



Somalia Protection Cluster Protection July to September 2016

Protection in focus: Quiet Airstrikes



Protection Facts



Core Group in need

1.1 million IDPs + refugee returnees, other civilians affected by armed conflict, violence, insecurity and disaster.



147,624 reached through protection activities from July to September 2016 including

- 21,246 girls
- 19,456 boys
- 64,301 women
- 43,266 men



US\$ 89.9 million required / **15.5 million (17%)** received

Somalia, over the past three years, has seen an incremental growth in airstrikes. Since June 2015 until July 2016 there were 49 publicly recorded airstrikes in the Jubaland regions alone. Airstrikes focus mainly on rural areas where ground operations do not reach, with a particular emphasis on Gedo and Middle Juba. The humanitarian impact of airstrikes is catastrophic for rural communities; destroying livelihoods, ruining grazing patterns, death and injury of civilians and most critically the psychological trauma of being subject to indiscriminate attacks. When airstrikes occur the affected communities are both unable to move as this is interpreted as Al Shabaab movement, and are unable to stay in their location as it is the target of an attack. The most affected by airstrikes are pastoralists whose livestock move in mass numbers for grazing in remote areas. Their movement has been the target of routine attacks, resulting in the destruction of their livestock, their livelihood and ultimately their way of life. The cross border movement of pastoral communities has been a source of conflict and tension for many years, both for the neighbouring governments and for clans, resulting in a quelling of pastoral movements.

Airstrikes are not a stand alone activity, but rather are a part of a larger drive to sedentarise pastoral communities. The use of airstrikes against civilians under the auspices of combatting Al Shabaab by non-AMISOM belligerents, however, is deliberate. Moreover, airstrikes are driven by a simplification of local dynamics that results in gross violations against the civilian population.



PROTECTION AT 3rd Quarter



SECURE HOME: Forced evictions – every hour, 330 people lose their homes!

In the month of August, 2,787 HHs were reported to have been forcefully evicted in South Central, Somaliland and Puntland. The majority (2,743 households) were evicted in South Central, while 44 households were evicted in Somaliland and there were no cases monitored in Puntland. August 2016 ranked as one of the periods

FORCED FROM HOMES
60'000 were forcibly evicted in the first half of 2016. This means that every hour, 330 people lost their homes.

with the highest figures of forced evictions monitored and recorded since January 2016. In Mogadishu alone, 41 settlements and host communities were reported to have been evicted by private landlords and government officials for commercial purposes or for the establishment of new housing units. The majority of the evictees fled to settlements in the area between K11-K20 in Mogadishu. The reported cases received an average eviction notice of seven days which was oral in nature.

Between August and September 2016 the HLP Sub-cluster through NRC conducted three structured trainings on HLP rights awareness for humanitarian agencies, and three Community Dispute Resolution (CDR) trainings for traditional chiefs and religious leaders. The HLP trainings targeted senior representatives from agencies within the Protection and Shelter clusters and provided contextualized guidance on how to address HLP issues in humanitarian response and recovery projects. In total, 77 national organizations and 13 INGOs benefited from the HLP capacity development initiative: 30 agencies from the Protection Cluster in Mogadishu and 60 from the Shelter and Protection clusters in Kismayo and Baidoa combined. 40 local authorities who are members of formal and informal dispute resolution committees in Mogadishu, Kismayo and Baidoa were trained in CDR. The trainings were specifically designed to strengthen their capacities by transferring CDR skills and expanding their knowledge on the application of non-adversarial conflict resolution techniques and approaches.



CHILDREN, NOT DETAINEES: Child rights violations steeply on the rise!

During the third quarter, the Somalia Country Taskforce on Monitoring and Reporting documented 521 incidents of grave violations of children's rights, affecting 158 girls and 856 boys. In particular, forced recruitment affected 530 children, constituting 34 per cent of the total number of children recruited in 2016. Of critical concern also, is the illegal detention of children on security related charges, including alleged association with the fighting. During this last quarter, 124 children were detained compared to 97 children during the second quarter of 2016, thus demonstrating an increase in the number of children affected in this quarter. 26 children who had been detained by authorities in Puntland have since been released to the United Nations and are currently in rehabilitation programmes in Mogadishu.

CHILDREN, NOT DETAINEES

The number of children in detention have increased from 97 children at the beginning of the year to 124 in this quarter.

Between July and September 2016, the Child Protection Sub-Cluster reached a total of 15,667 beneficiaries (6,742 women, 2,768 men, 3,504 boys and 2,653 girls). The main child protection activities implemented by partners included awareness raising on child protection risks to ensure mitigation of risks during emergencies, capacity building of child protection service providers, provision of child protection services such as legal services, medical services, psychosocial services, family reunification and referrals to other sectors.



SAFETY & INTEGRITY: Gender-based violence unabated!

Current GBV programming includes response, prevention and capacity building activities in line with the Humanitarian Response Plan, the 2014-2016 GBV Sub-Cluster Strategy and in accordance with GBV standards and principles. GBV survey validation workshops were held across the country, whereby stakeholders validated the findings of the GBV survey (19th September in Mogadishu for South Central, 20th September in Garowe for Puntland and 22nd September in Hargeisa for Somaliland). During the validation workshops, stakeholders engaged on various issues related to GBV and mapped out recommendations and a way forward. The final report will be released during 16 days of Activism.