



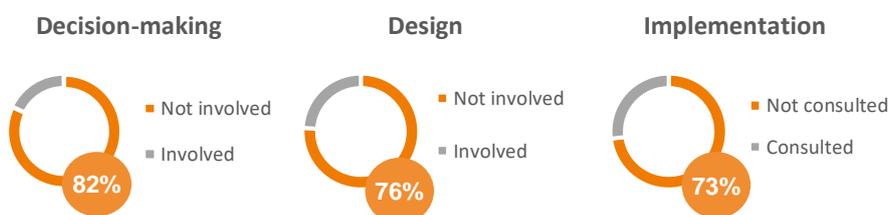
ANTICIPATORY ACTION: REPORT 7

November 22nd ~ Week 7

This report seeks to provide insight into some of the key trends and concerns emerging in **Jubaland**; specifically in Afmadow, Garbahaarreey, and Kismayo. Accounting for instances where demographic data has not been provided, the following analysis is based on information gathered from 34 focus group discussions (FGDs), 33 interviews, and 55 beneficiary satisfaction perception surveys. A number of key highlights are summarised here, including a more detailed review of the data provided per district.

Community Inclusion and Participation

The figures below provide an initial overview of experiences and observations raised during FGDs, including the percentage of participants who believe that beneficiaries are not involved in decision-making, in programme design, and in consultations during implementation.



Accessibility, Extortion and Exploitation

Overall, views are decidedly mixed both within and between settlements; with some reports indicating that exclusion or extortion does not exist, while others reflect the challenges experienced by women, older persons, and people with disabilities.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- (i) Women, older persons, and people with disabilities most commonly experience problems accessing support
- (ii) It is widely perceived that greater involvement of beneficiaries in decision-making forums is needed
- (iii) Beneficiaries suggest that greater collaboration with local authorities could mitigate future problems

Afmadow

Interviewees in Afmadow report that exclusion is common for both men and women, and also for older persons, people with disabilities, and members of certain clans. More specifically, these groups face barriers when trying to access shelter, NFIs, and water and sanitation facilities.

Both extortion and exploitation - specifically, monetary bribes, sexual favours, and child labour - have also been reported by interviewees here. This is perceived to be most problematic for older persons, people with disabilities, and members of certain clans when accessing shelter and WASH support. This access is perceived to be restricted by community members, camp leaders, NGO staff, and local authorities.

These practices ultimately create or exacerbate mental health problems (especially for people with disabilities), starvation or thirst, and/or other negligence. Suggestions from interviewees to prevent these issues include greater awareness of the risks, plus greater collaboration with local authorities and beneficiary involvement in decision-making forums. FGD participants reflected similar sentiments concerning beneficiary involvement in decision-making.

Dhobley

In Dhobley, all 14 beneficiaries (10 female; no reported disabilities) report that they have had no problems accessing services in the last four weeks. Having said that, there is also consensus that women are often denied access to gender-specific support primarily by community members and as a result of a general lack of awareness/information, but also by NGOs and local authorities. Similar views have been expressed by respondents when asked who they believe to be responsible for exclusion from age-sensitive and disability support services. Community elders are also reported to create problems for children, older persons, and people with disabilities alike.

Garbahaarreey

In Garbahaarreey, interviewees report that exclusion is most common for women, older persons, people with disabilities, and members of certain clans when trying to access food, cash, and nutrition support. This ultimately leads to child labour, begging for food and/or money, evictions and displacement, and deteriorating physical and mental health. This exclusion is most commonly perceived to be caused by community members and local authorities, in addition to NGOs and other organisations.

In speaking about their experiences, some interviewees believe that camp or committee leaders represent their views well. The majority, however, feel that they have no voice. Instead, and in addition to existing efforts to raise awareness and implement complaints mechanisms, suggestions for future support include the provision of training and capacity building, identifying community champions, and strengthening collaboration with local authorities.

When using or trying to access services in Garbahaarreey, children are often forced into labour (including recruitment to military/militia), female domestic workers are unpaid,

and people with disabilities experience challenges when trying to access health and livelihoods services. It is widely perceived amongst interviewees that, in addition to a lack of awareness, community members, camp leaders, NGOs, and armed groups are most responsible for this extortion or exploitation.

Overall, efforts by other organisations seem mixed, but beneficiaries cited ongoing research to identify the root causes of these issues and dismissal of corrupt staff. Despite this, many affected communities accept that this discrimination or abuse is their fate, while religious leaders try to deliver sermons to counter this position. Instead, interviewees suggest that legal support to prosecute perpetrators would be helpful, as would developing the capacity of local authorities to support IDPs, and beneficiary involvement in decision-making.

Kismayo

Across five FGDs (48 female, 37 male), participants generally agreed that, although sometimes they are approached for surveys or assessments, they are not involved in humanitarian decision-making and/or programme design. Participants did, however, highlight that there is a number they can call to provide feedback, but beyond this it doesn't seem that they are involved in consultations during implementation. Extortion or unfair distribution of resources (e.g., through favouritism) leaves people worse-off than before the intervention, whilst a lack of lights at latrines also leaves women vulnerable to rape at night.

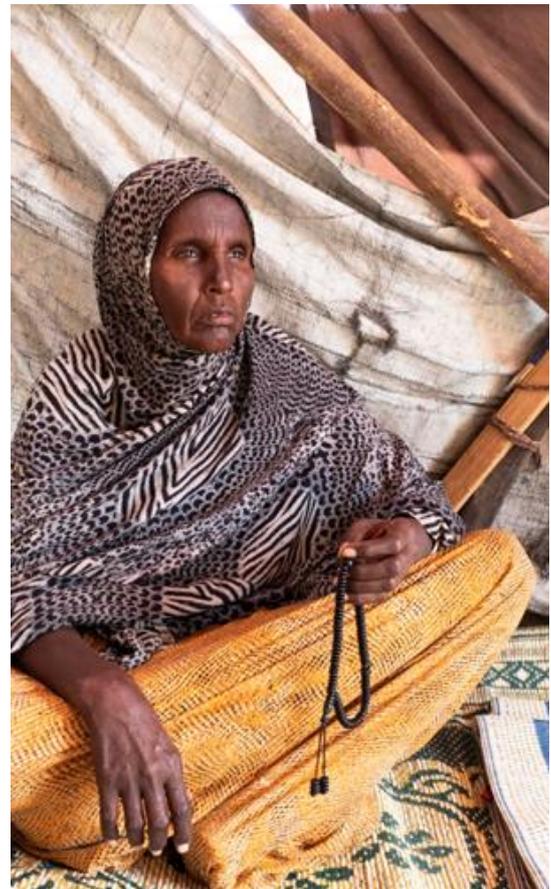


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