

## *Date of Information Received: December 2008*

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

- South/Central Somalia (including Mogadishu) – 69 reports
- Puntland – 27 reports
- Somaliland – 15 reports
- Kenya – 3 reports
- Yemen – 2 reports
- Djibouti – 1 report
- **TOTAL – 117 reports**

### **2. Types of Displacement**

<b>No. of People Affected:</b>	<b>No. of Reports Received</b>
• Insecurity / Conflict – 141,000 -----	101 reports
• Fire – 4,500 -----	1 report
• Lack of Livelihood – 1,800 -----	14 reports
• IDP Returns – 40 -----	1 report
• <b>TOTAL ≈ 147,000 -----</b>	<b>117 reports</b>

### **3. Areas receiving IDPs**

*By region with districts in parenthesis*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • Awdal (Borama)  | • Juba Hoose/Lower Juba (Afmadow, Kismaayo)                              |
| • Bakool (Waaqid)   | • Mudug (Gaalkacyo, Jariiban)  |
| • Banadir (Mogadishu)                                       | • Shabelle Hoose/Lower Shabelle (Afgooye, Aw Dheegle, Marka, Wanla Weyn) |
| • Bari (Bossaso)  | • Sool (Laas Caanood)  |
| • Bay (Baydhaba)  | • Woqooyi Galbeed (Gebiley, Hargeysa)                                    |
| • Galgaduud (Cabudwaaq, Cadaado, Ceel Dheer, Dhuusamarreeb) | • Yemen  |
| • Gedo (Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq)                             | • Djibouti   |
| • Hiraan (Belet Weyne, Matabaan)                            | • Kenya  |
| • Juba Dhexe/Middle Juba (Saakow)                           |  |

**4. Sources of Information:** Local Partner Agencies, UNHCR offices in Kenya and Yemen.

**5. Technical and Administrative support provided by the Norwegian Refugee Council.**



**NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL**

<sup>1</sup> The term “reports” refers to entries in the database and not necessarily to reports received from partners. A total of 146 PMT reports were received from partners in December.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

During 2008, the major causes of displacement in Somalia have been continued insecurity in civilian areas, targeting of civilians, and conflict resulting in actual or fear of violence against civilians. Mogadishu, which has borne the brunt of this conflict, has witnessed steady levels of displacement for nearly all of 2008. Other locations which have witnessed large displacement because of armed conflict are Bulo Burto (early May), Belet Weyne (late July), Kismaayo (late August), and more recently Guriceel and Dhuusamarreeb (see below). While most of these IDPs fled to nearby areas and have since returned, many others have made their way out of Somalia. Over 30,000 Somali refugees have been registered in Yemen this year and another 58,000 have arrived in Kenya. Displacement due to drought remained at high levels for most of 2008. Relatively low levels of displacement due to floods and clan conflict also continued throughout the year.

The vast majority of the IDPs displaced in the month of December were displaced by actual or fear of conflict - almost 96%. More significant is that 81% of all the people displaced this month were displaced by the conflicts in Guriceel and Dhuusamarreeb which took place at the end of December.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> December the militia of the Ahlu-Sunna Wal-Jamma group attacked Al-Shabaab positions in the towns of Guriceel and Dhuusamarreeb in Galgaduud region. The civilian population of both towns fled into neighboring areas. Reports on the scale of displacement vary widely. At the time of writing (8 Jan) an estimated 66,000 IDPs have fled Guriceel town and another 54,000 have fled Dhuusamarreeb. The vast majority have gone to nearby towns in Galgaduud and Hiraaan regions, while others are reported to be just on the outskirts of the towns, in the outdoors waiting for the fighting to stop. Still others have gone further away to places like Afgooye, Hargeysa, Gaalkacyo and Qardho. The last reports from both towns indicate that fighting has halted but that the warring parties are still occupying territory and preparing for further conflict. The arrival of Ethiopian troops to border areas near Guriceel also adds to the tension.

The situation in Mogadishu continues to be volatile and cause displacement. Over 11,000 people were displaced by violence in Mogadishu in December. About half of these IDPs were displaced to other districts in Mogadishu, mainly Dayniile and Madina/Wadajir. Over 2,000 went to the Afgooye IDP settlements and another 1,000 went to Marka district.

Armed conflict also caused displacement in Wanla Weyne, Afmadow, and Luuq districts.

Movements across international borders have continued. Approximately 2,600 Somalis and 640 Ethiopians arrived on the Yemeni shore this month from Somalia. So far, in 2008 an estimated 33,000 Somalis and 17,000 Ethiopians are reported to have arrived in Yemen from both Somalia and Djibouti. On 1<sup>st</sup> December crew of one smuggling boat threw 120 passengers into the sea which resulted in the death of 20 of them.

An estimated 2,000 Somalis have arrived to the Dadaab refugee camps in Kenya this month. Generally speaking, the number of new arrivals to Kenya has decreased in the last 2 months. Nevertheless the total number of Somalis in Dadaab stands at 226,000.

### 1. Patterns of Movement

*Weekly updates on population movements and protection concerns are contained in the Protection Cluster Update.*

- By the end of December violence in Mogadishu had displaced over **11,000** people.
- The majority of those displaced by this violence moved to areas close to Mogadishu, while a smaller number moved further. Specifically they went to:
  - Mogadishu and Mogadishu outskirts: 6,700
    - Afgooye Corridor: 2,000
    - Dayniile: 2,800

- Madina/Wadajir: 1,900
  - Gaalkacyo: 1,200
  - Marka: 1,000
  - Belet Xaawo: 960
- Conflicts in Guriceel and Dhuusamarreeb town have displaced an estimated 120,000 people, as of early January. Reports are still being collected and verified.
- Almost 1,200 people were displaced in Wanla Weyn district after an incident in which civilians were reportedly killed by Ethiopian soldiers who fired after being attacked.
- Fighting in El Buley, Afmadow district displaced over 1,000 people to Kismaayo and Buulo Xaaji.
- Combined Ethiopian and TFG troops attacked Al-Shabaab positions in Luuq. Over 100 people were displaced to Waajid.
- A lack of livelihood opportunities displaced people from all over Somalia, including Mogadishu, Laas Caanood, Kismaayo and Hargeysa. Most were heading overseas via the various border crossings.
- A large fire in Saakow town reportedly left more than 4,500 homeless.
- A group of 40 IDPs from Waajid returned home from Belet Xaawo when calm returned to their areas of origin.

### **Priority Needs**

Out of the 117 PMT reports in the database for December:

- *Food* has been indicated as an urgent need in 90 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 51 of the reports. While 77% of all reports received indicated a need for food, it was indicated as the top need in 44%.
- *Shelter* has been indicated as an urgent need in 78 reports and is once again the second most frequently identified need of IDPs in Somalia. It was listed as the top priority in 23 of the reports, most of which came from Gaalkacyo and Marka.
- *Health* has been indicated as an urgent need in 52 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 2 reports, from Marka and Lafoole (Afgooye).
- *Water* has been indicated as an urgent need in 48 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 7 of these reports. Most of the reports indicating water as the most needed intervention were from the Afgooye IDP camps.
- *Protection from conflict* has been indicated as an urgent need in 23 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 11 of these reports, mainly from Hargeysa and Gaalkacyo.
- *Livelihood support* has been indicated as an urgent need in 10 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 2 reports, both from Laas Caanood.
- *Education* was identified in 5 reports from various locations in Somalia.

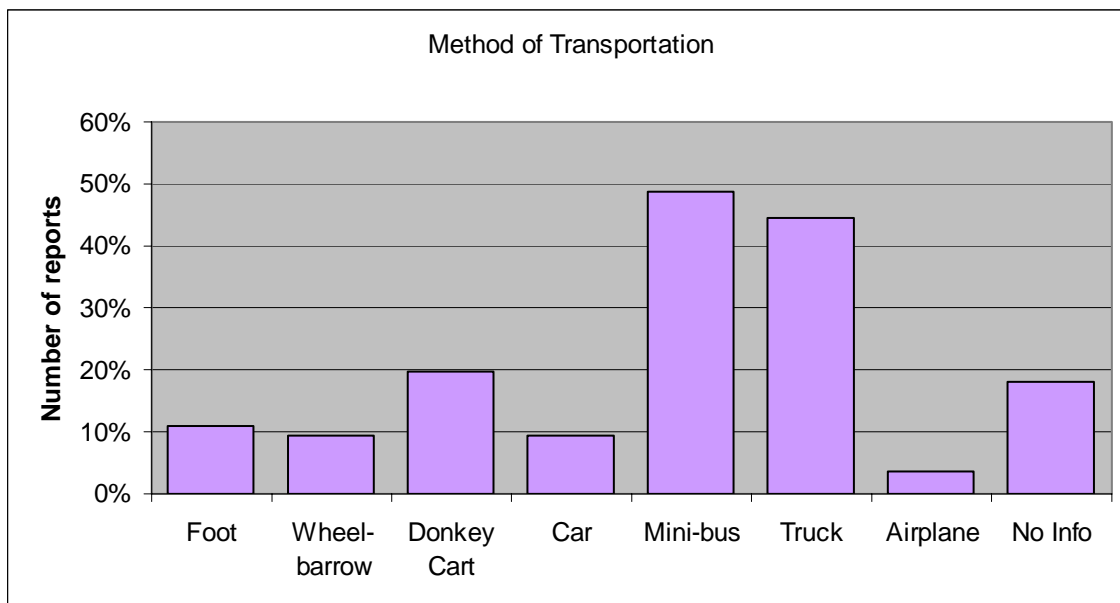
### **Coping Mechanisms/Trends**

- Displacement trends reflect the tendency for IDPs to travel in groups and moving to areas where they could find social/clan support.
- Moving across borders in search of assistance was identified in 36 reports.

- Forced prostitution was **again** identified as a coping mechanism by IDPs displaced to Bossaso.
- Child labour was reported in 8 reports from various locations.
- 34 reports indicated that IDPs were reducing their number of meals per day. Reducing food quality (i.e. animal hides, grass, etc.) was reported in 23 reports.
- 36 reports indicated that IDPs were relying on humanitarian assistance. 50 reports indicated that IDPs were depending on family support.

**Threats while moving:**

- Of the 117 reports received during the month, only 3 (3%) reported that the IDPs experienced violations while travelling. All of these reports were from IDPs who were travelling to Bay or Gedo regions.
- The number of checkpoints, both legal and illegal, reported by the PMT partners show that 13% of all displacements did not encounter a checkpoint. 61% of IDP movements reported did cross checkpoints. More specifically:
  - 32% of all displacements encountered less than 5 checkpoints
  - 13% of all displacements encountered between 5 and 10 checkpoints
  - 16% of all displacements encountered more than 10 checkpoints
    - 26% of the forms did not supply an answer for this question.
- The mode of transportation for IDPs varies from place to place. The following methods were reported. (*Note: IDPs on a single form can have various methods of transportation*)



- Not surprisingly, given the methods of transportation employed by IDPs, 70% of the movements reported were by road (22% did not supply this information). 7 reports told of IDPs moving off-road or in the “bush”. These reports were from IDPs fleeing conflict in Guriceel, Afmadow and Wanla Weyn.

## Mixed Migration

- 54 of the 117 reports (46%) received in December indicated that the IDP population in the report had the intention to cross an international boundary. These 54 reports correspond to over 12,900 people.
- In these 54 reports, the following destinations were identified.
  - Kenya – 6,800 people
  - Yemen – 3,800 people
  - Saudi Arabia – 1,900 people
  - Libya – 140 people
  - Ethiopia – 90 people
  - Uganda – 80 people
  - Djibouti – 30 people

*Please note that our database only accepts 1 final destination per form. The destination furthest away is the one entered in the database. For example a form that lists the final destination as “Saudi Arabia and Yemen” will have Saudi Arabia entered in the db. As a result the numbers above should be considered estimates and indicative of general trends only.*

- The coping/survival mechanisms identified most commonly were:
  - Seeking Employment – 45 reports (83%)
  - Relying on Humanitarian Assistance/Refugee Camp – 33 reports (61%)
  - Remittances – 23 reports (43%)
  - Hoping for resettlement to a western country – 22 reports (41%)
  - Engaging in Begging – 9 reports (17%)
  - Reducing number of meals per day – 7 reports (13%)
  - Reuniting with family – 4 reports (7%)
- The areas of origin for many of these potential migrants are:
  - Somalia (various) – 5,500 people
  - Mogadishu – 3,500 people
  - Lower Juba – 2,100 people
  - Ethiopia – 700 people
- The locations these reports were received from (where the IDPs were at the time of reporting)
  - Outside Somalia (mainly reports received from UNHCR operations elsewhere) – 5,800 people
  - Lower Juba (mainly Doblely) – 2,900 people
  - Gaalkacyo – 1,200 people
  - Gedo – 1,200 people
  - Bossaso – 850 people