

Date of Information Received: February 2008

1. Breakdown of Reports¹ in the PMT database by Location:

- South/Central Somalia (including Mogadishu) – 75 reports
- Puntland – 19 reports
- Somaliland – 7 reports
- Yemen – 2 reports
- Djibouti – 1 report
- **TOTAL – 104 reports**

2. Types of Displacement

No. of People Affected:	No. of Reports Received
• Insecurity / Conflict – 21,000 -----	94 reports
• Lack of Livelihood – 1,500 -----	5 reports
• Clan Conflict – 1,200 -----	1 report
• Forced Return – 110 -----	1 report
• Drought – 90 -----	2 reports
• IDP Returns – 70 -----	1 report
• TOTAL ≈ 24,000 -----	104 reports

3. Areas receiving IDPs

By region with districts in parenthesis

- Awdal (Zeylac)
- Bakool (Xudur)
- Banadir (Mogadishu)
- Bari (Bossaso)
- Bay (Bardaale, Baydhaba, Buur Hakaba, Diinsoor)
- Galgaduud (Dhuusamarreeb)
- Gedo (Belet Xaawo)
- Hiraan (Belet Weyne)
- Juba Dhexe/Middle Juba (Jilib)
- Juba Hoose/Lower Juba (Afmadow, Kismaayo)
- Mudug (Gaalkacyo)
- Shabelle Dhexe/Middle Shabelle (Mahaday, Warsheikh)
- Shabelle Hoose/Lower Shabelle (Afgooye, Baraawe, Marka, Qoryooley)
- Togdheer (Burco)
- Woqooyi Galbeed (Hargeysa)
- Yemen
- Djibouti

4. Sources of Information: Local Partner Agencies and UNHCR Yemen

¹ The term “reports” refers to entries in the database and not necessarily to reports received from partners. A total of 116 PMT reports were received from partners in February.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Consistent with the movement patterns of previous months, the most significant cause of displacement in Somalia was related to insecurity and violence in Mogadishu. However it should be noted that the level of this displacement – nearly 18,000 in the month of February – is the lowest it has been since May and June of 2007, although this displacement is still significant. Reports seem to indicate that this relatively low level of displacement is due less to a real improvement in the security situation in Mogadishu, than it is to the fact that with over 700,000 being already displaced by this violence, the majority of those who are able/willing to flee their homes have already done so.

IDPs fled from various parts of the city but the areas that experienced the most violence and hence “produced” the most IDPs were Heliwaa, Hawl Wadaag, Yaaqshiid, and Wadajir/Madina. With the exception of Wadajir, all these districts have seen considerable violence throughout all of last year. The violence involves the continuing attacks on TFG and Ethiopian forces by anti-government forces, as well as counter-attacks and house-to-house searches on the part of the TFG/Ethiopians. These attacks coupled with general lawlessness, including an increasing number of allegations of TFG army and police lootings, continues to fuel this steady exodus people from their homes.

In addition to the violence that rocked the city, PMT partners identified secondary reasons for displacement. These secondary reasons include, a “lack of livelihood” and a “lack of food”. Furthermore, other groups of these Mogadishu IDPs listed secondary reasons such as, “Al-Shabaab fighters make a new base”, “Stray bullets shelling into the houses”, “Police forces surrounded the area”, “Some people are arrested in the area”, and, a “Blockage of movements and merchants”.

During the month of February, these newly displaced IDPs from Mogadishu went to various parts of Somalia, with the heaviest concentrations of IDPs who fled fighting in Mogadishu found in Lower Shabelle (primarily Afgooye and Marka), in Lower Juba (primarily Doble), and in “safer” districts in Mogadishu. Other regions that received large numbers of IDPs are Bari, Mudug, and Bay.

Several more cases of multiple displacements were observed during February. Over 1,000 Mogadishu IDPs who were living Doble, fled the fighting there between clan militias and elements associated with the ICU. These people moved to Marka and to other locations in Afmadow district. 230 IDPs from the Afgooye settlements moved further on to places like Kismaayo and Garoowe.

A mere 73 people are reported to have returned to Mogadishu this month, which is very low when compared to previous months. A reason for this may be reports of Ethiopian troop deployments to Dhuusamarreeb – a location from when most of the returnees to Mogadishu had come. This movement into Dhuusamarreeb allegedly caused the displacement of thousands of people to nearby villages. However, when the troops vacated the area several days later, reports indicated that these displaced returned back to their previous location.

An estimated 800 people fled the fighting between TFG forces and Anti-government entities in Bay region. The fighting centred upon places like Diinsoor, Idale, and Safar-Nooley.

And estimated 1,200 people fled clan conflict between to Abgaal subclans (the Xawadle and Burale) in Middle Shabelle. In mid-February these people fled Xawal Cade and moved to Ceel-Baraf.

Movements to Yemen continued during the reporting period. 870 Ethiopians and 820 Somalis are reported to have arrived on the Yemeni coast. This is the first time since June 2007 that the number of Ethiopians exceeded the number of Somalis. Nearly 130 people were reported to have died during this crossing.

1. Patterns of Movement

Weekly updates on population movements and protection concerns are being produced by UNHCR-Somalia. Please contact us if you would like to be on our mailing list.

- Nearly 18,000 people were displaced because of insecurity and violence in Mogadishu. They went to:
 - 6,200 to Afgooye
 - 1,700 to other locations in Shabelle Hoose (Lower Shabelle)
 - 1,900 were displaced within Mogadishu
 - 1,900 Juba Hoose (Lower Juba) – does not include those who have gone to Kenya.
 - 1,200 to Bari
 - 1,100 to Mudug
 - 960 to Bay
 - 850 to Hargeysa (W. Galbeed)
 - 760 to Hiraan
- 73 people are reported to have returned to their homes in Mogadishu from Guriceel, in Dhuusamarreeb district.
- Approximately 800 were displaced by fighting between the TFG and Anti-government entities in Bay region.
- A group of 35 teenagers fled the ongoing violence and insecurity in Belet Weyne and moved to Gaalkacyo.
- 120 people from Ethiopia's Somali region (near Degeh Bur) fled the fighting in that area and moved to Hargeysa.
- An estimated 1,200 people fled clan conflict in Mahaday district in Middle Shabelle.
- Approximately 200 people were displaced from Atunyo, a village in Marka district. The people complained that with the recent influx of IDPs to the area, the entire community was suffering from a lack of water, lack of food, and lack of livelihood opportunities. They moved to larger towns in Marka district.
- 2 men originally from Zanzibar, but who had been living in the Xafun district of Puntland, moved to Baydhaba because of deterioration in livelihood options in Xafun. UNHCR is working with these individuals to facilitate repatriation to their country of origin.
- Nearly 470 IDPs originally from Las Caanood, displaced to Buuhoodle, moved again to Hargeysa. They complain of a lack of livelihood opportunities, a lack of water, and "inflation" which is making life very difficult in that region.
- A group of 50 people is also fleeing, what they call drought conditions in Buuhoodle. They moved to the IDP settlements on Burco.
- A group of 40 people were displaced to Baydhaba town from Saydheelow village, in Bay region. They complained of drought conditions and poor farm production.
- A group of 103 Somalis were rounded up by Kenyan authorities for being in the country illegally and forcibly returned to Doble, in Somalia.

- Between 1 and 29 February, approximately 1,700 people have travelled with boats from Bossaso to Yemen. They are a mix of migrants and asylum seekers as well as a mix of Ethiopians and Somalis.

Priority Needs

Out of the 104 PMT reports in the database for February:

- *Food* has been indicated as an urgent need in 87 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 65 of the reports. Over 62% of all reports received indicated food as the most urgent need.
- *Shelter* has been indicated as an urgent need in 78 reports. However, it was listed as the top priority in only 10 of the reports, primarily in Kismaayo and Bossaso.
- *Health* has been indicated as an urgent need in 55 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 1 report, from Mogadishu.
- *Water* has been indicated as an urgent need in 41 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 4 of the reports. The majority of the reports which indicated a need for water were from IDPs in Lower Shabelle and Gaalkacyo.
- *Protection from conflict* has been indicated as an urgent need in 25 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 13 of these reports. The majority of the reports which indicated a need for protection were from IDPs in Baydhaba, Marka, and Hargeysa.
- *Livelihood support* has been indicated as an urgent need in 18 reports, mainly in reports from Baydhaba, Hargeysa, and Gaalkacyo. It was listed as the top priority in 2 of the reports.
- *Transportation* has been identified (for the first time) as a need by IDPs in Gaalkacyo who wanted transportation to Bossaso. It was also identified by 2 Zanzibari refugees looking to be repatriated to Zanzibar.

2. Coping Mechanisms/Trends

- The most commonly used coping mechanisms continued to be moving in groups, moving to bigger urban areas, and moving to areas where they could find social/clan support.
- Forced prostitution was identified as a coping mechanism in the Afgooye settlements and in Hargeysa.
- Child labour was identified as a coping mechanism in 13 reports, from various different locations.
- Reducing food quantity was mentioned in 40% of the reports. It is the first time it has been indicated in such a high number of reports. Relying on assistance for food was mentioned in nearly as many reports.
- Families' splitting to seek resources was a coping mechanism in 27 reports.