

Baidoa Displacement Crisis

There has been an marked increase in internally displaced persons (IDPs) since January 2107. Displacement has been caused by drought and simultaneous conflict and loss of livelihoods, with waves of people moving to Bay and Bakool regions. Distress migration has occurred on a large scale, with rural populations gravitating towards urban centres in search of relief. One town in Bay region that has suffered the highest influx of IDPs is Baidoa.



Baidoa, or Baydhabo is a strategic town in south-central Somalia and the capital of the Bay region of Somalia; situated approximately 250 kilometres west of Mogadishu and 240 km southeast of the Ethiopian border. Baidoa is a home to an estimated 185 IDP settlements, most of them in the town and two thirds established between January and April, 2017. According to the **UNHCR managed PRMN system report dated 30th April 2017, there are 156,000 newly displaced IDPs** in these settlements. These have come to join the already existing over **50,000 protracted IDPs** in Baidoa.

This level of IDP influx in a small town of war torn country of Somalia, where institutional systems are either weak or non-existent, easily degenerates into a catastrophic humanitarian situation. In order to support humanitarian response, shelter cluster partner, REACH, carried out a series of assessments resulting in the Baidoa IDP Settlement Assessment report. The assessment findings clearly indicate that, apart from the need of food and water, **there is an extremely high need for shelter and NFI assistance** in the increasing displacement crisis. **Shelter and NFI was cited as a priority need by 82% of households.**

Importance of humanitarian needs, ranked by the household representatives.

Priority Concern	% HH
Food	100%
Water	84%
Shelter	82%
Health care	10%
Cooking Equipment	7%
Nutrition	4%

The majority of of IDPs reported to live in emergency (57%) or temporary shelters (27%).

The majority of the assessed households (72%) reside in buuls and 20% in CGI shelters.

The majority of the shelters (68%) are of wooden structure. In addition, 87% of the households reported having no floor covering material - Majority of the shelters having earthen floor suggests high vulnerability to flooding in the upcoming wet season.

Cloths and rags were the most commonly used covering material (48%) for walls and roofs, reflecting the prevalence of buuls.

Section	Shelter Material
Floor	Earth (87%)
Main Structure	Wood (68%)
Wall and Roof	Clothes/Rags (48%)

These findings corroborate the high ranking of **shelter as a priority need for households, with 84% of key informants citing this need.** Only 1% of the households had an acceptable NFI Score, a result of lacking basic non-food items such as sleeping mats, jerry cans and plastic sheeting.

The Cluster Coordination Team highly encourages distribution of a **light Emergency Shelter Kit** of plastic sheeting, floor mats and fixings (rope/nails/wire) and in reducing the kit components and cost (approx \$50/kit) we are seeking a broader response. If markets will support conditional cash or vouchers, a cash/voucher based approach to NFIs and shelter kits is highly encouraged.



Typical makeshift 'Buul' with cloth roof and walls

In addition to shelter and NFI inputs, and with an eye on the rains and the density of the spontaneous settlements, the shelter cluster also support the concept of **flood and fire mitigation.** Provision of community tools and some quick technical training can improve site conditions with the construction of drainage channels around the buuls, raising the floors in these makeshift shelters and creating fire-breaks.

The shelter Cluster is very grateful to REACH for their work and looks forward to engaging with them and other SC partners as the cluster carries out similar mapping exercises in areas not already covered in the last few months. The Coordination Team is currently compiling the mapping information and KI surveys from around the country to best identify areas which have not yet been mapped. The shelter cluster will then contact partners through the regional coordinators to roll out this exercise in the very near future.

The full REACH report can be found here:

<http://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-baidoa-idp-settlement-assessment-april-2017>

NEEDS ANALYSIS

- 680,000 drought displaced people are in need of Shelter/NFI assistance. The majority of the displacement is to Baidoa and Mogadishu. The displaced families are confronted with the need of shelter and other household non-food items.
- Safe and secure settlements are needed to provide crisis-affected communities with protected and healthy living spaces and environments, while ensuring sufficient privacy and dignity.
- Nearly 1.1 million protracted Internally Displaced people exist countrywide

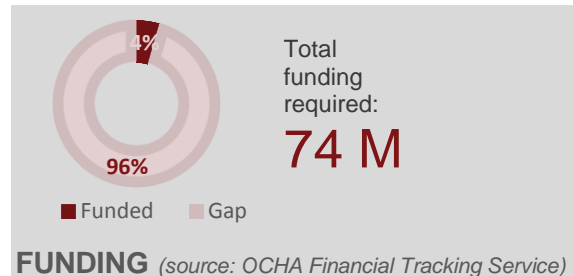
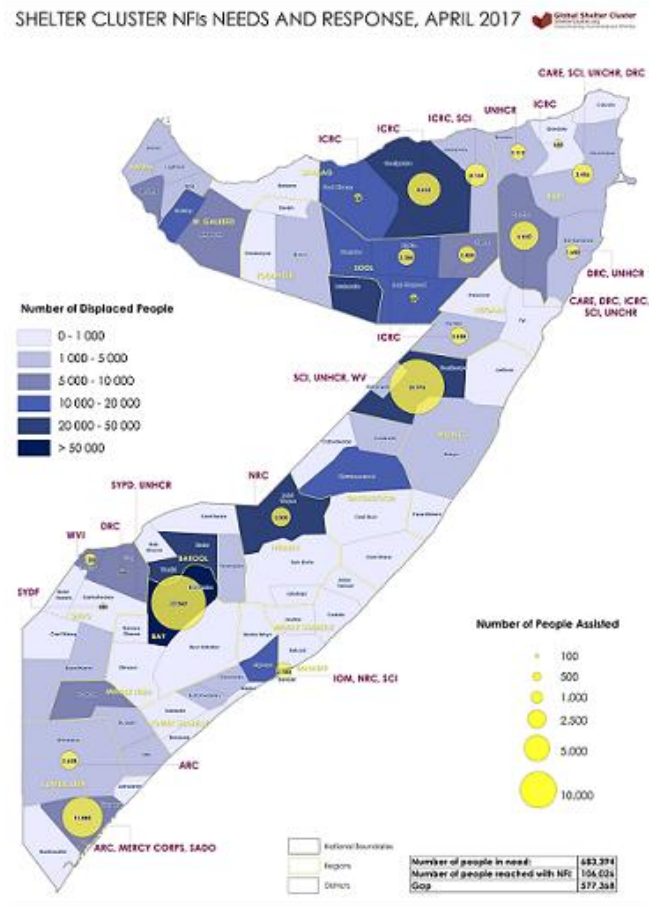
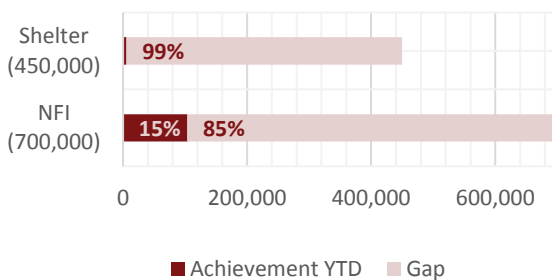
GAPS / CHALLENGES

- Poor infrastructure inhibits the provision of NFI supplies to the interior regions of Somalia.
- Restricted humanitarian accessibility continues to affect the provision of assistance to affected people in some parts of south and central Somalia.
- Decreasing funding of shelter activities has exceptionally affected the capacity of cluster partners. The resulting gaps are aggravated by the sharp increase in emergency shelter needs which calls for stocks to be positioned for timely response to emergencies all over Somalia.

RESPONSE

- 21716 persons have received emergency assistance in April

COVERAGE AGAINST TARGETS (HH)



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KEY DOCUMENTS

- <https://www.sheltercluster.org/response/somalia>

KEY LINKS

- <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/somalia/emergency-shelter-and-nfi>
- <http://reliefweb.int/country/som>