



# The Impact of Drought on Protection Concerns in IDP sites

Bula Xawo IDP Settlement, Baidoa District, Bay Region, Somalia

Somalia Drought Crisis  
February 2018

## Overview

An estimated 761,000 people have been displaced by drought in Somalia since November 2016<sup>1</sup>. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are moving from rural to urban centres in search of livelihood opportunities and humanitarian assistance<sup>2</sup>. The uptick in displacement and the increased financial strain that the ongoing drought has placed on households present significant protection challenges, particularly for women and children. However, there has been limited research into the specific vulnerabilities and threats faced by IDPs, and little is understood on the relationship between drought and its impact on protection concerns. Gaps in information have limited the extent to which humanitarian intervention and protection service provision is targeted towards affected populations. In order to address this gap, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Concern, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Plan International, Oxfam and REACH conducted an assessment of 28 IDP sites from across Somalia in January - February 2018. The assessment focused on four key thematic areas: site safety and security, child protection, sexual and gender based violence, and gaps and availability of protection services. This factsheet presents findings from Bula Xawo IDP settlement, with a total population of 865 households.

## Methodology

Information for this site-level assessment was collected between 24 January and 16 February and is comprised of 290 household surveys, 2 key informant interviews with site leaders and 1 site observation. Quantitative findings are strengthened by 12 gender and age-segregated focus group discussions. The household survey sample had a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 5%, meaning findings are generalisable at the site level. Data collected for this assessment is considered representative at the site level only. Findings therefore cannot, and should not, be generalised to the district, region or national level.

## Key findings

### Site safety and security

- The lack of perimeter fence around the camp has resulted in reported safety concerns. Respondents reported restricted movement during the day and at night. This insecurity was linked to the presence of militias and road blocks in the area.
- Lack of adequate lighting and proper shelters with lockable doors has reportedly increased the risk of sexual violence and assault. Just 1% of households reported having light in their shelter at night, and 2% reported having lockable doors.

### Child protection

- Just over half (52%) of school-aged children of assessed households were reportedly in school. FGD respondents suggested that an increase in early marriages was playing a role in girls dropping out of school.
- Male adolescents reported being engaged in dangerous activities such as breaking stones to generate income for the family. Adolescent girls also reported doing harsh work such as in construction and working as domestic helps washing clothes. Of the households indicating their children engaging in paid work, domestic labour was the most common activity.

- FGD respondents indicated an increase in forced recruitment in the area, with male adolescents restricting their own movement outside the settlement due to fear of abduction by militia groups.

- Adolescents reported an increase in the number of child-headed households, although only 2% of households reported experiencing family separation in the three months prior to the assessment.

### Sexual and gender-based violence

- Loss of livestock and drought-induced displacement has impacted the gendered division of labour. Women reported increasingly working outside the home and engaging in harsh tasks such as breaking stones and collecting firewood, in turn increasing their exposure to SGBV.

- Domestic violence was also reported as a common occurrence within households. More than 90% of households reported women and girls feeling unsafe within shelters, which may be indicative of the growing prevalence of domestic violence. Community leaders also reported that domestic violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation were prevalent security concerns for women in the site.

- Within the settlement, women reported feeling unsafe at night, particularly when visiting communal latrines alone, whilst lack of lockable shelters has increased the risk of sexual violence. Women also reported being sexually assaulted and raped while in the forest collecting firewood or when fetching water. More than 70% of households reported women and girls feeling

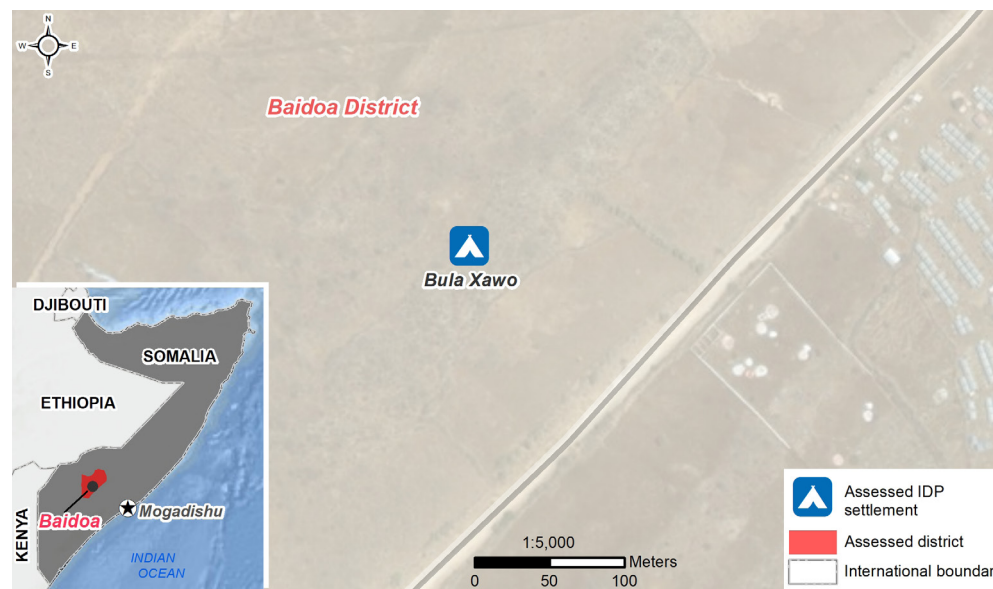
insecure at water points.

- Men reported migrating long distances for work, exposing themselves to insecurity while travelling. This was also confirmed through quantitative findings where 50% of households reported men and boys feeling unsafe outside the site.

### Gaps and availability of protection services

- Some healthcare services are provided by humanitarian agencies, but no formal mental health services are provided for survivors. Enumerators also reported the absence of child-friendly and women-friendly spaces in the settlement.
- The only form of legal response to protection issues was reported to be through informal justice systems.

## Assessment coverage



1. OCHA Humanitarian Impacts of Drought. Issue 6 June 2017.

2. US Department of State. Somalia: Drought and Displacement Overview. May 2017.



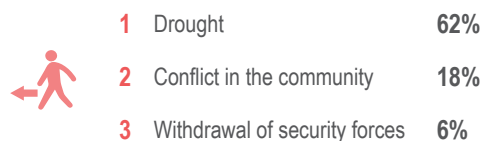
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## Displacement

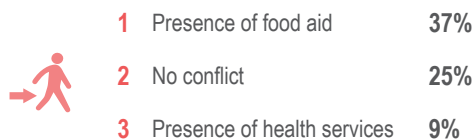
### Push factors

Top three reported reasons for leaving previous location:<sup>3</sup>



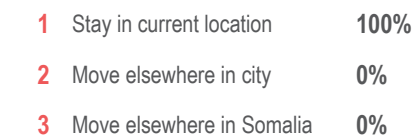
### Pull factors

Top three reported reasons for coming to current location:



### Intentions

Reported future intentions of IDP households:



### Multiple displacements

Average number of times households have been displaced before arriving in current location:

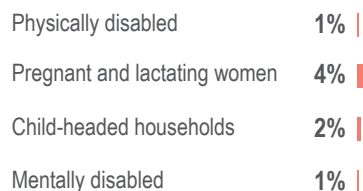
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## Demographic composition

### Household vulnerability

Proportion of vulnerable groups of total site population (individuals):



### Family separation

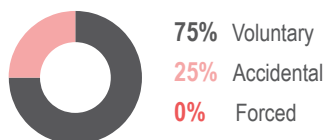
Reported number of children separated from their households in the three months prior to assessment<sup>4</sup>:

1 separated girls

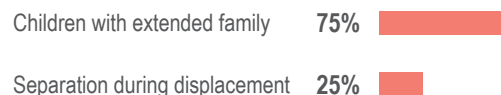
7 separated boys



Separation voluntary, accidental or forced:<sup>5</sup>



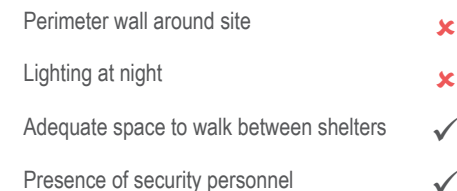
Top two reported reasons for child separation:<sup>6</sup>



## Site conditions (1)

### Safety features

Observed safety features of site:



### Shelter theft

Proportion of households reporting theft from their shelter in the three months prior to assessment:



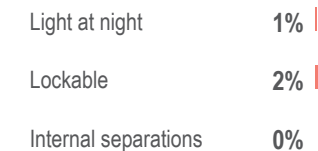
### Shelter

Average number of people per shelter:

6



Proportion of IDP households reporting that their shelter has the following features:<sup>7</sup>



3. Most frequently cited as primary reason (this applies to all figures in the factsheet presenting 'top three reasons').

4. A total of 2% reported family separation.

5,6. Of those households reporting family separation.

7. Households could select multiple responses.



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## Site conditions (2)

### Shelter sharing

Proportion of households reporting that there are multiple families sharing one shelter:



### Latrine conditions

Observed latrine features in site:

Light at night	✗
Gender segregated	✗
Disabled access	✗
Lockable from inside	✗

### Water point distance

Reported time to reach the nearest water point from the assessed households by foot:

Under 30 minutes	72%
30 minutes to under 1 hour	13%
1 hour to under half a day	15%
Half a day	0%
More than half a day	0%

### Coping strategies

Top three reported coping strategies used by households to respond to a lack of food (96% reported inadequate access to food):<sup>8</sup>

Household members beg	42%
Children eat with neighbours	33%
Children stay in IDP site	26%

### Latrine distance

Reported time to reach the nearest latrine from the assessed households by foot:

Under 30 minutes	92%
30 minutes to under 1 hour	6%
1 hour to under half a day	2%
Half a day	0%
More than half a day	0%



8,9,10,11,12. Households could select multiple answers.

## Safety and security

### Violence and insecurity in the community

Proportion of households reporting experiencing violence or insecurity in the three months prior to the assessment:

Violence	1%
Insecurity	1%

Top three reported groups causing insecurity, as reported by households indicating insecurity:<sup>10</sup>

Figures too low to be statistically significant

### Unsafe areas

Most commonly reported areas where men and boys feel unsafe:<sup>11</sup>

Distribution point	50%
Outside site	50%
At market	33%
In shelters	17%
At latrine	17%

Most commonly reported areas where women and girls feel unsafe:<sup>12</sup>

In shelters	93%
At latrine	74%
At water point	71%
At bathing point	68%
At market	8%

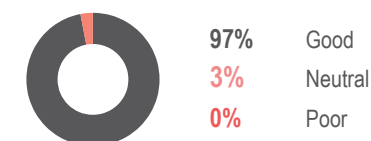
### Gender-based violence

Prevalent security concerns for women:<sup>13</sup>

Domestic violence	✓
Forced marriage	✓
Female genital mutilation	✓
Trafficking	✗
Sexual violence/ rape	✗

### Relationship with host community

Reported relationship with host community:



13. As reported by community leaders.

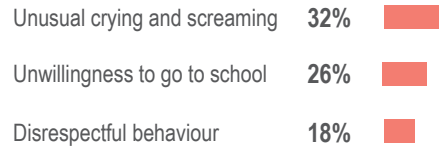


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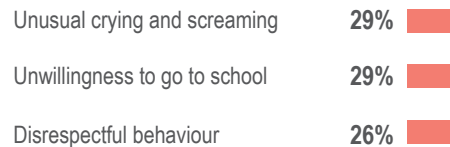
## Child Protection

### Behaviour change of children<sup>14</sup>

Top three reported behaviour changes of girls in the three months prior to assessment:



Top three reported behaviour changes of boys in the three months prior to assessment:



### School attendance and drop out

Proportion of school-aged children reportedly attending school:

52%



Proportion of households reporting school-aged children dropped out of school in the six months prior to the assessment:



6% Yes  
94% No

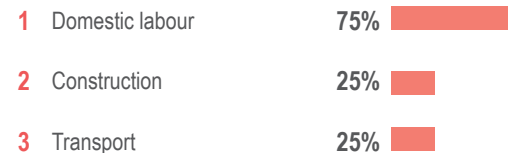
### Children engaged in paid work

Reported proportion of children engaged in harsh or dangerous work<sup>15</sup>:



2% Yes  
97% No  
1% Do not know

Top three reported forms of dangerous or harsh work that children are involved in, as indicated by households reporting that children are involved in dangerous work:



14. The total proportion of households reporting behaviour change in children was 13%.

15. The total proportion of households reporting children engaged in any kind of paid work was 4%.

## Available protection services

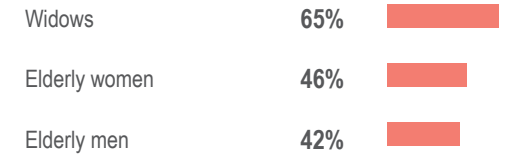
### Services for women

Available forms of assistance specifically targeting women:<sup>16</sup>



### Exclusion

Top three groups reportedly excluded from available services:



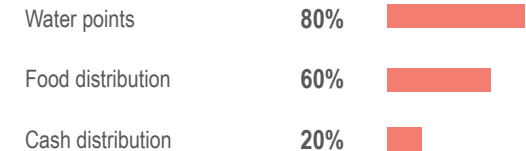
### Aid causing insecurity

Reported incidence of violence in site during delivery of humanitarian assistance:



2% Yes  
98% No  
0% Do not know

Top three reported forms of humanitarian assistance during which violent incidents have occurred, as indicated by households reporting violence during aid delivery:



### Mental health services

Reported availability of mental health services:<sup>17</sup>

Not available



### Child friendly space

Reported availability of child friendly space:<sup>18</sup>

Not available



### Women friendly space

Reported availability of women friendly space:<sup>19</sup>

Not available



16,17. As reported by community leaders.

18,19. As observed by enumerators.