

Joint Protection and Shelter frontline response Cadaado District, Galmudug State

In late 2023, the Somali government initiated military operations aimed at recapturing areas controlled by Al-Shabaab in Galmudug State. Following these offensives, the government took control of strategic locations such as **Bacadwayne, Camaara, Caad, and Xinlabi**, as well as other surrounding villages near Harardheere and Hobyo districts. During this period, access to these areas improved, allowing for limited protection and humanitarian assistance to the affected population.

However, from 10 March 2024, onward, Somalia's security forces began withdrawing from these areas, resulting in the displacement of many ordinary people who feared retaliatory attacks from Al-Shabaab.

According to the [PRMN flash alert for Galmudug](#), approximately **1,180 households, totaling around 7,080 individuals, were displaced from Bacadweyn and Hiin-labi between March 10 and March 13**, seeking refuge in areas like Galkayo, Mirjicley, Wisil, and Bajeela. Most of the displaced population were vulnerable groups, including the **elderly, children, women, and people with specific needs**, who undertook risky long journeys on foot in search of safety and refuge.

Following PRMN's Flash Alert, between 20 and 21 of March the Galmudug Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM) and the Galmudug Commission for Refugees and IDPs (GCRI), in collaboration with humanitarian organizations, conducted an Inter-Agency Rapid Needs Assessment on conflict displaced families in three IDP sites in Cadaado district, namely **Xarardheere, Camp Bari, and Xeebeed**. The assessment confirmed the arrival of approximately 815 households (**4,890 individuals**) to these IDP sites and that **government withdrawal from Camara, Xinlabi, and Caad has impacted an estimated 19,500 individuals (3,250 households)**. The most affected population group were pastoralists, who had to move with their livestock from place to place in search of safety, pasture, and water. The assessment also highlights that around 25% of the women displaced are widows who have lost their husbands over the last 6 months due to the ongoing military operation.

The priority protection risks among newly displaced population in Cadaado district are these:

- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** The newly displaced population is Displaced residing in overcrowded camps and inadequate shelters with limited privacy, increasing the risk of exposure to GBV particularly women and girls.
- **Child family separation:** The initial Inter-Agency Rapid Needs Assessment has already identified 20 separated and unaccompanied children.
- **Psychological/emotional distress:** Displaced individuals are likely to face psychological distress due to exposure to violence, loss of close relatives, and the lack of access to basic needs such as water and food.

Protection and Shelter, a joint frontline response:

The Protection and Shelter Clusters, in close coordination with UNOCHA, are working on the operationalization of the frontline response and mobilizing resources to assist the 815 households (4,890 individuals) who were forcibly displaced and arrived in Cadaado district. The joint response is in line with the Protection Cluster's 2024 frontline response strategy in hard-to-reach areas and with the Somalia Inter-Cluster Integrated Response Framework (IRF). As of 3 April, this is the joint Shelter and Protection mobilized response:

Mobilized response:

District	Partner	Response	Targeted settlements	Targeted households
Cadaado	UNHCR	NFIs (150 NFI kits + 150 Tarpaulins).	3	150
Cadaado	NRC	Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)	4	306
Cadaado	NRC	NFIs cash	4	306
Cadaado	NRC	Hygiene Kits via voucher	4	306
Cadaado	WFP/SCO	CBT	4	509
Cadaado	SCI	Outreach team (Nutrition and Immunization)	4	600
Cadaado	WHO	Outreach team: primary health services	4	450
Cadaado	Care International/DBG	MPCA	4	815
Cadaado	GECPD	Setting up Roving Protection desk		
Cadaado	GECPD	Protection response- basing on individual need with eligibility criteria	4	815
Cadaado	SSWC	Protection response- (case management, dignity kit, PSS, medical support & safe house)	4	N/A
Cadado	NOFYL	Monthly service Monitoring Filling new arrival tracker (NAT 2) for new arrivals. Community Feedback Mechanism	4	N/A

The Protection and Shelter clusters continue to advocate for urgent frontline protection support in hard-to-reach and newly accessible areas, such as Cadaado district, to alleviate existing protection risks and humanitarian needs among the displaced and vulnerable civilian populations.

Photos



Displaced families from Xinlabi in Camp Bari Photo credit Mohamud SSWC



NRC Adado team registering newly displaced people for NFI cash and MPCA photo: NRC/liban



NRC team distributing hygiene kits to the new arrivals. Photo credit NRC/Liban



Displaced families in Camp Bari Photo credit Shafir/Somali charity



Joint assessment team discussing the new displacement assessment and responses in Adado Mayors Office