleted and is only used to contextualise analysis

5. Roles and responsibilities

Table 3: Description of roles and responsibilities

Task Description	Responsible	Accountable	Consulted	Informed
<i>Research design</i>	Senior Assessment Officer (SAO), Owen Boed	SAO	Research Manager (RM) Angie Martin , Field Managers (FM) Hajir Hussien , Field Officers (FOs), Data and GIS Unit Sulaiman Anwari and Hezron Seya , IMPACT HQ RDD, IMPACT HQ Focal Point, Cluster Coordinators Working Group Coordinator, OCHA, ICCG, IDPWG, TWG	Country Coordinator (CC), Deputy Country Coordination (DCC), <i>OCHA</i> , ICCG, Clusters, WGs, Field Staff
<i>Supervising data collection</i>	FO	FM	SAO	CC, DCC

Data processing (checking, cleaning)	FOs, SDO, AO, SAO	SAO	FMs, IMPACT HQ RDD, IMPACT HQ Focal Point, TWG	CC, DCC
Data analysis	AO, SAO	SAO	IMPACT HQ RDD, IMPACT HQ MSNA Focal Point, TWG	IPC
Output production	AO, SAO, SDO	SAO	IMPACT HQ Reporting, IMPACT HQ Focal Point, Cluster & WG Coordinators, OCHA, ICCG, TWG	CC, DCC, OCHA, ICCG
Dissemination	AO, SAO	SAO	CC Ana Garay,, FMs, FOs, IMPACT HQ Focal Point, IMPACT HQ RDD, TWG	IPC, OCHA, ICCG
Monitoring & Evaluation	AO, SAO	SAO	CC, DCC, FMs, FOs, SDO, IMPACT HQ MEAL Unit, IMPACT HQ Focal Point, TWG	OCHA, ICCG, ACTED PD, IMPACT HQ RDD
Lessons learned	AO, SAO, SDO, FMs, FOs	SAO	CC, DCC, RM, IMPACT HQ M&E Team, IMPACT HQ Focal Point	OCHA, ICCG, ACTED PD, IMPACT RDD, TWG

Responsible: the person(s) who executes the task

Accountable: the person who validates the completion of the task and is accountable of the final output or milestone

Consulted: the person(s) who must be consulted when the task is implemented

Informed: the person(s) who need to be informed when the task is completed

6. Data Analysis Plan

The data analysis plan (DAP) for the assessment will be published online. The DAP was developed in collaboration with global and in-country clusters/working groups. Two tools were developed: one containing the entire questionnaire, including MUAC information (which skip logic will make appear only for HHs with children under five in Gedo region), the other containing only MUAC/nutrition questions, to be used in Gedo region once the sample required for UoA analysis will be reached in select districts that are also targeted for MUAC data.

7. Data Management Plan

Administrative Data			
Research Cycle name	2025 Multi- Sector Needs Assessment		
Project Code	[Specify code here]		
Donor	SIDA, ECHO		
Project partners	Agency for Technical Cooperation & Development - ACTED		
Research Contact	Angie Martin – RM (angie.martin@impact-initiatives.org) Owen Boed – SAO (owen.boed@impact-initiatives.org)		
Data Management Plan Version	Date: 10/12/2025	Version: 01	
Related Policies	IMPACT Data Protection Policy		
Documentation and Metadata			
What documentation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data analysis plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data Cleaning Log, including:

and metadata will accompany the data? <i>Select all that apply</i>			X Deletion Log X Value Change Log
	X	Code book	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Dictionary
	X	Metadata based on HDX Standards	<input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]
Ethics and Legal Compliance			
Which ethical and legal measures will be taken?	X	Consent of participants to participate	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent of participants to share personal information with other agencies
	<input type="checkbox"/>	No collection of personally identifiable data will take place	X Gender, child protection and other protection issues are taken into account
	X	All participants reached age of majority	[Other, Specify]
Who will own the copyright and Intellectual Property Rights for the data that is collected?	REACH		
Storage and Backup			
Where will data be stored and backed up during the research?	X	IMPACT/REACH Kobo Server	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Kobo Server: <i>[specify]</i>
	X	IMPACT Global Physical / Cloud Server	X Country/Internal Server
	X	On devices held by REACH staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical location <i>[specifies]</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]	
Which data access and security measures have been taken?	X	Password protection on devices/servers	X Data access is limited to <i>[specify, e.g. REACH staff]</i>
	X	Form and data encryption on data collection server	<input type="checkbox"/> Partners signed an MoU if accessing raw data
	X	Anonymized dataset with no PII shared with partners	
Kobo Access Rights			
Kobo Access	Person	Account Name	
View Form	Enumerators	enumsom_cash	
View and Edit Form	Sulaiman Anwari, Senior Data Officer	Sulaiman_anwari	
View Form and Submit Data	Sulaiman Anwari, Senior Data Officer	Sulaiman_anwari, enumsom_cash	
Download Data	Sulaiman Anwari, Senior Data Officer	Sulaiman_anwari,	
Raw Data Access Rights			
Raw Data Access	Reason	Person	
Accountable	Accountable	Sulaiman Anwari, Senior Data Officer	
Access	Spatial verification of collected data	Hezron Seya, GIS Officer	
Preservation			

Where will data be stored for long-term preservation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IMPACT / REACH Global Cloud / Physical Server	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OCHA HDX	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REACH Country Server	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]	
Data Sharing					
Will the data be shared publically?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No, only with mandating agency / body	
Will all data be shared?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, only anonymized and cleaned data will be shared	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	No, [Other, Specify]			
Where will you share the data?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REACH Resource Centre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OCHA HDX	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Humanitarian Response	<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other, Specify]	
Data protection risk assessment					
Have you completed the Indicators Risk Assessment table below?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No, no information that potentially allows identification of individuals is to be collected.	
	[Please complete the first 4 columns in the Indicators Risk Assessment table below]				
Risk indicator	Type of identification risk	Disclosure implications	Benefits	Class	Required mitigation
Respondent contact details (name and phone number)	Direct identification of the interviewee	Potential threat if interviewee's details are disclosed especially those in conflict areas or members of minorities	Data checks and cleaning	B1	To be permanently deleted after data collection
Respondent's location (region, district and settlement name)	Direct identification of the interviewee	Potential threat of being targeted by armed actors	Geographical disaggregation of results	B2	To be permanently deleted after data analysis and visualisation
Responsibilities					
Data collection	Sulaiman Anwari, SDO – sulaiman.anwari@impact-initiatives.org				
Data cleaning	Sulaiman Anwari, SDO – sulaiman.anwari@impact-initiatives.org				
Data analysis	Sulaiman Anwari, SDO – sulaiman.anwari@impact-initiatives.org				
Data sharing/uploading	Sulaiman Anwari, SDO – sulaiman.anwari@impact-initiatives.org				

8. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

IMPACT Objective	External M&E Indicator	Internal M&E Indicator	Focal point	Tool	Will indicator be tracked?
Humanitarian stakeholders are accessing IMPACT products	Number of humanitarian organisations accessing IMPACT services/products Number of individuals accessing IMPACT services/products	# of downloads of x product from Resource Center	Country request to HQ	User_log	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of downloads of x product from Relief Web	Country request to HQ		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of downloads of x product from Country level platforms	Country team		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of page clicks on x product from REACH global newsletter	Country request to HQ		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of page clicks on x product from country newsletter, sendingBlue, bit.ly	Country team		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of visits to x webmap/x dashboard	Country request to HQ		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
IMPACT activities contribute to better program implementation and coordination of the humanitarian response	Number of humanitarian organisations utilizing IMPACT services/products	# references in HPC documents (HNO, SRP, Flash appeals, Cluster/sector strategies)	Country team	Reference_log	<i>OCHA HNO, HRP, All clusters' strategies (Protection, Shelter and Non-Food Items, Health, Education, WASH, Nutrition, AAP, CCCM).</i>
		# references in single agency documents			

Humanitarian stakeholders are using IMPACT products	Humanitarian actors use IMPACT evidence/products as a basis for decision making, aid planning and delivery	Perceived relevance of IMPACT country-programs	Country team	Usage_Feedback and Usage_Survey template	<p><i>Opened survey for REACH Somalia, throughout the year. The link is sent to partners when sharing any REACH product.</i></p> <p><i>REACH team will share the survey link after the release of MSNA bulletin, to at least 20 partners (clusters, OCHA, data collection partners, etc.)</i></p> <p><i>Logging of any form of feedback in the internal M&E framework (e-mails, comments during meetings, etc.)</i></p>
		Perceived usefulness and influence of IMPACT outputs			
		Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs			
		Perceived capacity of IMPACT staff			
		Perceived quality of outputs/programs			
Number of humanitarian documents (HNO, HRP, cluster/agency strategic plans, etc.) directly informed by IMPACT products	Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs				
Humanitarian stakeholders are engaged in IMPACT programs throughout the research cycle	Number and/or percentage of humanitarian organizations directly contributing to IMPACT programs (<i>providing resources, participating to presentations, etc.</i>)	# of organisations providing resources (i.e. staff, vehicles, meeting space, budget, etc.) for activity implementation	Country team	Engagement_log	X Yes
		# of organisations/clusters inputting in research design and joint analysis			X Yes
		# of organisations/clusters attending briefings on findings;			X Yes

ANNEX 1: MODIFICATION TO THE CORE INDICATOR (IF RELEVANT)

Module	Indicator	Question	Please explain what modifications were made?	Justification for the change?	Change made in consultation with IMPACT HQ? If yes, who was consulted?
AAP	% of households having received assistance, by last time assistance was received	When was the last time your household received any aid?	Added 'Did not receive in last 12 months' in the response options.	Cluster request	Reported to HQ
Household Food Consumption	HDDS	Did your household eat [food group] yesterday during the day and night at home?	Added 'at home' to the question.	IPC request	Reported to HQ
Household Food Consumption	FCS	How many days over the last 7 days, did most members of your household (50% +) eat, inside the home, [food group]?	Added 'inside the home' to the question.	IPC request	Reported to HQ
Respondent and head of household	% of respondents who are the head of household	Are you the head of household, the main person who makes decisions on behalf of the entire household?	Added second phrase after comma.	To mitigate against respondents misunderstanding the question and make more clear what is being asked.	Reported to HQ

ANNEX 2: SECONDARY DATA MATRIX

Type of source	Topics	Purpose	Full reference (+ link if possible)	Comments - key findings/information gaps
Humanitarian	2025 HNRP	The Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan	OCHA – HNRP Accessible here	In 2025, an estimated 6.9 million people in Somalia require humanitarian assistance, with internally displaced persons (IDPs) making up 80% of those in need. Displacement is driven by climate shocks, conflict, and forced evictions, with over 3.2 million people currently displaced. Shelter remains a critical gap, as most IDPs live in inadequate buul structures without tenure security, often facing repeated evictions. DTM data provided updated figures for both host and IDP populations, highlighting the urgency in integrated settlements not covered by CCCM. Urbanization and lack of planning further strain resources, while the withdrawal of ATMIS and ongoing insecurity pose serious challenges to humanitarian access. A total of \$297.6 million is required to address priority needs across shelter, WASH, protection, CCCM, and stabilization sectors.
Humanitarian	JMMI	Regular and up-to-date monitoring of market functionality, with a particular emphasis on wide range of non-food items (NFI)	REACH – Somalia Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) Accessible here	Towards the end of 2023, key findings show that vendors encountered significant hurdles due to poor infrastructure, notably concerning roads, impacting commodity transportation. Poor quality roads and closure of roads by floods were reported as the main reason for transportation challenges. In addition, financial barriers, including limited cash and low

				purchasing power, also reportedly hindered effective business operations due to the financial constraints faced by vendors.
Humanitarian	Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Inform assessment methodology including sampling design	CCCM Cluster Somalia HDX Data Shared bilaterally	There are 3,738 recorded IDP sites across Somalia as of December 2023. An approximate, 85% of the sites are informal settlements on private land and 90% of site are in urban areas according to the Detailed Site Assessment (DSA) of the CCCM Cluster.
Humanitarian	Inter-sectoral	Inform assessment methodology including sampling design	OCHA - Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Somalia 2023 Population Figures and Disaggregation Accessible here .	“SOMALIA – 2023 POPULATION FIGURES AND DISAGGREGATION” presents the latest population figures at settlement level for non-displaced populations across the country. The population figures and disaggregation for 2024 is not available yet. Relying on the two-step cleaning process outlined in the methodology section and implemented lessons learned from the 2023 data, no major problems with the sampling is anticipated.
Humanitarian	Livelihood Zone	Inform assessment methodology including sampling design	FSNAU – Somalia: Livelihood zones Accessible here .	The map disaggregates Somalia into 19 livelihood zones with clear distinctions of the admin layers.
Humanitarian	Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Definition of IDPs used in the assessment	OHCHR – Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement Accessible here .	Provides the definition, resolutions, and international standards mandated by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced Persons
IOM	Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Displacement tracking in Somalia	IOM DTM Somalia reporting	IOM’s information management system to track and monitor numbers, locations, movements, needs and vulnerabilities of displaced people. Outputs support

			Accessible here	responses in humanitarian crisis, evidence-based decision making, durable solutions programming and migration research.
Governmental	Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Provides a contextual definition and understanding of IDPs in Somalia	Federal Government of Somalia – National Policy Accessible here .	Provides a clear contextual definition of IDPs in the context of Somalia. The policy also provides the context and background of displacement and plans for durable solutions for the population group – including refugees and returnee populations
Academic Research Institute	Presence of NSAGs	Understanding of context and access to regions	International Crisis Group – Briefing on Somalia’s Actions against Al-Shabaab Accessible here .	The Somali government's advancements against Al-Shabaab in central Somalia previously improved access to contested areas for government forces and civilian populations.
Humanitarian	Overall Humanitarian Access in 2023	Provides details on the overall 2023 humanitarian landscape of Somalia	Somalia: Humanitarian Access Snapshot (01 April to 30 June 2024) - As of 30 June 2024 Accessible here .	Between April and June 2024, 70 humanitarian access constraints were reported in Somalia, marking a 30% increase from the previous quarter—mainly due to improved reporting on aid diversion. About 31% of incidents involved interference in humanitarian operations, including registration disputes and delays in flood response assessments. Violence against humanitarian personnel or assets accounted for 25% of incidents, with injuries, detentions, and shootings reported. Looting and theft of aid were also significant, with some incidents involving armed militia. Only 6% of incidents were related to movement restrictions, mostly due to insecurity and conflict. The humanitarian community continues to advocate with local authorities to address these challenges.

Humanitarian	Update on Laas Caanood	Situation report on the conflict in Laas Caanood	IFRC – Population Movement, Laas Caanood, Sool Region – DREF Final Report Accessible here .	The key takeaway from the escalating conflict in Laas Caanood is the urgent humanitarian crisis it has sparked, with over 126,000 people displaced and more than 170 fatalities reported. The conflict, exacerbated by demonstrations following the killing of community members and by clashes between Somaliland forces and organized militia, has forced civilians to flee to neighboring areas. This crisis adds to Somalia's existing challenges of drought and security instability.
Humanitarian	Update on the rainfall and flooding	FAO's monitoring tool for climatic conditions	FAO - SWALIM maps NDVI and Rainfall Maps Accessible here	The CDI monitoring tool explores the use of three climatic conditions that influences drought conditions. This includes rainfall, temperature, and the Normalized Vegetation Drought Index (NVDI) which is proxy of soil moisture.
Humanitarian	Forecast for 2024 Gu "long rains" season	Predictions of the Gu Rains in Somalia and its possible impact on accessibility of sites for data collection and exacerbated needs due to flooding and potential displacements	FAO – Somalia Climate Outlook for the 2025 Gu Season Accessible here .	The FAO's article on the Gu 2025 Seasonal Climate Outlook for Somalia highlights that the country is expected to face below-average rainfall and above-normal temperatures during the March–May season. These conditions pose serious threats to food security, water availability, and livestock survival, especially in regions like Gedo, Hiraan, and Middle Shabelle. The report urges early preparedness, recommending that governments, humanitarian agencies, and communities adopt climate-resilient practices, strengthen early warning systems, and prepare for health risks such as heat-related illnesses and disease outbreaks. Urgent action is needed to mitigate the impacts and support vulnerable populations.
Humanitarian	Food insecurity, Cash and Markets	Update on supply chains and joint markets in Somalia	WFP Joint Markets and Supply Chain update	As of Feb 2024, the main roads and corridors were accessible, except in areas where heavy rainfall had caused blockages or damage to supply routes, or due to

			Accessible here	security issues, such as Mogadishu-Jala-laqsi-Jowhar, Caynabo-Laas Caanood, Burco-Laas Caanood, Baidoa-Burr Hakaba-Garbaraarey, and Barawe-Marka corridor.
Humanitarian	Food insecurity	Prediction of food insecurity and acute malnutrition	IPC – Somalia Acute Food Insecurity Malnutrition, July-Dec 2025 Accessible here .	Between July and December 2024, Somalia faces worsening food insecurity and malnutrition due to erratic rainfall, flooding, conflict, and high food prices. Around 3.6 million people are currently in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse, with projections rising to 4.4 million by the end of the year. Additionally, 1.6 million children under five are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition, including 403,000 with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). The situation is exacerbated by poor access to health services, inadequate water and sanitation, and suboptimal childcare practices. Urgent humanitarian action is needed to scale up nutrition, health, and social protection interventions.
Humanitarian	Cholera Outbreak	Flash update on Acute Watery Diarrhea (Awd) spreading	OCHA – Flash update on AWD/Cholera outbreak Accessible here .	Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera spreading in Somalia with over 4,380 cases and 54 associated deaths recorded in 32 districts from 1 January to 18 March 2024. 62% of the deaths were among children aged under 5. The outbreak is driven by high levels of malnutrition among children, insufficient access to clean water, open defecation practices, latrines with poor hygiene and inadequate sanitation among communities, among other factors.
Governmental	Situation Update	AWD/Cholera Weekly Epidemiological Report	Somalia Ministry of Health Cholera reporting	As of April, 630 new cholera cases were reported from 28 districts. 433 (69%) severe cases, 347 (55%) children below 5 years and 344 (55%) were female.

Humanitarian	Situation Update	Update on the floods	OCHA – Situation Report Accessible here .	<p>More than 163,000 people have been affected by floods in Somalia, as of 5 May. At least 37,120 have been displaced/relocated & 7 children killed in 11 out of 22 hotspot districts.</p> <p>Hirshabelle, Jubaland and Southwest are the worst affected. At least 67 of the 95 verified sites for IDPs in Hirshabelle have been impacted by the rains, affecting 39,120 people.</p>
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ANNEX 3: DATA CLEANING STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

2025 Somalia Multi-Sectorial Needs Assessment (MSNA)

Data Cleaning Standard Operating Procedures

Introduction

Throughout data collection, cleaning will regularly take place to maintain the high standard of the assessment. Data cleaning and verification will take place daily. Feedback will be provided directly to REACH Field Officers (FOs) by the Senior Database Officer. Data cleaning will focus on identifying outliers in the data, contradictory or unlikely response options (logical inconsistencies), and suspicious patterns from enumerators. A cleaning log of all changes will be kept and will be available upon request after the REACH publication of datasets. It is crucial for the MSNA team to have supporting tools that can help us monitor the quality of data we are receiving from the field. This document will outline the proposed data workflow and responsibilities of each team member for the multi-sectoral needs assessment in 2025.

After downloading the data following steps will be implemented:

1. Run the R script developed to implement the required checks on the dataset. Outputs of the R scripts are as follows:

1. **Cleaning log** file that will outline all issues that need to be addressed.

The uid, question name, description of issue, feedback and old value will be included in the cleaning log file. Field officers will follow up on the flagged issues by double-checking it with respective enumerators and team leaders. Once checked and confirmed, field officers will fill the new value column and inform the data team. Once the new value is cross-checked and confirmed by the data team, the old value can be replaced with the new value and clean data can be generated.

2. **Raw data** specific for each location will be exported daily and saved in the shared folder. Each field officer is expected to check the feedback on their bases and complete the cleaning log. All data cleaning files should be shared with the GIS/Data team in a timely manner, so the team can access and maintain consolidated clean data.

Daily Data Checks & Cleaning

Daily Responsibilities

Senior/ Assessment Officer

1. Responsible for reviewing cleaning results daily and providing feedback to either Senior Database Officer/Field coordinator/ Field Officers.
2. In coordination with Field coordinator and field officers, communicate regarding security or logistical concerns that change sampling framework.
3. Responsible for ensuring each field team is on track to complete required target samples with quality surveys.

Senior Data / Database Officer

1. The Senior Data Officers will be responsible for downloading, deleting, and anonymizing data from kobo daily.
2. Runs daily R data checking script with clean data, and raw data from most recent day to identify errors for Field Officers to follow up on.
3. Runs the data monitoring dashboard scripts daily, to make sure that the information in the tracker is the most updated and accurate.
4. makes final call on survey deletions.
5. Responsible for overseeing changes to sampling framework and adjusting sampling targets accordingly.
6. Responsible for ensuring daily backups of the cleaned data and that proper file naming protocol is followed for cleaned data and cleaning log.
7. Communicate all data issues, feedback, and any other data related issues to the responsible S/FO, who contacts field teams and individual enumerators to clarify any issues with the data.

Senior/Field Officers

1. In constant communication between the data officers and individual enumerators regarding issues with data collection and data quality issues.
2. Daily checking information updated in the tracker and debriefed enumerators on any update to ensure data quality is maintained at high standards and that the target is achieved in their locations.
3. Make sure that each enumerator has uploaded their survey to the KoBo server before 5PM, or as soon as it is possible daily.
4. Ensure phones are fully charged prior to next day of data collection,

5. Ensure phones are set to the correct time and date prior to data collection. Achieved with steps below: Settings > General management > Date and time > Automatic date and time AND Use 24-hour format ON At the end of each data collection day. Once submitted, data will be downloaded by the Senior Data Officer daily by 7 PM at the latest, removing personally identifiable data and adding unique IDs; the data team will run the R scripts that will automatically spot errors – see table 1 below.
6. Each field officer will then receive the raw data and the cleaning log file with the identified issues on their respective data, upload to the respective folders in SharePoint. The enumerators are expected to check and correct all uploaded data-related errors, under the supervision of the team leader and field officer; in addition, field teams will check for vertical and horizontal errors in the data, following up with the respondent, if needed. Once the field teams have made the changes, all files should be uploaded to the Sharepoint.

Data Checking Best Practices for the Field Teams

1. When you apply a filter **REMEMBER TO CLEAR IT!** Otherwise, you will go ahead not looking at ALL the questionnaire!
2. **Fill all** the columns under new.value column, in the cleaning log, even in cases where the new value does not change from the old value.
3. **Know the tool:** only if you are fully familiar with the tool and respective skip logics will you be able to clean the dataset properly and catch logic mistakes.
4. **Spot-check enumerators** and ensure you understand the structure, logic and how questions are understood by both enumerators and respondents.
5. **Know the local context:** please use your understanding of the local context to help you catch mistakes, such as knowing that in this area of data collection it's not possible that somebody is using a flush toilet.
6. **Whilst reviewing and cleaning the data**, both a **horizontal and vertical logic should be applied.**
7. **Horizontal logic (scroll to the right):** check whether reported responses of each indicator of each survey are logically consistent and make sense in relation to each other.
8. **Vertical logic (scroll down):** with the data sorted *by enumerator*, scroll dataset downwards to check whether there are any suspicious response patterns for specific enumerators that suggest the enumerator is performing poorly or misunderstood a question or response option. Check the overall distribution of responses, that way you can find out which enumerator's surveys seem suspicious.
9. During data cleaning you **should** have **pen and paper to take some notes** for the next day's **morning briefing**. Alternatively, you can also just **use the cleaning log as briefing notes for the enumerator feedback.**
10. If providing individual feedback to one enumerator, sort your cleaning log by "enumerator."

11. If providing feedback on a common issue appearing across enumerators, sort the cleaning log by “issue”. Keep the teams motivated!
12. Do not only flag the issues, ensure you explain why something would not make sense and articulate in which areas they have improved.

Data Checks

This below table will guide you through the checks in the RScript and what should be taken for each one. In short, data checking columns mainly flag potential issues within the data, since it will be too difficult to ensure that everything aligns perfectly and logged among the different people involved in the process. This process will help us to approach issues with the same action so it will be easy for us to collaborate and speed up the process.

Cell #	Issue	Action
	Survey time taken	Sort the time taken from Lowest to Highest or A to Z to check which surveys are filled in a short time and which surveys are filled in more extended periods. Minimum survey time = 25 minutes Maximum survey time = 90minutes
	consent	Check if there are any declined consents in the data so you can decide to take additional surveys based on your sample and delete the no consent surveys
	hh_size <2 / hh>14	Please check if the total household size is less than 2 or greater than 14 and cross-check any figure that needs to be verified or double-checked with enumerators or respondents.
	uuid	Check for duplicated surveys in the data.
	ind_age! = ind_dob_approx	Check if the age completed in years entered by the respondent is the same with age in months calculated from selecting the DOB in the tool.
	time_productive	Check for outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.

	time_unproductive	Check for outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	times_displaced	Check for outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	salary	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	casual	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	business	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	own_product	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	govt_benefits	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	rent	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	remittance	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	family_friends	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	charity_donations	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	hum_assistance	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	food	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	rent_expenditure	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	water_allsources	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	non_food_items	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.

	utilities_allconnections	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	fuel_allvehicles	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	transportation_allvehicle	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	communications_allcosts	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	other_expenditure	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	health_related	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	non_fooditems	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	shelter	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	education_related	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	debt_repayment	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	all_other	outliers using the inter-quantile range calculations.
	Xx_other	<p>All the other checks that may need translations are listed in the left column. Please check the other options provided and recode the values that can be found from the lists and translate the others.</p> <p>If translation, please do translate to English. If the value looks invalid, ask the enumerators for clarification.</p>

	age_decision_maker ==resp_age, and age_decision_maker ==resp_age	Logical checks where the respondent mentions not to the decision maker, but the age and gender of the decision maker matches that one for the respondent.
	Return to area of origin (for IDP HHs only) == HOst Community	Check for Host communities that have mentioned to return to their area of origin
	salary, casual, business, own_product, govt_benefits, rent, remittance, family_friends, charity_donations, hum_assistance, domestic_expenditure, food, rent_expenditure, water_allsources,	Check for 999 or 999 from all the listed indicators, it could mean the respondent is not sure about the response or the correct value. If confirmed, the specific entries will be removed

	<p>non_food_items, utilities_allconnections, fuel_allvehicles, transportation_allvehicle, communications_allcosts, other_expenditure, expenditure_domestic, shelter, non_fooditems, health_related, education_related, debt_repayment, all_other</p>	
	gps 1 == gps 2	Check if the gps recorded at the start of the survey is the same with the one that is recorded at the end of the survey.
	total_non_residing_children	Check for 999 entries; it must be removed later.
	Infant formula [siha, nunalac, aptamil, nido] (times)	Check for 999 entries; it must be removed later.

	Milk (tinned, powdered, or fresh animal milk) (times)	Check for 999 entries; it must be removed later.
	Sour milk or yoghurt [i.e. caana fadhi] (times)	Check for 999 entries; it must be removed later.
	resp_hoh_yn == "yes" & resp_age < 20	respondant is HoH but younger than 20
	fsl_fcs_score < 10	FCS is too low, and the values will be cleared
	fsl_fcs_score > 70	FCS is too high in a humanitarian situation
	fsl_fcs_score == 0 & cm_expenditure_frequent_food > 10	respondent mentioned to have spent more than 10 USD on food this month on their income but they have consumed some food groups (FCS above 0), please confirm where they got the food
	fsl_fcs_score >= 28 & fsl_fcs_cereal < 5	The FCS score is higher than or equal to 28 while fsl_fcs_cereal element is less than to 5
	fsl_fcs_score <= 28 & cm_expenditure_frequent_food > 200 & hh_size < 7	The FCS score is less than or equal to 28 and hh size is less than 7, while food_exp is more than 200 USD
	wash_drinking_water_source %in% c('tank_truck', 'cart_tank', 'bottled_water', 'sachet_water') & cm_expenditure_frequent_water < 5	The wash_drinking_water_source is selected 'bottled_water' OR 'tanker' OR 'cart_with_small_tank' but cm_expenditure_frequent_water is less than 5 USD

ind_age_schooling_n == 0 & cm_expenditure_infrequent_education > 0	The ind_schooling_n == 0 while cm_expenditure_infrequent_education reported > 0
fsl_fcs_cereal < 4	Cereals, grains, rice, maize, sorghum, and tubers is less than 4. Please correct your answer.
fsl_fcs_meat >= 5 fsl_fcs_oil < 4	Meat or poultry consumption is more than 4, please cross-check Oil consumption is less than 4, please cross-check
fsl_hdds_cereals == "yes" & fsl_fcs_cereal == 0	cereal was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
fsl_hdds_dairy == "yes" & fsl_fcs_dairy == 0	diary was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
fsl_hdds_fruit == "yes" & fsl_fcs_fruit == 0	fruit was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
fsl_hdds_meat == "yes" & fsl_fcs_meat == 0	meat was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
fsl_hdds_eggs == "yes" & fsl_fcs_meat == 0	egg was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
fsl_hdds_fish == "yes" & fsl_fcs_meat == 0	fish was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
fsl_hdds_legumes == "yes" & fsl_fcs_legumes == 0	legumes was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
fsl_hdds_oil == "yes" & fsl_fcs_oil == 0	oil was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs

	fsl_hdds_sugar == "yes" & fsl_fcs_sugar == 0	sugar was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
	fsl_hdds_condiments == "yes" & fsl_fcs_condiments == 0	condiments was consumed within last 24 hrs but not reported in fcs
	ind_aduld_above_18 == hh_size	fsl_rcsi_mealadult turn to zero
	wash_sanitation_facility_sharing_n > 15	Sanitation facility shared by >15 HHs

Data collection tracking

MSNA survey tracker dashboard is built to provide a live snapshot of the data collection against the targeted sample at the region, district, cluster and strata status level. The dashboard is linked to the kobo, and it provides the numbers of submissions in the server in timely.

The tracker consists of 6 main coverage statistics.

1. Number of interviews received per pop group (urban host community and urban IDP) per region
2. Number of interviews received per pop group (urban host community and urban IDP) per district
3. Number of interviews received per pop group (urban host community and urban IDP) per strata.
4. Number of deleted interviews per district and region and per enumerators.
5. Overall number of surveys collected per district against the sample size.

The purpose of enumerator tracker would be to ensure enumerators' productivity. The Data Officer will generate this tracker based on number of surveys per enumerator per day, average number of data cleaning issues per enumerator, enumerators following suspiciously similar survey paths. This will be closely monitored and tracked. If the trend of the enumerator is consistently poor, putting the data quality at risk, an update will be provided daily. Each enumerator is expected to complete no more than 6 surveys per day.

Spatial Verification

Responsible(s): GIS/ team

The master settlement list will be used as the base map for checking data collection. The collected data from the field will be overlaid over the base map and the distance between the base map settlements point and the collected points will be calculated. The points which are far from the target settlement's locations will be flagged for action in the cleaning log.

Neither Accurate nor Precise:

This means points collected are captured far apart from each other and out of the targeted location. That's why it's neither precise nor accurate.

Accurate, not Precise:

This means points are accurate and fitting one location/polygon, but the precision is missing.

Precise, not Accurate:

This means the points are precise but according to the point that we're referencing it's not accurate. So, either the site has been relocated or the sites has the same name.

Accurate and Precise:

This means the points are accurate and precise on the targeted location.

No GPS Coordinates:

This means there are no GPS coordinates captured from the field. We must discourage this to happen in the field and make mandatory for each enumerator to take the GPS coordinates after each survey.

Re-sampling SOP

- **FOs log their issues in a daily location issues tracker.** Important to record are:
 - **District**
 - **Livelihood zone**

- **Location name** (settlement name / IDP site name)
- **Target** (number of HH surveys to conduct in that location)
- **Issue** (only 3 possibilities allowed: ***Inaccessible, Not found / unknown, Located in another district***)
- **Name of FO** logging the issue

It is KEY to stick to this format, to avoid messiness and a heavy workload. A location being “too far” is NOT a valid issue.

- **The designed data person checks this document daily to provide feedback to FOs:** he/she checks if an issue is valid and provides feedback in a “feedback column” to the FO. Feedback can be: “**Invalid – go to location anyway**” or “**Valid – will be resampled**”.
- **For the “valid issues”, designated data person resamples from the 'improved population data sources'.** This should also happen on a daily / need’s basis. Resampling needs to happen taking the final targets into account. Resampled locations (with all their information included: district, name, coordinates, target number, etc.) can be entered in a 2nd tab of the location issues tracker called “**Resampled locations**”, but to be sure, should also be emailed to the relevant FO. You can also make a column “Acknowledged by FO” in this spreadsheet, which the relevant FO must mark (X) when seen & understood.
- Data team should **keep a record of how the sampling frames are evolving in real time:** what locations are going to be visited in the end, with how many interviews as a target. We have three separate sampling frames here: non-displaced, protracted IDPs, new IDPs. This is also important for the special verification checks during data cleaning: we need to know what **the eventual, real sampling frame is that got implemented!** For this, make a copy of the initial/original sampling frames, and create ‘**dynamic versions**’, where you mark **rows that were deleted (inaccessible / unknown / wrong district) in RED** and **newly added rows (that got resampled) in GREEN**.

RACI-structure of tasks:

DAILY: FOs enter location issues in daily location issues tracker.	FOs	SDO (SAO if SDO is on leave)	Field Coordinator, GISM, SAO	RM, AO, SAO

<p>DAILY: Check location issues tracker & provide feedback to FOs.</p>	<p>SDO (SAO if SDO on leave)</p>	<p>SDO & SAO</p>	<p>GISO, SAO, RM</p>	<p>RM, AO, SAO</p>
<p>Weekly/as required: Resampling.</p>	<p>SDO (SAO if SDO on leave)</p>	<p>SDO & SAO</p>	<p>GISO, SAO, RM</p>	<p>RM, AO, SAO</p>
<p>DAILY: Update dynamic sampling frames.</p>	<p>SDO (SAO if SDO on leave)</p>	<p>SDO & SAO</p>	<p>GISO, SAO, RM</p>	<p>RM, AO, SAO</p>