

***Date of Information Received: March 2008***

**1. Breakdown of Reports<sup>1</sup> in the PMT database by Location:**

- South/Central Somalia (including Mogadishu) – 92 reports
- Puntland – 15 reports
- Somaliland – 11 reports
- Ethiopia – 3 report
- Kenya – 3 reports
- Yemen – 2 reports
- Djibouti – 1 report
- **TOTAL – 127 reports**

**2. Types of Displacement**

**No. of People Affected:**

**No. of Reports Received**

• Insecurity / Conflict – 32,000 -----	91 reports
• Drought – 7,100 -----	22 reports
• Lack of Livelihood – 2,300 -----	7 reports
• IDP Returns – 650 -----	2 reports
• Clan Conflict – 510 -----	1 report
• Fire – 220 -----	1 report
• Forced Return – 40 -----	1 report
• Lack of Food – 30 -----	1 report
• Eviction – 20 -----	1 report
• <b>TOTAL ≈ 43,000 -----</b>	<b>127 reports</b>

**3. Areas receiving IDPs**

***By region with districts in parenthesis***

- |                                             |                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Awdal (Borama)                            | • Mudug (Gaalkacyo)                                         |
| • Bakool (Xudur)                            | • Shabelle Dhexe/Middle Shabelle (Balcad, Jowhar, Mahaday)  |
| • Banadir (Mogadishu)                       | • Shabelle Hoose/Lower Shabelle (Afgooye, Marka, WanlaWeyn) |
| • Bari (Bossaso)                            | • Togdheer (Burco)                                          |
| • Bay (Baydhaba)                            | • Woqooyi Galbeed (Hargeysa)                                |
| • Galgaduud (Cadaado, Dhuusamarreeb)        | • Yemen                                                     |
| • Gedo (Belet Xaawo, Doolow)                | • Djibouti                                                  |
| • Hiraan (Belet Weyne)                      | • Kenya                                                     |
| • Juba Dhexe/Middle Juba (Jilib)            |                                                             |
| • Juba Hoose/Lower Juba (Afmadow, Kismaayo) | • Ethiopia                                                  |

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

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<sup>1</sup> The term “reports” refers to entries in the database and not necessarily to reports received from partners. A total of 174 PMT reports were received from partners in March.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Consistent with the last 14 months of Population Movement Tracking, the single greatest cause of IDP displacement relates to violence and insecurity in Mogadishu. In the month of March, nearly 22,000 people were displaced because of the situation in Mogadishu. Although this figure is slightly higher than it was in February 2008, the reality is that this figure is far lower than it was for most of 2007. It should also be noted that the movements this month vary much more than they have in previous months, in which some 90% of the movements related to violence in Mogadishu. The movements this month were caused by a variety of causes, including violence outside of Mogadishu, drought, and high inflation.

IDPs fled from various parts of the city but the areas that experienced the most violence and hence “produced” the most IDPs were Hawl Wadaag, Hodan, Wardhiigley, and Yaaqshiid. There was particularly heavy fighting in the Bakaro area (Hawl Wadaag) and in Hodan this month.

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”. These issues are likely related to the very high inflation rates that have been affecting most parts of Somalia. Many groups of IDPs have identified inflation and high food prices as reasons they are fleeing the city.

While it is clear that there is no large-scale return of IDPs to Mogadishu, there are groups of people that have moved to the city during the month. This includes about 650 people who returned to Mogadishu because of poor conditions in the area in which they were displaced. (mainly Galgaduud, but also Gedo). A group of 100 people moved from Lafoole (Afgooye district) because of the presence of Ethiopian troops in the area. Another group of 100 moved to Mogadishu from Balcad to escape fighting between clan militias allegedly in support of ICU-elements and the TFG forces. Still another group of nearly 4,500 people originally from Mogadishu, returned to escape drought conditions, particularly in South Mudug and in Mahaday, Middle Shabelle.

There has been an increase in cross-border movements this month. This includes movements to Yemen, which have continued. 2,300 Somalis and 850 Ethiopians arrived on the Yemeni coast this month. 12 people reportedly died during this crossing (11 drowned and 1 beaten to death). 420 people originally from South/Central crossed the border to Djibouti. However, nearly 100 additional people who were intending to cross the Djiboutian border were detained by Somaliland authorities in Lughaye, Borama, and Hargeysa. An estimated 870 Somalis arrived in Ethiopia in March. Most arrived at the UNHCR managed Teferi-Bar Refugee Camp, while others arrived in Doolow. We also have received reports of an estimated 4,000 Somalis who crossed the border with Kenya and arrived in UNHCR facilities in Liboi and Dadaab. Precise figures will be available once registration is complete. The Kenya/Somalia border is still officially closed, although reports from local partners in the area indicate that needy Somalis have been able to cross the border with much less difficulty than they have in the past.

Violence between forces in support of the TFG and those against the TFG outside of Mogadishu has displaced an estimated 6,600 people. These people fled violence in Afmadow district (L Juba), Buur Hakaba and Diinsoor (Bay), Mahaday and Balcad (M. Shabelle), and Wanla Weyn (L Shabelle).

Drought has also been a huge cause of displacement in Somalia in March. An estimated 7,100 people have been displaced because of drought conditions. IDPs fled locations in South Mudug (Gaalkacyo and Hobyo districts), Baydhaba district in Bay, Mahaday district in Middle Shabelle, Kismaayo in Lower Juba, and Waajid in Bakool.

## 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 22,000 people were displaced because of insecurity and violence in Mogadishu. They went to:
  - 4,900 to Lower Juba, mainly Dobley in Afmadow district (many of these IDPs have likely gone to Kenya).
  - 3,100 were displaced within Mogadishu
  - 2,600 were displaced to the IDP settlements in Afgooye
  - 2,400 to Gedo (mainly Belet Xaawo and Doolow)
  - 2,300 to Galgaduud
- 650 people are reported to have returned to their homes in Mogadishu from Dhuusamarreeb district in Galgaduud, as well as Belet Xaawo in Gedo.
- Approximately 6,600 were displaced by fighting between the TFG and Anti-government entities outside of Mogadishu. This includes 4,700 people who fled fighting in Middle Shabelle, and 1,400 who fled violence in Lower Juba.
- 40 people from Ethiopia's Somali region (near Gode) fled the fighting in that area and moved to Hargeysa.
- An estimated 7,100 people were displaced because of drought conditions. Of these nearly 5,000 fled Mahaday district, M. Shabelle and moved to Mogadishu and Jowhar. Nearly 800 left southern Mudug region and moved to Mogadishu or Gaalkacyo town.
- An estimated 1,800 fled their homes because of lack of livelihood opportunities. This includes 1,400 people who fled inflation and high food prices in Kismaayo and moved to Dobley (and likely to Kenya). A group of 12 youths left a Baydhaba IDP settlement complaining of no employment opportunities and high inflation and moved to Ethiopia with the intention of ending up in Italy, via Libya. Lastly a group 20 people from Buur Hakaba were forbidden from cutting down trees to make charcoal and instead are seeking assistance in IDP settlements in Baydhaba.
- Over 500 people fled clan related conflict in Jowhar district.
- An estimated 220 people were displaced when their IDP settlement caught on fire in Burco.
- Approximately 100 Somalis from South/Central were detained by Somaliland authorities on the way to crossing the Djiboutian border.
- 20 people were evicted from their homes in Hargeysa when a local politician claimed ownership of the land the IDPs were living on.
- Between 1 and 31 March, approximately 1,200 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 127 PMT reports in the database for March:

- *Food* has been indicated as an urgent need in 96 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 44 of the reports.
- *Shelter* has been indicated as an urgent need in 91 reports. However, it was listed as the top priority in only 15 of the reports. This is the first time that *Shelter* has come close to replacing *Food* as the most identified need.
- *Health* has been indicated as an urgent need in 75 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 1 report, from Jowhar.
- *Water* has been indicated as an urgent need in 61 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 25 of these reports. The majority of the reports which indicated a need for water were from IDPs in Mogadishu, Baydhaba and Gaalkacyo.
- *Protection from conflict* has been indicated as an urgent need in 26 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 22 of these reports. The majority of the reports which indicated a need for protection were from IDPs in Baydhaba and Hargeysa.
- *Livelihood support* has been indicated as an urgent need in 17 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 3 of the 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 5 times as a coping mechanism in the Afgooye settlements (Ceelasha) and one in Belet Xaawo.
- Child labour was identified as a coping mechanism in 27 reports, mainly from IDPs in Baydhaba.
- To underline the growing food security crisis due to inflation and drought, selling material possessions for food was mentioned in 30 reports. Reducing food quantity was mentioned in 43 reports. Lastly, relying on assistance for food was also mentioned 43 reports.
- Families' splitting to seek resources and/or employment was a coping mechanism in over 30 reports.