



Somalia Protection Cluster

FACTSHEET

February 2015



Key Facts

1. Validation the harmonized messages on GBV and gender equality.
2. Getting ready for better protection response to forced evictions: Partners in Mogadishu trained for pre-eviction assessments.
3. UNMAS and partners destroy 5,548 Explosive Remnants of War and cleared 1,574,940 square metres.
4. 220 grave child rights violations reported in February.

The fighting between the armed groups (ASWJ) and the Somali National Army (SNA) in early February in Guri Ceel caused killing, injuries and displacement of civilians, including children augmenting notably child protection needs. Yet, the child protection response is hampered by funding gaps. Similarly, in the Jubas, only limited child protection responses are currently implemented due to funding constraints. Priority needs include family tracing and reunification in the newly accessible areas, GBV services for survivors in all priority areas and reintegration support for children associated with armed forces and groups.

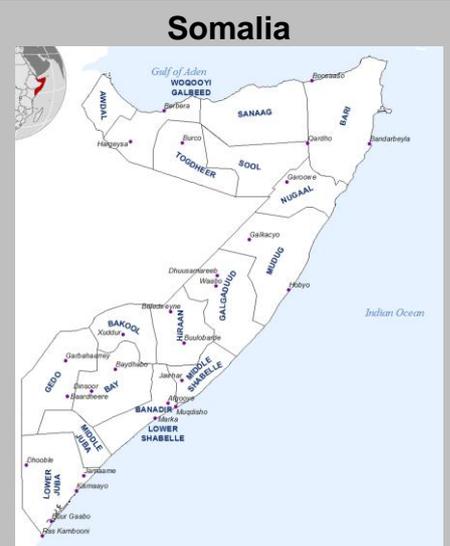
Child protection concerns:

- In Bosaso, an increase in the number of unaccompanied migrant children around Bosaso Port is reported.
- In Mogadishu, the number of street children affected by the ongoing construction of roads is increasing. The Somali Police Force reportedly forcefully removed the street children from the streets and destroyed their makeshifts, beating and even detaining some children.
- Arbitrary arrests and detention of civilians, notably affecting the youth, as part of the security operations carried out in Mogadishu, is of increasing concern.

Note: This report has been compiled based on the inputs received from the Protection Cluster and the Child Protection and GBV Working Group members. The figures reported may not represent the actual number of beneficiaries reached during the reporting period since some key members implementing protection activities did not report. Protection Cluster is unable to verify the information reported by the members. Some beneficiaries may have been counted multiple times as they may have received different services. The activities were implemented with Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and non-HRP funding.

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Protection Facts

Core group in need of protection

1.1 million IDPs

+ other civilians affected by armed conflict, disaster, generalized violence and insecurity, and human rights violations

Total # of people reached in February

15,242

Top-five services and corresponding number of beneficiaries reached in February 2015:

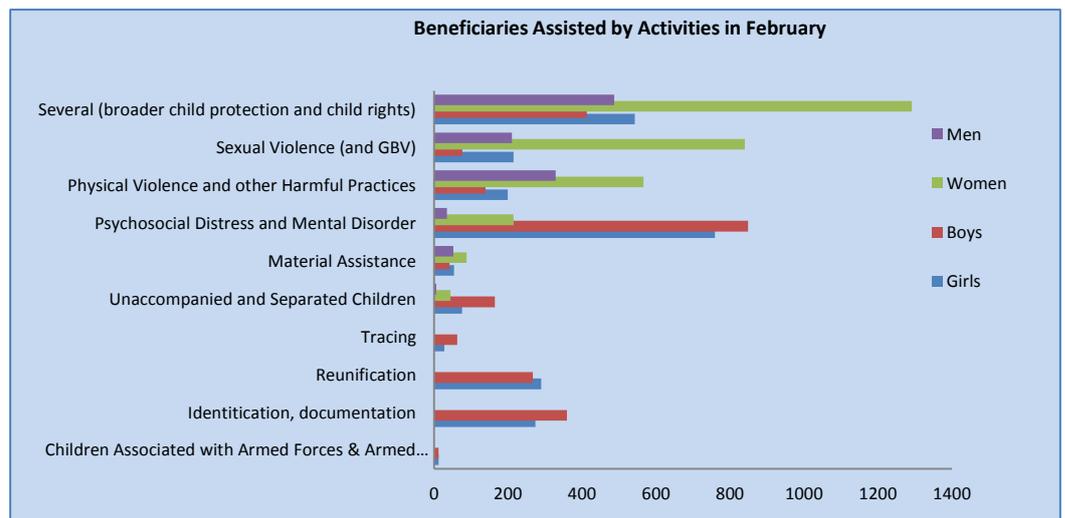
Psychosocial Support and Counseling	2,222
Post-Rape Treatment	29
Former Child Soldier Rehabilitation	61
Protection Capacity Building for Stakeholders	1,773
Prevention and Mitigation	6,826

Photo Credit: DRC/Axel Fassio/Dec 2014 (Baidoa)

1. Child Protection

The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) Task Force documented 220 grave violations against children in February, a considerable increase from the 197 cases reported in January. The conflict between ASWJ and Somali National Army in Guri Ceel district, Galgadud region, accounts for part of the increase. The regional analysis shows that most violations in February were reported in Galgadud. In the current period, 167 boys and 37 girls were affected. 52 boys and 9 girls were enrolled into UNICEF supported community-based reintegration programmes for children associated with armed forces/groups.

In February, the CPWG reached 2,450 girls, 2,386 boys, 3,046 women and 1,120 men. In Hargeisa, Child Protection WG members are supporting the Somaliland authorities in preparing the Child Right Act and the Child Protection Policy. The former is in the third draft while the latter is awaiting the approval of the cabinet.



2. Gender-based Violence

In February 2015, the GBV Working members reached 1,037 girls, 758 boys, 3,105 women and 1,340 men with clinical management of rape, legal assistance, psychosocial support, livelihood, prevention and capacity building activities. Yet, the GBV response and service delivery remains curtailed by lack of funding for the GBV WG Strategy. Following the GBV donor round table that was held on 23 January in Nairobi, the need of a collective follow-up by the GBV WG arose in order to enhance smooth coordination and resource mobilization for the overall implementation of the GBVWG Strategy. The discussion is taking place to agree on a structure to provide comprehensive oversight on the implementation of the GBVWG Strategy.

With technical support from the Regional Emergency GBV Advisor, the process of developing the Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) protocol was initiated in Puntland and Somaliland. In order to address the gap between availability of the post rape treatment kits and unmet needs of service providers, the CMR Task Force agreed to appoint focal points in twelve locations, who will share the information on kits availability and facilitate access to the drugs. In Bosaso, gaps in the GBV service delivery remain of concern. Yet, due to the establishment of a female desk in the central police station in Bosaso, survivors reportedly have improved access to legal systems.

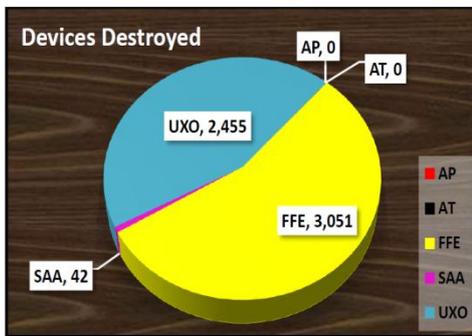
The GBV Working Group held a workshop to validate the harmonized messages on February 11 in Nairobi. The messages looked at GBV and gender equality for GBV WG members to communicate with one voice. The GBV Working Group held validation workshops on the harmonized messages in Hargeisa and Garowe in December 2014 and Mogadishu in February 2015 where about 100 people from various groups of stakeholder participated.

3. Housing, Land and Property Rights

As part of the Cluster's efforts to strengthen the protection of housing, land and property rights of IDPs and others, the Protection and Shelter Clusters trained 50 partners on the standardized pre- eviction assessment tool using mobile technology. This capacity is available in Mogadishu for any future implementation of the pre- eviction assessment of settlements at risk of forced eviction. Similarly, triggered by the forced eviction of the Enji settlement in Bosaso town, the Protection Cluster Bosaso has started to strengthen its efforts to better ensure housing, land and property rights. The Norwegian Refugee Council through its 2014 rolled out ICLA programme plays a significant role in the Cluster's efforts to better protect HLP rights.

IDPs on Mogadishu and other urban areas of South Central Zone continue to face forced evictions. Forced evictions are not only human rights violations; they also undermine durable solution processes of the communities affected by uprooting them anew. More than 25,700 IDPs were evicted from public and private buildings in Mogadishu between January and February 2015¹. Forced evictions have also been reported in Bosaso, Kismayo and Luuq. In Kismayo, IDPs were evicted following an attack on a police post near the affected IDP settlement whereby threats, intimidation and use of force were reported.

4. Mine Action



In the month of February, UNMAS and partners destroyed 5,548 Explosive Remnants of War in Banadir, Bay, Galgaduud, Hiran and Lower Juba regions and cleared 1,574,940 square meters. Of the ERWs, 2,455 were unexploded ordnances (UXO). Three accidents were recorded which resulted in the death of one girl, one boy and one man and injury of one woman and two men. 5,374 boys (30%), 4,431 girls (25%), 3,851 men (21%) and 4,306 women (24%) attended 1,028 mine risk education sessions in Bakool, Banadir, Bay, Galgaduud, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle and Mudug regions. 14 IED incidences were recorded which killed 32 and injured 53, mostly civilians.²

Each year, UNMAS coordinates the production of the 'Portfolio of Mine Action Projects' which provides funding requirements for humanitarian mine action. The United Nations Mine Action Project Portfolio was officially launched during the reporting period in Geneva on the 18th International Meeting of Mine Action National Programme Directors and UN Advisors. The portfolio generates country and category specific reports and useful graphs and charts. Please check <http://www.mineaction.org/resources/portfolios> for further information.

5. Mixed Migration

244 Somalis (189 male, 55 female) departed for Yemen in February. Most Somalis arriving in Yemen are from South Central Somalia. They cite livelihoods and job opportunities, insecurity and general instability as the main reasons for migration. RMMS published a study titled *Behind bars: the detention of migrants in and from the East and Horn of Africa*. The study highlights the use of immigration detention for a variety of reasons, which include controlling migration flows as a deterrence measure for future migrants, security reasons or the protection of domestic labour markets. Detention is habitually a first response by authorities instead of being a measure of last resort.³

¹ Source: UNHCR Somalia, "Forced evictions in Mogadishu, 1 January - 28 February 2015".

² Source: UNMAS Somalia IMSMA Monthly Report, February 2015.

³ See [http://www.regionalmms.org/index.php?id=61&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=311&cHash=3820fb979de1ffd71473af48d39b95](http://www.regionalmms.org/index.php?id=61&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=311&cHash=3820fb979de1ffd71473af48d39b95)