

VOLUME A
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Federal Government
of Somalia

DEYR FLOODS SOMALIA 2023

RAPID POST-DISASTER NEEDS ASSESSMENT

11 June 2024



Co-funded by
the European Union



Disclaimer

This report summarizes the findings of the Rapid Post-Disaster Needs Assessment that took place in Somalia following the Deyr floods of 2023. The report is based on data collected from October to December 2023. However, the assessment was conducted from February to April 2024. All efforts have been made to improve the accuracy of the information that was collected and analysed to ensure the relevance of the estimations.

The preparation of this report has been constrained by the lack of baseline data, scanty damage and loss data across sectors, and inaccessibility issues. It provides an overall picture of the effects of the floods on the population, physical assets, infrastructure and service delivery, but is not a replacement of in-depth sector-specific assessments. More detailed sectoral analyses can be found in the Main Report, which also includes a full list of contributors. The report uses the exchange rate of US\$1 = SOS 26,000. All monetary estimates are rounded off to nearest one decimal place and may not add up to the totals.

The Health Sector has not been included in the executive summary and preliminary findings. This is due to the unavailability of the sector findings at the current stage. Once the data is available, it will be integrated into the final report to provide a comprehensive overview. The sections concerning Damage, Loss and Needs will also be revised to reflect the most current and accurate information.

This publication was co-funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union

FOREWORD



Disasters, whether natural or man-made, have the potential to disrupt lives, devastate communities and challenge the resilience of nations. In Somalia, a country already grappling with multiple complex challenges, the impacts of floods are getting more and more severe and frequent, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities and threatening the progress made towards sustainable development.

As the Commissioner of the Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), I am honoured to present the Rapid Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (R-PDNA) report, a comprehensive analysis that sheds light on the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the devastating and unprecedented 2023 Deyr season floods. This report is the culmination of extensive collaboration and partnership between government agencies, Federal Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders, reflecting our collective commitment to understanding, addressing and mitigating, and building stronger, more adaptable communities for the future.

The R-PDNA report provides invaluable insights into the immediate and long-term needs in response to the devastating floods, offering a roadmap for recovery and resilience-building. It serves as a critical tool for decision-makers, guiding strategic investments, policy formulation, and resource allocation to ensure effective disaster risk management and recovery efforts.

I extend my sincere gratitude to all those who contributed to the development of this report, including the invaluable support by our development partners, government officials, technical experts, humanitarian partners and affected communities. Your dedication, expertise and collaboration have been instrumental in shaping the findings and recommendations presented herein.

As we move forward, let us remain committed to the principles of solidarity, inclusivity and resilience. By working together, we can overcome the challenges posed by disasters, build a more secure and prosperous future for all Somalis, and ensure that no one is left behind in our journey towards resilience and sustainable development.

Mohamoud Moalim Abdulle

Commissioner

Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA)

Acknowledgments

The Somalia 2023 Deyr Floods Rapid Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Report has been prepared under the leadership of the Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), supported by the United Nations (UN), the World Bank (WB) and the European Union (EU), with technical facilitation by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and WB. The report benefited from the financial and technical support of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) of the WB. Technical and financial support has also been provided by the EU under the ACP-EU Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance and Recovery Capacities project implemented by UNDP, and the European Union Foreign Policy Instrument (FPI) which supports the tri-partite cooperation on crisis assessments. This report has benefited from the guidance and inputs of many government ministries and departments both from the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Federal Member States (FMS). The sector chapters were drafted by thematic and sector specialists from the different ministries, agencies, organizations and partners.

The team gratefully acknowledges the hard work of everyone who contributed to produce this document, which will guide the efforts of all those involved in the recovery from the Somalia 2023 Deyr Floods. A full list of contributors can be found in the Main Report, which will be published separately and includes detailed write-ups on each chapter. Photographs used in this publication were given due credit across the document. Our utmost appreciation and deepest thanks to all the contributors.

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1

INTRODUCTION

Severe riverine flooding and flash floods occurred in Somalia as a consequence of the October to December Deyr season rainfall that exceeded average levels across most regions due to the confluence of strong El Niño and positive Indian Ocean Dipole weather patterns. The floods led to unprecedented disaster and devastation in about half of the country's 36 districts. The floods affected an estimated 2.48 million people, displaced over 1.2 million from their homes and took the lives of 188 people. Following this worst flood ever in Somalia's recent history, the Government of Somalia with technical and financial support from the United Nations (UN), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank (WB), and the European Union (EU) launched the Somalia 2023 Deyr Floods Rapid Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (R-PDNA).

The objective of the Somalia 2023 Deyr Floods R-PDNA is to inform, guide and catalyse the sustainable and resilient recovery of Somalia's flood-affected communities. It provides estimates of the social, economic, infrastructure and environmental impact of the floods, approximates

recovery needs, proposes solutions for recovery, and promotes enhanced climate and flood resilience in affected areas in Somalia. The R-PDNA covers 16 districts with about 1.7 million inhabitants, of whom 521,519 – around 31 percent – were directly impacted by the floods. The assessment also looks at the macroeconomic and human impacts of the floods on the economic outlook and the population's well-being.



2

KEY FINDINGS



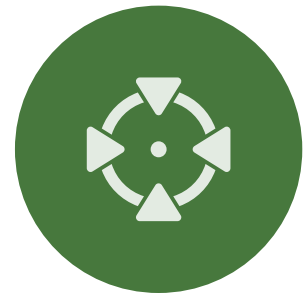
DAMAGES

US\$ 126.6 million



LOSSES

US\$ 49.5 million



NEEDS

US\$ 230.6 million

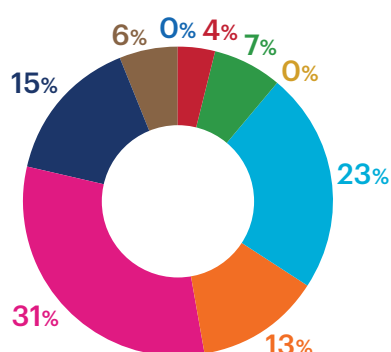
The 2023 Deyr floods resulted to total damages of US\$126.6 million and total losses of \$49.5 million making the total effects of the floods in the sixteen districts reached \$176.1 million. The most affected sectors in terms of aggregate damage and loss are Farming and Livestock at \$57 million representing 32 percent of the total disaster effects, followed by Water and Sanitation at \$32.7 million or 19 percent, and Transport at \$29.7 million or 17 percent. Out of the sixteen districts assessed, the most affected districts include Beletweyne in Hirshabelle, Dolow and Baardheere in Jubaland State.

The reconstruction and recovery needs for the sixteen assessed districts are estimated at **\$230.61 million**, with needs for the short-term estimated at **\$93.1 million**, for medium-term at **\$69.2 million**, and for the long-term at **\$68.3 million**. The largest needs that require the most recovery financing pertain to Farming and Livestock at **\$60 million**, accounting for 26 percent of the total recovery needs, followed by Transport representing 16 percent at **\$37.4 million**, and Housing at **\$27.1 million** comprising 12 percent of the total recovery needs.

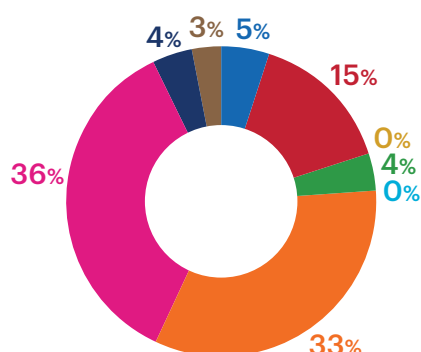
Table 1
Summary of Damages, Losses and Needs, by Sector (US\$)

Sector	Damages (US\$)	Losses (US\$)	Needs (US\$)
Social Sectors			
Housing	7,917,169.00	1,443,695.00	27,048,181.17
Education	18,913,700.00	2,100,000.00	23,057,783.00
Social Sectors Total	26,830,869.00	3,543,695.00	50,105,964.17
Productive Sectors			
Farming and Livestock	38,966,108.61	17,995,472.07	60,018,390.30
Productive Sectors Total	38,966,108.61	17,995,472.07	60,018,390.30
Infrastructure Sectors			
Water and Sanitation	16,366,262.00	16,307,278.00	24,662,057.52
Energy	9,327,571.00	1,953,842.00	14,056,707.00
Transport	29,709,363.45	-	37,399,016.00
Infrastructure Sectors Total	55,403,196.45	18,261,120.00	76,117,780.52
Cross-Cutting Sectors			
Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience	234,865.00	2,300,180.83	8,572,503.75
Social Protection and Employment/ Livelihoods	-	-	17,102,255.00
Environment and Climate Change	5,151,800.37	7,372,349.57	18,693,675.64
Cross-Cutting Sectors Total	5,386,665.37	9,672,530.40	44,368,434.39
GRAND TOTAL	126,586,839.43	49,472,817.47	230,610,569.38

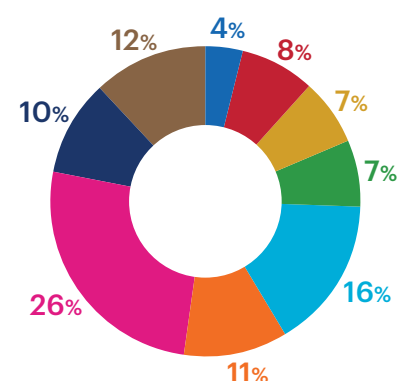
DAMAGES
US\$ 126.6 million



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US\$ 230.6 million



Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience

Environment and Climate Change

Social Protection and Employment/Livelihoods

Energy

Transport

Water and Sanitation

Farming and Livestock

Education

Housing

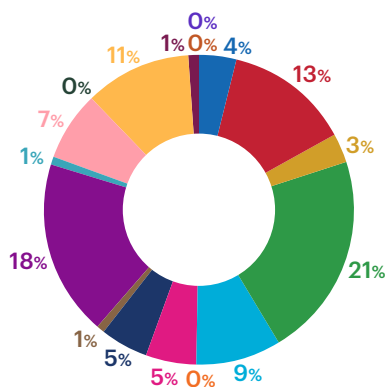
2. KEY FINDINGS

Table 2

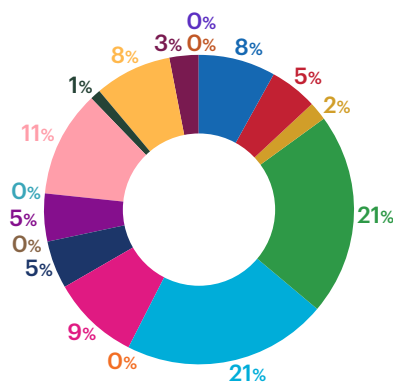
Summary of Damages, Losses and Needs, by District and National/Federal Level (US\$)

Districts	Damages (US\$)	Losses (US\$)	Total effects (US\$)	Total needs (US\$)
Afmadow	5,197,967.95	3,914,836.25	9,112,804.19	14,259,484.20
Baardheere	16,833,548.32	2,612,444.28	19,445,992.60	23,074,115.79
Bardaale	3,613,033.50	786,251.80	4,399,285.30	5,668,248.56
Beletweyn	27,178,995.47	10,530,156.24	37,709,151.71	47,128,076.19
Bidoa/Baydhaba	11,723,425.14	10,487,288.35	22,210,713.50	21,289,582.87
Boondheere	-	69,563.95	69,563.95	125,000.00
Bu'ale	5,983,401.93	4,639,735.10	10,623,137.02	10,237,205.76
Buuloburde	6,855,278.55	2,324,587.29	9,179,865.84	15,322,505.50
Dhoobley	1,775,305.00	245,013.95	2,020,318.95	2,108,608.92
Dolow	22,778,048.31	2,564,218.44	25,342,266.76	28,524,774.37
Hodan	1,210,140.00	243,563.95	1,453,703.95	1,642,850.00
Jowhar	8,446,178.56	5,229,866.44	13,676,045.00	20,842,858.57
Kah Shiikhaal	25,125.00	260,171.83	285,296.83	172,911.88
Kismayo	13,564,851.36	4,053,880.37	17,618,731.73	19,083,577.15
South Galkacyo	1,401,540.33	1,441,675.27	2,843,215.60	7,279,777.27
Wadajir	-	69,563.95	69,563.95	125,000.00
National/Federal level				13,725,992.35
GRAND TOTAL	126,586,839.43	49,472,817.47	176,059,656.89	230,610,569.38

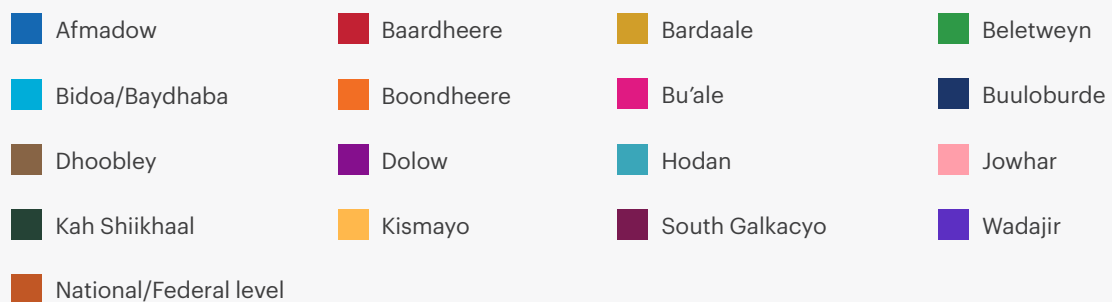
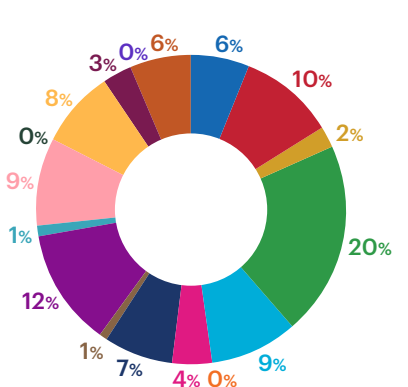
DAMAGES
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3

R-PDNA OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

R-PDNA Objectives

The overall objectives of the Rapid PDNA are to inform, guide and catalyse the sustainable and resilient recovery of Somalia's flood affected communities.

This can be accomplished through:

- estimating the social, economic, infrastructure and environmental impact of the floods in impacted areas across the country including the damage and losses as well as the financial costs for the restoration of basic services, and rehabilitation or reconstruction of infrastructure and assets in the most affected and priority socio-economic sectors;
- proposing solutions for the recovery of living conditions and livelihoods of the most affected populations at national and local levels;
- development of a common understanding of recovery needs among Somali stakeholders, the UN and the international community for recovery planning, resource mobilization and allocation, and recovery implementation and management; and
- promoting and informing enhanced climate and flood resilience in affected areas in Somalia.

The specific objectives of the R-PDNA are to:

- (i) Determine the baseline scenario before the 2023 floods.
- (ii) Assess the sector-wise impacts of the floods across the identified geographical coverage (Shabelle River Basin, Jubba River Basin, South Galka'ó, Baidoa and BRA), with a focus on the differential impacts on men and women.
- (iii) Assess the overall socio-economic impact of the floods in the identified areas including estimating damages and losses.
- (iv) Identify priority recovery needs for affected communities and critical sectors and develop corresponding cross-cutting recovery strategies including gender-responsive recovery strategies.
- (v) Review current policies/institutional frameworks and capacities that address climate and disaster vulnerabilities and recommend measures to improve adaptation, preparedness and response.

Scope

Temporal Scope: Damages and losses were calculated against the actual or estimated pre-floods baseline of physical assets. Damage data used in the assessment were collected between the period from October to December 2023. The analysis was conducted from February to April 2024.

Geographical Scope: The R-PDNA covers the 16 districts most affected by the 2023 Deyr Floods in four Federal Member States: Jubaland, Southwest, Galmudug, Hirshabelle and the Banadir Regional Administration.

These districts are Afmadow, Baardheere, Bardaale, Beletweyn, Bidoa/Baydhaba, Boondheere, Bu’ale, Buuloburde, Dhoobley, Dolow, Hodan, Jowhar, Kah Shiikhaal, Kismayo, South Galkacyo, and Wadajir.

Sectoral Scope: The R-PDNA encompasses analyses of both macroeconomic and human impacts across nine sectors:

Social Sectors

- Housing
- Education

Productive Sectors

- Farming and Livestock

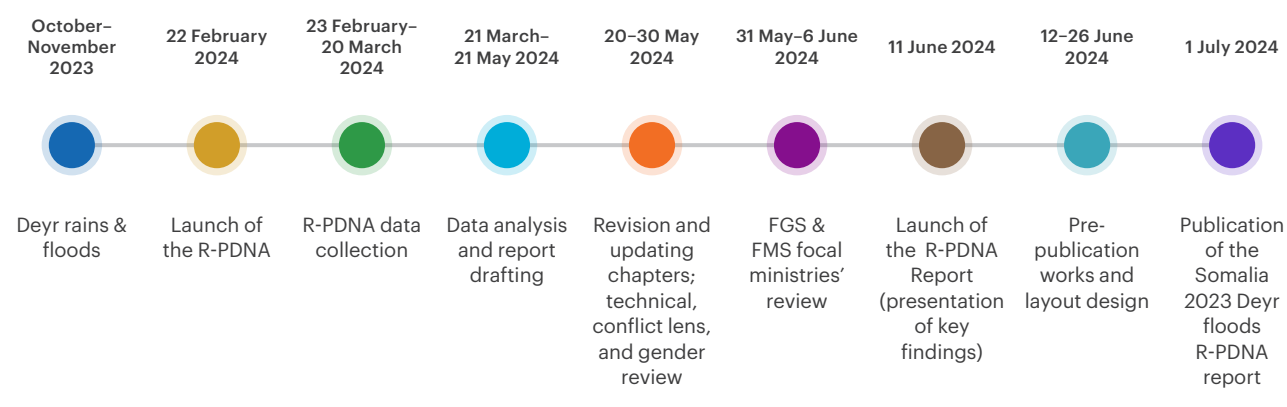
Infrastructure Sectors

- Water and Sanitation
- Energy
- Transport

Cross-Cutting Sectors

- Social Protection, Employment and Livelihoods
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Environment

Timeline and Milestones of the R-PDNA



Methodology and Limitations

The Somalia 2023 Deyr Floods Rapid Post Disaster Needs Assessment (R-PDNA) employed the PDNA methodology, jointly developed by the UN, EU and WB. This R-PDNA is focused on the 16 disaster-affected districts, and examined the damage and losses resulting from the Deyr floods and identified resilient recovery needs. The assessment complements the Somalia 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, consolidated by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and partners. This response plan addresses immediate humanitarian needs arising from the worst floods in generations and the cumulative needs in 2023 caused by the devastating drought.

The PDNA approach involves sector-by-sector analyses, which was conducted in coordination with the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) as the lead, and technical co-leads from the UN, EU and WB, with support from other partners. Data collection and triangulation tools were used to provide sectoral assessments of damage, losses and recovery needs. The assessment was primarily conducted remotely, relying on humanitarian assessments (some verified with key informants in the field), satellite imagery (including data derived from IPSOS using grid density parameters from FAOSTAT), publicly available information, surveys and existing databases (such as the European Space Agency's Land Cover database and FAO-SWALIM).

These findings were corroborated and validated through various means, including remote-sensing analytics, data from partners, expert opinions, field visits, discussions with affected groups, and desk reviews of reports, existing national documents, humanitarian cluster rapid assessment reports and the Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity Assessment Report. Since it was a rapid assessment, the field-based survey to ascertain data (damages and losses) from the field were extremely limited. To overcome this limitation the World Bank Group engaged Institut Public de Sondage d'Opinion Secteur (IPSOS) to help fill in the data gaps of all sectors through satellite imagery and media analytics. IPSOS also provided services for data validation.



While the R-PDNA provides valuable insights, it is not a substitute for in-depth sector-specific assessments of affected areas. Sector teams made efforts to triangulate available data and provide realistic and credible estimates. Across sectors, common methodologies and tools included using government reports and databases, conducting surveys, validating information with key informants, seeking expert opinions, conducting field visits, engaging stakeholders, and utilizing sector-specific interview guide questionnaires and tools like Kobo Toolbox. For flood-affected areas that were inaccessible or unvisited due to time constraints, data extrapolation was employed.

The R-PDNA incorporates principles of building back better, social inclusion and gender equality, conflict sensitivity, and improving social, environmental and physical resilience. The analyses and findings were subjected to a careful validation by the FGS and concerned FMSs including the technical-level endorsement by the Steering Committee.

However, as in every R-PDNA process, there exists limitations and constraints. Estimations of damage and loss may be subject to underestimation or overestimation due to time constraints, the nascent data regime in Somalia, lack of data disaggregation and lack availability of data for certain indicators, as well as the inaccessibility of some areas. These challenges highlight the need for innovative approaches to data collection and analysis, especially where traditional methods fall short. Additionally, the assessment faced data unavailability from FMSs and the private sector. The sector assessments encountered time constraints and ground situations that hindered large-scale field validation.

4

THE DISASTER CONTEXT

Historic Deyr rains, exacerbated by a strong El Niño and positive Indian Ocean Dipole weather patterns, hit Somalia in October to December 2023. The Deyr season rainfall surpassed average levels in most areas of the country resulting in severe riverine flooding in areas such as Hiraan, Gedo and Middle Juba, and there were flash floods in Mudug and Bay.¹ Heavy cumulative rainfall was observed during the period over the south and central parts of the country with moderate increasing rains over the central northeastern and northwestern areas. As forecasted, the rains exceeded 300 mm over the Juba River and Shabelle River basins.

The heaviest seasonal rainfall of 1,152.0 mm was recorded at Baidoa station in Bay region. The highest number of rainy days (at least 1 mm of rain) were recorded at Kismaayo, Dollow, Luuq, Jowhar, and Belet Weyne (20 days), Bardheere (21 days), Wanla Weyne (22 days), Baidoa (26 days) and Qansadheere (34 days). When averaged throughout the country, much of the rainfall was received in the month of November (103.2 mm), with a moderate amount (73.1 mm) in October and the least (8.8 mm) in

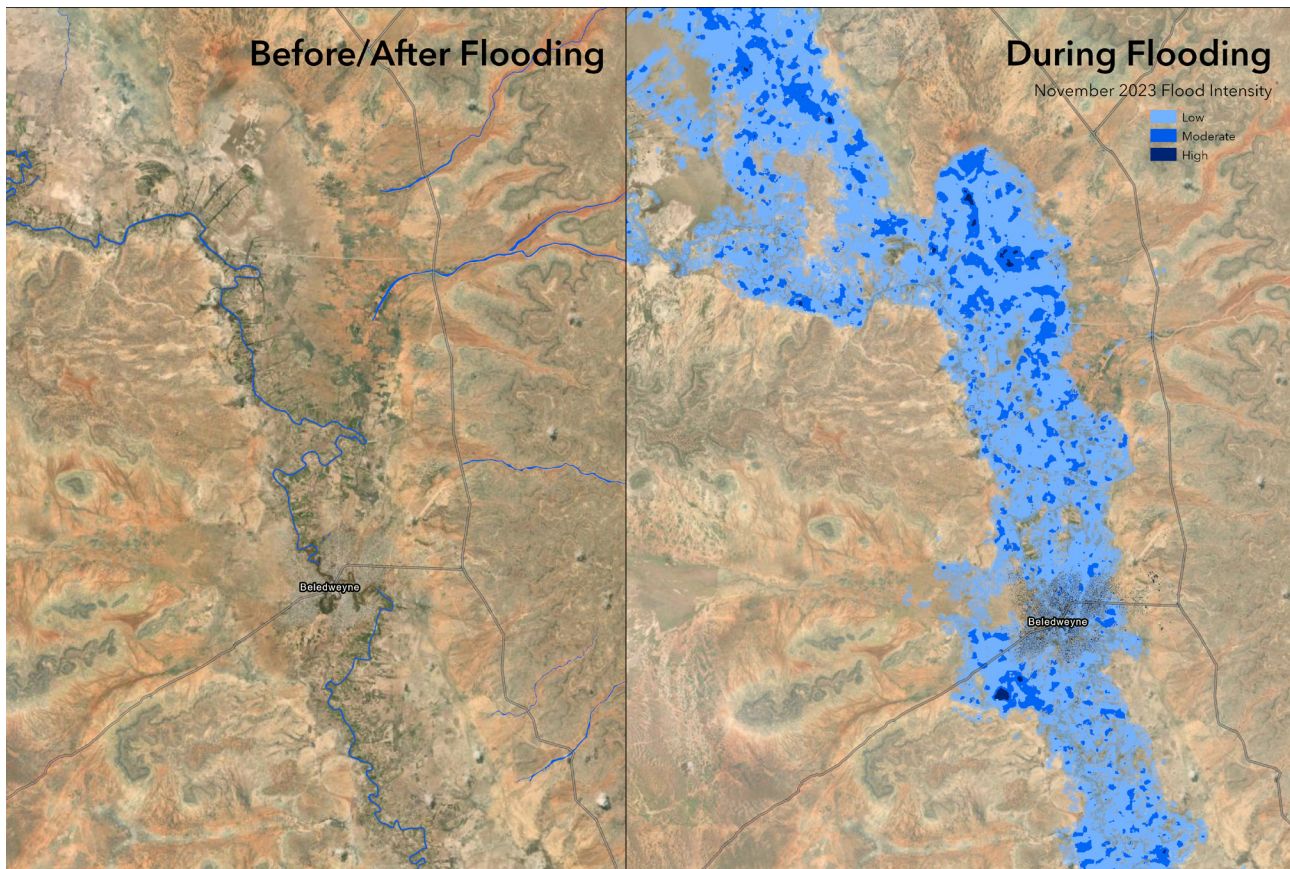
December. Coming in the wake of above-normal Gu and normal Haggaa rains, the substantial Deyr rainfall led to a substantial recharge of water sources and replenished water catchment levels. The longer-than-a-week wet spells favoured soil soaking, thus permitting rapid run off over urbanized areas and steep-sloped surfaces. By the 26 November 2023, water levels at six out of the seven river gauging stations along the two rivers were at full capacity.²



1 <https://reliefweb.int/attachments/54da1454-3109-4f12-b1ec-0687bddae041/Somalia-2023-Post-Deyr-IPC-AFI-and-IPC-AMN-Findings-and-Recommendations-15-Feb-2024.pdf>

2 FAO-SWALIM (19 January 2024), Review of Deyr 2023 Rainfall Performance, Jilala Status, Gu Outlook, and Implications on Livelihoods over Somalia.

Map before/after flooding and during flooding



Somalia has two major river systems that sustain the country's socio-economic life, but these also contribute to the risk of flooding. Historically, the substantial and consecutive rains over the riverine areas in Somalia cause the Juba and Shabelle River basins within the country and in the Ethiopian Highlands to be subjected to massive riverine and flash floods. The Juba River originates in the Ethiopian highlands and flows southeast through Somalia towards the Indian Ocean. Flooding along the Juba River is a common occurrence, particularly during the Gu (April to June) and Deyr (October to December) rainy seasons. The Shebelle River also originates in Ethiopia and flows southeast across Somalia. It then turns southwards, flowing parallel to the coast, before joining the Juba River. The Shebelle river, too, is prone to seasonal flooding. Over time, there has been a discernible increase

in the severity and frequency of the floods in the areas along the Juba and Shabelle Rivers.³ The floods due to the rains in Gu and Deyr seasons are recurrent phenomena and damage thousands of houses each year. In the period from 1988 to 2006, the Shabelle River (20 floodings) and Juba River (12 floodings) have regularly flooded.⁴

The Mogadishu Spatial Strategic Plan, supported by UN-Habitat, identifies flood risks due to riverine flooding, increased sea levels due to climate change and poor drainage infrastructure in the city.⁵ Rapid urbanization and deforestation in the basin have increased the risk of flash floods and riverine flooding. Lack of proper flood control measures and unplanned settlements along the riverbanks further increase the vulnerability to flooding.

³ Guleid A., Gadain H.M., Muthusi F.M. and Muchiri P.W. (2007), Improving Flood Forecasting and Early Warning in Somalia, Feasibility Study, Technical Report No W-10, FAO-SWALIM, Nairobi, Kenya.

⁴ https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/download-manager-files/Mogadishu_Report_reprint.pdf

⁵ *ibid*

4. THE DISASTER CONTEXT

While Somalia has a high probability for flooding, the country also faces risk of droughts. Protracted droughts that last many years have affected millions of residents and have exacerbated the effects of poverty and conflict. The 2023 Deyr floods, which were Somalia's worst floods in recent history, occurred at a time when the country was reeling from a record 2020–2023 drought. The 2023 Deyr floods struck already extremely vulnerable communities, whose coping capacities were exhausted after the longest recorded drought, where many parts of the country had experienced severe water shortages for domestic use, livestock use and agricultural production.⁶

The floods disrupted the education of children and caused significant loss to agriculture, livestock and critical infrastructure.⁷ The floods led to substantial damage to earlier-grown croplands, livestock fodder and pasturelands, along with substantial damage of buildings and civil infrastructure rendering roads impassable and cutting off access into and out of towns and other settlements with devastating implications.⁸ The floods damaged or destroyed critical water, sanitation, health and logistics infrastructure, threatening to reverse modest gains from infrastructure investments in previous years. The floods prompted the destruction of property, loss of access to basic services and caused further displacements. The floods also led to an increase in cholera and other water-borne diseases, particularly affecting children, women, the elderly and people with disabilities. More than 80 per cent of displaced people in Somalia are women and children who face significant protection risks, which are heightened by pre-existing inequities.⁹ The ensuing population displacement triggered other social challenges

including unavailability of shelter, food and clean water; an increase in water borne diseases; and family disconnection.¹⁰

The increasing vulnerabilities and exposures of the population, their assets and livelihoods has long been entrenched alongside the geo-political context of Somalia as it continues to face a delicate balance among political tensions, security threats and humanitarian crises owing to conflicts, environmental degradation, climate shocks and recurring disasters. The intersection of these challenges with the gender, age, disability, and socioeconomic status of the country exacerbates the disparities faced by the most marginalized groups. This results in multiple humanitarian crises, and calls for an inclusive and sensitive recovery process.

The impact of climate change, conflict and insecurity, and other factors have continued to push Somali civilians away from their homes and into overcrowded towns and cities. Consequently, the number of internally displaced persons has reached close to 4 million people, one of the largest number of displaced persons globally.¹¹ The combined impacts of floods and violent conflict has led to significantly more forced displacement, particularly in flooded areas of the Shabelle River and Jubba River basins. The highest proportions of internally displaced persons in Somalia are hosted in Banadir (31 percent), Bay (17 percent) and Gedo (10 percent).¹² This situation disproportionately affects vulnerable groups, including women, children and the elderly, who face heightened risks and challenges in displacement settings. Addressing their specific needs and protecting their rights must be prioritized during the recovery phase.

6 FAO (25 March 2021). Somalia: Drought - 2015-2024. <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/dr-2015-000134-som>

7 UNOCHA (January 2024). The 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan of Somalia.

8 FAO-SWALIM (19 January 2024), Review of Deyr 2023 Rainfall Performance, Jilala Status, Gu Outlook, and Implications on Livelihoods over Somalia.

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10 FAO-SWALIM (19 January 2024), Review of Deyr 2023 Rainfall Performance, Jilala Status, Gu Outlook, and Implications on Livelihoods over Somalia.

11 UNOCHA (January 2024). The 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan of Somalia.

12 <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/somalia-baseline-assessment-summary-report-round-2-february-2023-january-2024>

Moreover, there exists underlying socioeconomic conditions that may exacerbate the impacts of the floods. Over half (54.4 percent) of the population of Somalia lives in poverty, and over one fifth (20.9 percent) live in extreme poverty.¹³ Somalia's Human Development Index (HDI) value for 2022 is 0.380, which puts the country in the low human development category, positioning it at the lowest rank: 193 out of 193 countries and territories.¹⁴ In 2023, Somalia ranked fourth to last in the Global Gender Gap Index,¹⁵ underlining its continuing challenges for achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. Children under the age of 14 years old comprise 47 percent of the country's population¹⁶ and its young population poses challenges on youth exclusion, grievances and perceptions of inequity that have resulted in youth comprising most participants in militias and criminal gangs.¹⁷ Somalia has one of the highest urbanization rates in the region with at least 46.5 percent of the population living in urban areas. This has led to informal settlements and densely populated areas that place urban infrastructure and capacities under considerable pressure, and urban space is limited and contested.¹⁸

The challenges of conflict and governance exacerbate both the existing vulnerabilities to the effects of floods and the capacity of the government to effectively respond to the needs of those affected. Interventions that fail to account for tensions between rival groups for access to resources like water and land can inadvertently aggravate existing conflicts. Climate models project that Somalia is expected to continue to experience hotter than normal conditions, with cyclical periods of extreme drought and flooding. Somalia's coastal location means it is exposed to the impacts of strengthening tropical cyclones and severe storms. The risks posed by these climate stressors will only further challenge efforts to build food security and resilience in Somalia and may

exacerbate displacement and violent conflict.¹⁹ It will also hamper the sustainable recovery efforts from the 2023 Deyr floods.

Recovery will require an integrated approach that brings together government actors, and works across the humanitarian, recovery and developmental approaches to address long-term security, access, poverty and marginalization challenges. Somalia faces protracted humanitarian crises that linger on as the country must confront one crisis after another. This trend curtails any medium- to long-term recovery and curbs any effort for strategic durable solutions to take off and make progress.

The 2023 Fragile Index Score indicates a high level of fragility in Somalia, with a score of 111.9 out of 120, primarily due to conflicts exacerbated by natural disasters including floods. The uncertainty of the future poses a significant challenge to the vulnerable populations. Despite the political volatility and over 210 recorded events of political violence from late February to late March 2024, the FGS shows a commitment to federalism and constitutional review. However, the lack of clarity in constitutional mandates, especially concerning disaster management, remains a concern. Control over territories affected by floods is divided, ranging from the FGS to al-Shabaab/ISIS, affecting data collection and recovery efforts. Resource-based communal and clan conflicts, particularly over land, water and pasture in river basins, are managed through a blend of customary law and local administrative procedures. Al-Shabaab's activity, particularly between August and December 2022, resulted in 3,850 fatalities, with the highest civilian targeting in Banadir, Lower Shabelle and Hiraaan regions, indicating an escalation in attacks on civilians and highlighting the group's ongoing threat to stability and security in Somalia.

13 Somalia Integrated Household Survey Budget (SIHBS) – 2022 as cited in the Somalia Poverty Report 2023 published by the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics.

14 UNDP (2024). Human Development Reports <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/specific-country-data#/countries/SOM>

15 WEP (2023). Global Gender Gap Report 2023.

16 UNFPA (2024). World Population Dashboard. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/world-population/SO>

17 USAID (2015). Fact Sheet. https://2017-2020.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1860/Cross-Cutting_Fact_Sheet_-_Youth_10_Sep_2015.pdf

18 UN-HABITAT (2023). Urbanization in Somalia: Building inclusive and sustainable cities <https://unhabitat.org/somalia#:~:text=Somalia%20has%20one%20of%20the,53%25%20for%20the%20year%202016>.

19 USAID (2024). Climate risks to resilience and food security in Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance Geographies: Somalia

5

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

According to the Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA), the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) declared an emergency in October 2023 in areas where torrential Deyr rains triggered floods. These floods extended from October through December 2023. The FGS led the relief operations with support from humanitarian partners in all affected states. Humanitarian partners have reached about 1.2 million people with assistance since October, while SoDMA delivered food, non-food items and medicines to affected states reaching over 869,000 people. The Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF) Advisory Board endorsed a \$1.96 million reserve allocation to the World Food Programme (WFP) to provide critical logistics support for the El Niño response, including covering the operational costs of one helicopter for one-month, other common logistics services, and the cost of maintaining the Baidoa logistics hub.²⁰

Emergency relief assistance provided to the affected population included urgent life-saving assistance in the form of unconditional food and cash aid, and comprehensive maintenance support

of sites supporting internally displaced people, including distribution of sandbags to support the diversion and prevention of water entering the displacement sites, integrated health and nutrition services, humanitarian support logistics, protection services, psychosocial support, latrine construction, hygiene kits and WASH services including construction of emergency latrines, hygiene kit distribution and provision of emergency water supplies through water trucking. Learning materials were also provided to enable flood-affected students to resume their education with interventions aimed at keeping children in schools. Primary health care consultation, reproductive health care, immunization, prepositioning medical supplies and inpatient care services through static facilities and mobile clinics were also provided in flood-affected areas.

There was a scaling up of nutrition treatment and prevention interventions to address the potential increase in malnutrition cases following the floods. At least 230,437 children under age 5 were screened for acute malnutrition, with 19,615

20 UNOCHA (24 December 2023). SOMALIA: 2023 Deyr Season Floods Bi - Weekly Situation Report No. 5

admitted to the Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP), 1,198 to the Stabilization Centre (SC) and 21,900 to the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP). In addition, 5,086 pregnant and breastfeeding women who were moderately to acutely malnourished were also admitted to TSFP. Over 87,366 caregivers were reached with nutrition, hygiene and health promotion awareness messages to prevent possible increase of waterborne diseases due to stagnant rainwater in displacement

sites, while 22,635 children received Vitamin A supplementation. At least 4,247 people have been reached with psychosocial support kits in areas affected by the floods. Approximately 26 temporary child-friendly spaces and child protection desks have been established. Humanitarian logistics hubs were also established in strategic positions and were made available to partners free of charge for storage before onward transportation to flood affected areas.



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21 *ibid* [20]

22 *ibid* [20]

23 *ibid* [20]

6

SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT RECOVERY: VISION, PRINCIPLES AND KEY PILLARS

Recovery Vision

Achieve inclusive and resilient recovery in flood-affected areas by adopting an area-based, conflict-sensitive, gender-responsive, integrated and all-of-society approach, fostering recovery that addresses underlying vulnerabilities and risks, building

community resilience to recurring disasters and climate change impacts, and ensuring equitable and sustainable development of communities and their livelihoods.

Guiding Principles

1. Ensure equitable prioritization in the recovery process by focusing on the urgent needs of the most affected populations and marginalized groups, including women, the elderly, children, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable demographics. By addressing their specific needs, create a more equitable and resilient recovery.
2. Embrace agile and adaptive management principles in recovery, recognizing the dynamic nature of the operating environment. This includes understanding existing conflict dynamics, navigating political transitions, and responding effectively to repeated shocks, disasters and climate change impacts.
3. Adapt an integrated, holistic, collaborative and all-of-society approach to recovery. This includes engaging multiple sectors, considering various dimensions and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships.
4. Align recovery efforts with the humanitarian architecture and development pathways in Somalia, leveraging existing mechanisms. By aligning recovery efforts with established structures, enhance resilience and promote sustainable development.
5. Tailor recovery efforts to the socio-political and economic landscape and integrate vulnerability reduction in recovery by addressing underlying risk drivers. These are 'no regrets' strategies, ensuring that the recovery actions build resilience.

6. Ensure an inclusive, equitable and ethical recovery by making all interventions gender-responsive, conflict-sensitive and leaving no one behind.
7. Adhere to the 'do no harm' principle in recovery by ensuring that recovery interventions avoid inadvertently contributing to conflict, human rights violations, or any policies that may inflict harm. Protection principles guide all recovery actions ensuring that basic need support does not exacerbate inequalities.
8. Support a gradual transition to a government-led recovery by ushering a shift from dependence on international humanitarian assistance to locally led recovery efforts, thereby empowering national and local authorities, building internal capacities and fostering ownership of recovery processes by the government and local institutions.
9. Improve the policy and regulatory environment of service delivery sectors by undertaking institutional and governance reform measures to strengthen ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) by enhancing human resource capacity to better plan, better design and ensure climate resilient infrastructure for sustained service delivery.

Key Pillars

1. **Building of community resilience to resist repeated shocks and crises.**

The strategic objective of this pillar is to build community resilience by enhancing the capacities of individuals, households and communities to resist shocks and manage impacts on their own. This means building resilience to risks and addressing increasing vulnerabilities and underlying risk drivers, which are essential preconditions toward achieving sustainable and inclusive recovery. This includes the provision of assets and support services such as housing reconstruction and repair to ensure that the affected households do not have further deteriorating living conditions. This may also encompass the restoration of vital infrastructure such as roads, bridges, irrigation, water and sanitation, and alternative energy sources to ensure connectivity and access to schools, health facilities and markets. This pillar needs to adopt inclusive and participatory community-based approaches, with a particular emphasis on addressing the needs of women, the impoverished, and other vulnerable groups through targeted interventions. Recovery focused on strengthening community resilience will result to an increased ability to anticipate, adapt and cope with repeated disasters, crises, shocks, and stresses, thereby enabling communities to

protect and build on development gains that they have already achieved.

2. **Revitalization of communities' economies and people's livelihoods.**

The strategic objective of this pillar is to rebuild people's livelihoods, revive economic activities, and enhance economic resilience to potential future shocks, disasters and climate change impacts. Restoration of livelihoods, resumption of economic activities and revitalization of agriculture are critical for sustainable recovery of the Somali population. Specifically, this includes interventions on sustainable resource management, provision of livelihood opportunities, decent employment creation and restoration of agricultural activities including provision of comprehensive vaccination and treatment for flood-prone livestock diseases, support for the continuation and rehabilitation of animal production through a scaled-up provision of fodder production systems, and support for mass veterinary treatments and vector control, as well as restocking of small animals. The rebuilding of the livestock sector would ensure sustainable livelihoods for farmers and contribute to overall economic recovery and development. A key component of this pillar is the establishment of gender-sensitive employment



opportunities, particularly in non-traditional roles for women and support services such as childcare to facilitate women’s active participation in the workforce. Furthermore, the rehabilitation of irrigation and flood-risk management infrastructure, including river embankment and canal breakages, desilting/clearing, and repairing waterways and other water access facilities and on-farm structures, are crucial for economic and livelihoods recovery. Hence, these shall also be pursued with the engagement of community-based organizations such as agriculture cooperatives and water users’ associations, with emphasis on ensuring women’s active participation and leadership.

3. Resumption of access to essential services.

The strategic objective of this pillar is to reinstate key services for flood-affected communities such as in education, energy, water and sanitation, and access to basic social safety nets. This includes reconstruction and repair of schools and establishment of

temporary educational facilities while this is in progress. It also entails support for the rehabilitation, cleaning, disinfection, and repair of water and sanitation facilities; the provision of renewable energy for small health clinics and clinics providing assistance for gender-based violence, including in rural areas; maintenance of the cold chain supply for medications; repair or replacement of street lighting in damaged urban and rural areas as well as in camps for internally displaced persons. Additionally, this pillar aims to provide cash transfers to households affected by multidimensional poverty and loss of livelihood and income to ensure that vulnerable households, particularly those headed by women, do not need to resort to negative coping strategies. Recovery and restoration of access to basic services should focus not only on rebuilding physical infrastructure but also on restoring the human capital potential of the affected areas, with specific programmes aimed at supporting women’s health and education.

Cross-cutting conflict-sensitive considerations

Recovery efforts should address multi-dimensional risks, recurring threats and the (geo)political context of Somalia. In particular, the ensuing are cross-cutting conflict-sensitive considerations to guide the implementation of the recovery interventions across the different sectors.

Policy and governance. While there is still some ambiguity between federal, state and local government on mandates including disaster management, the recovery and response efforts come at the time when FGS and Federal Member States have agreed the overall framework that clarifies roles and responsibilities at their respective levels. A ‘whole-of-government’ approach will be critical to enable the multi-sectoral approach needed to deliver services. This can build on existing coordination mechanisms such as the Somali Humanitarian Forum and National Development Forum which link Federal and States governments with international partners.

Capacity building. Building the capacity of local government staff and clarifying the roles of local governments in post-disaster response and recovery will be needed as they play a vital role in disaster response at the local level. Furthermore,

to support recovery and response needs at the local level, the formation of efficient, functional and inclusive District Authorities needs to be supported through the ongoing district council formation process within the Wadajir National Framework (WNF), National Reconciliation Policy, and FGS’s broader stabilization framework.

Accessibility. Access is challenging in most of the 16 R-PDNA targeted districts, primarily due to the fight against al-Shabaab. The recovery process is aligned with the Somalia’s National Stabilization Strategy (2022–2026), with the R-PDNA recovery strategy proposing an integrated approach where government takes the lead in liberated and stable areas, and works through local organizations, the private sector and local communities in areas where access is challenging or not possible. Within a complex environment, Somalia has fostered sources of community resilience characterized by decentralized social networks and a vibrant private sector. Somalis have relied on the country’s social capital and informal institutions to respond to disasters, resolve disputes, facilitate business and address basic development problems.



7

THE 2023 DEYR FLOODS IMPACT: A SYNOPSIS

Macro-economic impact

Somalia's economy is estimated to have grown closer to 3.0 percent in 2023, up from 2.4 percent in 2022. The gross domestic product (GDP) growth was mainly supported by favourable rains and declining global prices, causing inflation to ease in 2023. Despite some progress, the 2023 Deyr floods had a significant impact on Somalia's economy, particularly in the areas of agriculture and infrastructure. The floods caused widespread devastation to farmland, leading to a decline in agricultural production, affecting the country's overall GDP, and increasing price instability. Additionally, the floods led to significant displacement of populations, in both agricultural and urban areas, further impacting economic activities and livelihoods. The floods also impacted the balance of payments, as there was a surge in demand for imports of food supplies, agricultural resources and materials for reconstruction efforts. This surge in demand is projected to further strain the balance of payments, particularly with an expected increase in labour costs for construction projects.

Overall, the economic outlook for Somalia following the floods is challenging. The country faces risks such as reduced aid, instability in the banking sector, and the threat of repeated or recurrent shocks from climate change events, further threatening the country's economic recovery and making it difficult to achieve sustained progress and stability. Efforts to recover from the floods are expected to mitigate the potential adverse effects on macroeconomic indicators. This includes addressing increased spending needs, reallocating funds within the government's budget framework, and focusing on recovery and resilience needs. However, the full macroeconomic repercussions of the floods will take time to manifest. Initial assessments suggest that the total estimated costs of the floods amount to around 17 percent of the country's 2024 capital budget across various sectors, adversely affecting the fiscal balance in 2024 as well due to the ongoing reconstruction efforts throughout next year.

Human impact

The Deyr rains and subsequent flooding in Somalia have affected nearly 2.5 million people, with 1.7 million residing in the 16 most impacted districts. These floods have displaced approximately 1.2 million individuals, including 521,519 in the most affected areas. The total number of internally displaced persons in Somalia has now risen to 2.9 million.

The floods have compounded the difficulties for populations already affected by drought and conflict, exacerbating their vulnerabilities, and eroding their coping capacities. Immediate and sustained interventions are necessary to address the multi-dimensional impacts on the affected populations and to prevent further deterioration of living conditions.

Significant damage to housing left 114,694 people homeless and another 34,826 with damaged homes. The destruction of water points and latrines impacted over 2 million people, forcing them to rely on unsafe water sources and increasing the risk of water-borne diseases. The education sector has also been hit hard, with over 600 teachers and approximately 738,000 children affected by damage to schools.

Agriculture suffered greatly, with losses in crop and livestock production impacting 68,000 households (421,600 people). These losses diminished household incomes and heightened food insecurity. Additionally, household businesses, which make up a significant portion of the rural and urban economy, likely experienced damage and losses, though specific data is unavailable.

Food insecurity has escalated, with an additional 304,980 people facing various levels of food stress and crisis, at Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 2 and above. Among them, 36,480 are experiencing emergency or catastrophic levels (IPC 4), 121,810 acute levels (IPC 3), and 146,690 stressed levels (IPC 2). The floods have exacerbated the plight of 1.5 million children under five years old who are projected to experience acute wasting.

Prior to the floods, over 2.1 million people in the affected districts were living in poverty. The

floods are expected to deepen poverty levels, particularly among the most vulnerable groups, including nomadic populations, rural communities, children, and female-headed households. Nomadic populations have the highest incidence of poverty at 78.4 percent, and they are now even more vulnerable due to the floods.

Women and girls have faced disproportionate impacts due to their roles in agriculture and commerce. They have experienced reduced incomes, limited access to healthcare, and increased insecurity, including risks of gender-based violence. Other marginalized groups, such as internally displaced persons, children and certain minority clans have also been severely affected. Flood-displaced families have exhausted their coping mechanisms and need urgent support for food, shelter, livelihoods and protection. Children represent a significant portion of the affected population, with 1.53 million impacted by the floods, including 550,000 displaced. Acute malnutrition and disease outbreaks, such as measles and cholera, have further endangered children's health. Vulnerable children, including those unaccompanied or victims of violence and exploitation, require immediate protection and care.

The floods are likely to have driven up the number of people living in poverty and extreme poverty, and without adequate support. The cycle of poverty and vulnerability is likely to continue. The standard of living is expected to erode further among flood-affected households and multi-dimensional poverty will increase due to increased deprivations in access to healthcare, water and sanitation facilities, as well as due to the loss of income and critical assets such as land, housing, businesses, crops and livestock.

Recovery efforts should be directed toward rebuilding housing, water and sanitation, and educational infrastructure; providing aid to restore agricultural productivity; and supporting local businesses to resume operations. Additionally, measures must be taken to ensure food security and prevent the situation from escalating further. It is essential to learn from this catastrophe and strengthen the systems in place to mitigate the impact of future floods and other natural disasters.



SECTOR SUMMARY

Social Sectors

Housing

There has been significant damage to housing in Somalia caused by the 2023 Deyr floods. It is estimated that the floods resulted in the collapse of 19,913 houses, major damage to 3,597 houses and minor damage to 2,355 houses in 16 districts of Somalia. Of these affected households, 36 percent are estimated to be female headed. Total damage considering replacement costs for collapsed houses, repair costs of partially damaged houses, costs to reclaim damaged homestead land and purchase costs for necessary household goods is valued at **\$7.9 million**. Total losses, which include the cost for salvaging and site clearance, transitional shelters and rental income loss are valued at **\$1.4 million**. Hence, the total cost of the disaster impact in the housing sector is approximately valued at **\$9.4 million**.

Recovery and reconstruction needs based on the damage and loss include cost of replacing collapsed houses with the new ones, and repairing and retrofitting the partially damaged houses. The cost of socio-technical facilitation of owner-driven

reconstruction processes is also included in the total needs. The total needs are estimated at **\$27.0 million**. The reconstruction and recovery needs are much higher compared to the total damage and loss. This is so because houses most damaged were largely aqal type made of vegetation and plastic sheets only, which are much cheaper compared to houses built with more durable materials and hazard-resilient features that are considered acceptable for reconstruction and recovery.

The owner-driven recovery and reconstruction is proposed to include risk-sensitive settlement planning and resettlement only if necessary, security of tenure of homestead plots, use of appropriate technology options that are hazard-resilient and environmentally friendly with a low carbon and water footprint, and use locally available materials and skills. Active collaboration of the government, UN agencies and other international and national organizations, along with active participation from the homeowners will be the key modality for recovery and reconstruction

of the housing. There is a need to establish implementation arrangements for effective processes, capacity building of masons and engineers, and socio-technical facilitation of an owner-driven process to ensure that all households, particularly the vulnerable, are able to rebuild, repair and retrofit as per requirements for hazard resilient building. It is proposed that short-term activities such as material salvaging, land recovery, transitional shelters and settlement planning for

durable housing, as well as the reconstruction of 20 percent of the damaged houses will be done in the short-term duration of up to 12 months. In the medium term of 36 months, another 60 percent of houses will be reconstructed, repaired and retrofitted. All remaining reconstruction and recovery for long-term durable housing along with repairs and retrofitting through settlement planning and secured tenure will take up to 60 months to be fully completed.

Education

The 2023 Deyr floods caused extensive damage to the country's education sector, severely disrupting the schooling of approximately 905,000 children. Over 127 schools were directly affected, with significant infrastructure destruction including classrooms, administrative blocks and sanitation facilities. Districts such as Beletweyn and Bidoa experienced some of the most severe impacts, with numerous schools completely or partially destroyed. The loss extended beyond physical structures to include essential classroom materials, furniture and textbooks, further complicating the educational disruption.

The economic repercussions of the floods are profound, with the total cost of damages to the education sector estimated at **\$18.9 million** and losses estimated at **\$2.1 million**. This financial burden exacerbates existing challenges in the sector, which already struggles with low enrolment rates and inadequate infrastructure. The damage assessment revealed that 63 schools were fully destroyed, 36 were partially damaged, and 19 suffered minor damage, underscoring the widespread and severe impact on educational services. Additionally, many internally displaced children faced the greatest educational challenges, losing most of their possessions and access to schooling, further hindering their educational progress.

In response to the extensive damage, the report outlines immediate, medium-term and long-term



recovery strategies. The total cost of the recovery needs to the education sector from the floods is profound and is estimated at **\$23.1 million**. Short-term recovery focuses on the establishment of Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) to ensure the continuation of education and address the psychosocial impacts on students and teachers. Long-term strategies emphasize the construction of disaster-resilient educational facilities to withstand future natural disasters. Additionally, integrating disaster preparedness into the educational curriculum is considered crucial to mitigate future risks. The report also recommends the development of a centralized Education in Emergencies database to improve data management and support to allow for more effective decision-making during crises. These comprehensive recovery strategies aim to restore educational services and build resilience to better handle future challenges.

Productive Sector

Farming and Livestock

Due to the Deyr 2023 floods, Somalia's farming and livestock sectors suffered significant damage. The total estimated damage and loss amount to **\$57 million**, with damage accounting for **\$39 million** and total loss reaching **\$18 million**. Impacted areas included irrigation infrastructure, grasslands/pastures, livestock and crop areas. Approximately 68,000 households were affected. Crop production loss reached 12,800 metric tons, primarily affecting maize, sorghum, sesame and bananas. Milk production loss exceeded one million litres.

The total recovery needs amount to **\$60 million**. Of this, the farming sector recovery requires **\$48.2 million**, while the livestock sector needs **\$11.8 million**. The recovery strategy involves collaboration with key national ministries, departments and international organizations, including FAO, WFP, WB and EU. Prioritized interventions address severity of damages and losses. Immediate actions in the crop sector focus on preparing for the next Deyr season by scaling up distribution of agricultural inputs and rehabilitating irrigation and flood risk management infrastructure. In the livestock

sector, short-term needs include restocking lost livestock and providing animal feed. Medium to long-term goals involve climate resilience for crop and livestock production systems, improving traditional breeds, and enhancing market access. Collaborative efforts with local and international partners aim to rebuild Somalia's agriculture sector, ensuring sustainable livelihoods and contributing to overall economic recovery and development.



Infrastructure Sectors

Water and Sanitation

The 2023 Deyr floods caused significant damage and losses to Water and Sanitation infrastructure in Somalia. The total amount of damage and loss was **\$32.7 million**. This included **\$16.4 million** in damage and **\$16.3 million** in losses. The assessment considered fully damaged, partially damaged, and minimally damaged water supply and sanitation facilities. The water supply infrastructure recorded a total of 1,211 facilities slightly damaged. Specific infrastructure affected includes boreholes, hand pumps, berkets, water kiosks and 19,234 latrines.

In terms of the recovery needs and strategy, the estimated recovery costs for the water and sanitation sector amount to **\$24.7 million**. Recovery efforts will focus on repairing and rehabilitating the damaged water reservoirs, dams, sanitation systems, water schemes and the water supply networks. Additional expenses will cover water disposal, waste management, awareness campaigns and emergency water supply to affected regions. Efforts to restore the water and sanitation infrastructure are crucial for public health, hygiene and overall community well-being especially for the most vulnerable and repeatedly displaced populations due to recurring shocks.

Energy

Through years of instability and repeated shocks experienced by Somalia, the energy sector has been unable to meet latent demand and provide stable and affordable access for the population. This has negatively contributed to social indicators and hindered economic growth. The 2023 Deyr floods, similar to previous disasters, only further reinforced this phenomenon. The total damages to the energy sector amounted to **\$9.3 million**. Notably, this figure excludes data from the four districts within Banadir due to lack of information provided by the concerned Energy Service Providers (ESPs). Most damages occurred in energy generation and transmission infrastructure. The total losses for the sector amount to **\$2.0 million**. The total disaster effects to the sector was **\$11.3 million**.

Efforts toward sustainable energy are vital for resilience, development and equitable access. To see these achieved, the sector has identified recovery needs and a strategy. The total needs for the sector amount to **\$14.1 million**. This includes 15 percent above the cost of damages for reconstruction based on Building Back Better principles. The strategy posits key priorities, which in the short-term includes detailed damage assessment and restoration



of basic services estimated at **\$5.67 million**. The Medium-term priorities are an evidence-based risk assessment, completion of basic service restoration, and capacity building and piloting of renewable energy projects estimated at **\$7.36 million**. The long-term vision is for continued capacity building and monitoring of piloted projects costing **\$1.03 million**, with the aim of establishing a resilient and sustainable energy sector accessible to all Somalis.

Transport

The floods of 2023 affected critical transport infrastructures, roads and bridges. These were damaged, washed away and/or rendered impassable by floodwaters, isolating communities and hindering the delivery of humanitarian aid. The assessment undertaken in 16 districts indicated the value of the total damage to the



transport sector was around **\$29.7 million**. The assessment took into account fully, severely and moderately damaged transport infrastructures. It is reported that a total of 15 bridges and more than 48 kilometres of roads were damaged by the floods.

The total recovery and reconstruction needs for the transport sector, using the principle of building back better, is estimated at **\$37.4 million**, of which the majority (55 percent) is needed for the recovery and reconstruction of bridges. The recovery strategies and specific short-, medium- and long-term goals are summarized in the report. These include recovery efforts to reconstruct washed away bridges, and to repair and rehabilitate roads and drainage structures. The recovery effort will have to include measures to ensure there is capacity that can proactively engage at national and Federal State level to minimize the effects of flooding.

Cross-Cutting Sectors

Social Protection, Employment and Livelihoods

Somalia faces a deepening humanitarian crisis due to severe floods of 2023 that affected over half of the country's districts, compounded by the preceding longest and most severe drought in over 40 years. The country's economic fragility, exacerbated by repeated shocks, has heightened the risk of poverty for many households. Recent floods displaced around 500,000 people, affecting 1.85 million individuals (309,000 households) across the 16 assessed districts in Jubaland, Southwest, Hirshabelle and Puntland. Disproportionate damages occurred in the southern and central regions, where poverty rates are highest. Mean poverty rates in flood-affected districts reached 60 percent, with extreme poverty at 21 percent, surpassing national averages. Food insecurity affects 21 percent of the population, with 28 percent of children under five experiencing stunting.

Efforts to address these challenges require targeted social protection measures, sustainable

livelihoods, and gender-inclusive strategies. Short-term needs for extremely vulnerable households amount to \$17 million across 13 flood-affected districts. The strategy for recovery should prioritize protecting the most vulnerable not covered by existing programmes. Baxnaano operates in three districts through its regular safety net window, historically covering approximately 23 percent of the population. Medium-term measures include protecting extremely vulnerable households in all 16 flood-affected districts, which will require an estimated \$1.56 million per annum is needed. Baxnaano's regular window, providing \$20 per household per month, can extend coverage to 10 percent of the poorest households for 12 months. Agriculture, with 13 percent of the national labour force, plays a critical role, especially in flood-affected areas. Livestock ownership has declined due to multiple shocks. Overall labour force participation remains low, with significant gender disparities and an overall unemployment rate of 21.4 percent.





Disaster Risk Reduction

The 2023 Deyr floods in Somalia exposed critical gaps in the country's disaster preparedness and response systems. These floods intensified vulnerabilities in affected districts, impacting already highly vulnerable communities. Disaster risk reduction (DRR) authorities at federal and state levels struggled to coordinate preparedness, response and recovery efforts. Prolonged displacements due to recurring flood, drought, conflict and underdevelopment eroded community resilience. Displaced communities living at subsistence levels heavily relied on international humanitarian assistance for basic needs. The recent floods caused a combined total damage and loss in the DRR sector estimated at \$2.5 million. Damage costing at \$0.23 million affected government buildings, warehouses, early warning equipment and observation stations. All damage was in the public sector; there is no data on private sector DRR assets. Losses of about \$2.3 million included additional government unprogrammed/unbudgeted expenditures used for emergency response logistics, such as warehousing, distribution, diversion of regular

budgets to flood response, and foregone staff time due to flood emergency deployment.

Inadequate DRR infrastructure, assets and systems contributed to massive displacements, housing damage and loss of life.

The fact that the capacity of the federal government of Somalia's emergency preparedness and response is not well developed contributed to the impact of the 2023 Deyr floods disaster to the people, microeconomy and infrastructure. There is an EP&R assessment done by hired consultant by the WB in coordination with OPM. The assessment identifies the need to invest 76 Million U\$S in Somalia EP&S system to perform better to the recurrent crises in Somalia.



These are attributable to the gaps and challenges in Somalia's Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) System, which lacks coherence and harmonization, and the system is heavily fragmented with several governmental (federal and state level) and non-governmental actors undertaking part of the responsibilities with various systems in different parts of the country.

The focus on response rather than on preparedness and prevention further compounds the challenges. With recurrent hazards and risks, the need for preparatory actions and investments in terms of DRR, mitigation and response preparedness is high. Without considerable investments in the first part of the EP&R, it cannot be expected that the system will be effective and cost-efficient in the future.²⁴ The 2023 Deyr floods came at a time when the

DRR systems and capacities of the country were in a stage of inadequacy and weakness. Given this backdrop, efforts towards recovery are very much anchored in investments to strengthening the EP&R capacities of the country. Hence, the Deyr floods recovery needs are estimated at \$8.6 million and are focusing on DRR infrastructure reconstruction and repair; enhancement of DRR service delivery capacities; strengthening of DRR institutions, legal frameworks and policy governance; reduction of risks and vulnerabilities; and building of community resilience. Investing in DRR capacities, systems and infrastructure is crucial for Somalia's resilience and ability to cope with future shocks. The strategies will require \$2.0 million for short-term needs (up to 1 year), \$3.7 million for medium-term implementation (up to 3 years), and \$2.9 million for long-term activities (up to 5 years).

24 SoDMA (2022). Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity Assessment Report.

Environment

Somalia confronts significant environmental hurdles exacerbated by its susceptibility to climate change. Despite minimal greenhouse gas emissions, Somalia ranks as the world's second most climate-vulnerable nation. Recurrent droughts, floods and human-induced conflicts intensify the impact of climate change. Rising temperatures, increased flood risks and severe famines disrupt livelihoods and cause internal displacement. Deforestation driven by charcoal production worsens environmental degradation. Challenges to sustainable development arise from this unsustainable exploitation of natural resources. The 2023 floods intensified environmental issues, including tree cover destruction and income loss from charcoal production. Total effects on the

environment sector amounted to **\$12.5 million** comprised of damage to forestry at **\$5.2 million** and total loss of **\$7.4 million**.

Recovery needs for damaged natural assets, especially tree cover, reach **\$18.7 million**. Recovery prioritizes restoring damaged natural assets, particularly tree cover, and encompass short-, medium- and long-term actions such as tree replantation, diversification of forest ecosystem services, strengthening environmental governance mechanisms and building climate resilience. Collaboration among government agencies, local communities and international partners is essential for successful implementation of these strategies.



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