

Date of Information Received: January 2008

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

- South/Central Somalia (including Mogadishu) – 133 reports
- Puntland – 21 reports
- Somaliland – 8 reports
- Yemen – 2 reports
- Ethiopia – 2 report
- Kenya – 1 report
- **TOTAL – 167 reports**

2. Types of Displacement

No. of People Affected:	No. of Reports Received
• Insecurity / Conflict – 37,000 -----	140 reports
• IDP Returns – 1,100 -----	15 reports
• Fire – 620 -----	5 reports
• Drought – 480 -----	1 report
• Clan Conflict – 460 -----	2 reports
• Lack of Livelihood – 390 -----	3 reports
• Eviction – 80 -----	1 report
• TOTAL ≈ 40,000 -----	167 reports

3. Areas receiving IDPs

By region with districts in parenthesis

- Awdal (Borama)
- Banadir (Mogadishu)
- Bari (Bossaso)
- Bay (Baydhaba, Buur Hakaba)
- Galgaduud (Dhuusamarreeb)
- Gedo (Belet Xaawo, Baardheere)
- Hiraaan (Belet Weyne)
- Juba Hoose/Lower Juba (Afmadow, Kismaayo)
- Mudug (Gaalkacyo, Hobyo, Xarardheere)
- Shabelle Dhexe/Middle Shabelle (Balcad)
- Shabelle Hoose/Lower Shabelle (Afgooye, Kurtunwaarey, Marka, Qoryooley, Wanla Weyn)
- Woqooyi Galbeed (Hargeysa)
- Yemen
- Kenya
- Ethiopia

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

¹ The term “reports” refers to entries in the database and not necessarily to reports received from partners. A total of 203 PMT reports were received from partners in January.

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. From a peak of displacement in October and November of 2007, the number of IDPs being displaced from Mogadishu has steadily dropped. Nevertheless, PMT reports indicated that nearly 36,000 people have been forcibly displaced from their homes because of violence in the city, in the month of January. This is little more than half the number reported in December 2007. IDPs fled from various parts of the city but the areas that experienced the most violence and hence “produced” the most IDPs were Hodan, Haliwaa Wardhiigley, Yaaqshiid, Hawl Wadaag, and Dayniile. With the exception of Dayniile, all these districts have seen a lot of violence throughout all of last year. Dayniile has, up until this point, been considered a relatively safe location for IDPs to seek safety. 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, and a lack of livelihood options continues to fuel this steady exodus of 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, “police forces are in the area”, “rampant arrests”, and “suicide bombing”.

During the month of January, 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), and in “safer” districts in Mogadishu (primarily Kaaraan, Wadajir/Madina, Hodan, Waaberi, and Dharkenly). Other regions that received large numbers of IDPs are Lower Juba (the end of the rains has allowed people to resume travel to Doble, and onto Kenya), Gedo, Mudug, Galgaduud, and Bay.

Several cases of multiple displacements were observed during January. There were IDPs living in the Afgooye settlements that moved to locations such as Baydhaba, Kismaayo and Kurtunwaarey. Some Mogadishu IDPs in Doble decided against crossing the Kenyan border and instead moved to Lower Shabelle. One group of Mogadishu IDPs moved from Hargeysa to Jijiga, Ethiopia. Still other Mogadishu IDPs fled Wanla Weyne to escape fighting between clan militias and the TFG forces, and moved to Afgooye and Marka.

Despite the well-publicized dangers in Mogadishu, there were reports of around 590 people returning from Guriceel, in Dhuusamarreeb district to Mogadishu. It is reported that these IDPs have heard that their particular area of origin in Mogadishu is relatively safe, and they decided to return because of a lack of livelihood options, and a lack of assistance in Galgaduud region. In addition to these returnees, an estimated 450 people returned to their homes in Hodan district when the Ethiopian troops stationed in that area were re-deployed to other areas. This marks the single biggest IDP return movement since June 2007.

Violence not directly related to the events in Mogadishu has also caused IDPs to flee. Two groups of ethnic Somalis from Ethiopia’s Somali region (Zone 5), a total 170 people, have fled the ongoing conflict there and moved to Hargeysa. This continues a trend that has been reported for several months. Nearly 250 people have been displaced from Wanla Weyn district where there has been fighting between different units of the TFG army. It has been reported that they were fighting over control over one of the checkpoints in the area. These IDPs moved to Buur Hakaba (Bay), and within Wanla Weyn.

On January 7th, the village of Dacaraha, in Kurtunwaarey (L. Shabelle), burnt down. The 600 residents fled to various nearby locations in Kurtunwaarey district.

Drought conditions and a lack of food have been reported in Lower Shabelle. Reports say that both a lack of rain, poor condition of irrigation infrastructure, and the high price of fuel have led to low agricultural productivity for the Lower Shabelle region. Population movement because of these reasons was reported in mid-January when 480 people left their homes in Beled Amiin, Afgooye. They went to the one place where they knew aid was being delivered – the IDP settlements along the Mogadishu/Afgooye corridor.

Two incidents of population movement due to clan conflict were reported this month. The first is in Ethiopia, where 2 Somali clans were fighting in the Harawo valley, approximately 30km southwest of Borama. This fighting in which 15 people were killed caused 420 people to move to Borama in Awdal region. Clan fighting in Xudur district, Bakool caused over 40 people to move to Baydhaba town.

Unfortunately at the time of writing this report, technical problems in UNHCR Yemen's office have prevented reports from being distributed after the 15th of January. As a result this report can only cover the period 1 – 14 January. In this period, 900 Somalis and 390 Ethiopians arrived on the Yemeni coast. Eleven people were reported to have died during this crossing. Interestingly there have been reports that some of the boats that are smuggling migrants and asylum seekers to Yemen are the very same boats that were donated to Somalia to revive the Puntland fishing industry after the Tsunami of 2004.

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 36,000 people were displaced because of insecurity and violence in Mogadishu. They went to:
 - 7,100 to Afgooye
 - 3,400 to other locations in Shabelle Hoose (Lower Shabelle)
 - 7,300 were displaced within Mogadishu
 - 8,400 Juba Hoose (Lower Juba) – includes movements in November and does not include those who have gone to Kenya.
 - 2,300 to Galgaduud
 - 2,200 to Mudug
 - 1,800 to Hiraan
 - 1,500 to Bay
- Despite the ongoing violence in Mogadishu, nearly 590 IDPs from Guriceel in Dhusamarreeb district, Galgaduud returned to Mogadishu.
- 450 IDPs returned to Hodan from other locations in Mogadishu, particularly Wadajir district, when Ethiopian troops stationed near their place of origin were redeployed.
- Approximately 25 people who were displaced from their village of Robay-Gaduud, Baydhaba district when fighting erupted between the ICU and Ethiopian forces in January 2007, finally returned home. Unfortunately fighting occurred again in this location and the fate of these returning IDPs is unknown.
- 170 people moved from Ethiopia's Somali region to Hargeysa to escape the conflict there.

- 250 people have fled fighting between different units/factions of the TFG army that were fighting in Wanla Weyn district. Some moved to Buur Hakaba.
- 480 people moved to Carbiska, and IDP settlement in Afgooye due to drought and crop failure in their home of Beled Amiin, also in Afgooye.
- The Mayor of Mogadishu ordered the estimated 1,500 IDP families who had been living in the Polytechnic building for years, to vacate. The matter seems to now be resolved however 80 people left this settlement in Waaberi district and moved to Sigaale-Bari, a village near Marka.
- 420 people fled clan fighting in the Harawo valley in eastern Ethiopia, and moved to Borama, Awdal region.
- 40 people fled clan fighting in Xudur district, Bakool and moved to Baydhaba.
- A group of about 50 men in their twenties left Burco and went to Addis Ababa saying there were no educational or employment opportunities in their current location.
- A group of 25 former charcoal-producers left their home in Buur-Hebye, in Buur Hakaba, and moved to the IDP settlements in Baydhaba when their means of livelihood was declared illegal.
- Between 1 and 14 January, approximately 1,300 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 167 PMT reports in the database for January:

- *Food* has been indicated as an urgent need in 140 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 87 of the reports. Over 52% of all reports received indicated food as the most urgent need.
- *Shelter* has been indicated as an urgent need in 132 reports. However, it was listed as the top priority in only 13 of the reports.
- *Health* has been indicated as an urgent need in 112 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 10 of the reports, mainly from IDPs in Mudug and Returnees to Mogadishu from Galgaduud.
- *Water* has been indicated as an urgent need in 73 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 26 of the reports, the majority of which were from IDPs in Lower Shabelle and Mogadishu.
- *Protection from conflict* has been indicated as an urgent need in 31 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 23 of these reports, most of which were about IDPs in Baydhaba, Qoryooley, and Hargeysa.
- *Livelihood support* has been indicated as an urgent need in 9 reports, mainly in reports from Bay and Gedo regions. It was not listed as the top priority in any of these reports.

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 again in Baydhaba, but also

in the Afgooye settlements and for the first time in Gaalkacyo.

- Child labour was identified as a coping mechanism in 9 reports, from IDPs in Mogadishu, Afgooye and Baydhaba.
- Selling material possessions for food was named as a coping mechanism in 16 reports, while reducing food quantity was indicated in 23 reports. In 28 reports, families were relying on humanitarian aid for food.
- Families' splitting to seek resources was a coping mechanism in 18 reports.