

**Rapid Assessment Reports in the IDP sites and villages on the Floods effected in Jowhar  
District.**

24th to 27th April 2024



**1.0 Summary:**

This rapid needs assessment report aims to provide an overview of the impact of the recent heavy rains and flooding on vulnerable communities, particularly Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) residing in Jowhar District. The assessment was conducted in collaboration with SCC teams on the ground to evaluate the immediate requirements and vulnerabilities of the affected population.

## **2.0.Introduction**

In response to the increasing flood risks in Jowhar District made worse by recent rains, this Report provides a detailed assessment of the major impact on vulnerable populations, notably those residing in IDP camps. The assessment looks into the intricate network of problems these communities face, emphasizing their increasing housing needs and deteriorating living conditions. This report focuses on IDPs in Sheikh Omar, Jiliyale, Tawakal, Alle Suge, Alla Aamin, Daryeel IDP and Badda Cas Sites in order to highlight the many vulnerabilities and struggles that these communities face in the face of the constant flooding.

## **3.0 Assessment Methodology:**

The assessment was led by SCC field officer, Jowhar in collaboration with field staff and community leaders. On-site visits and observations were made to IDP sites and vulnerable villages, where interviews were conducted with the affected persons to gather firsthand information on their living conditions and the impact of flooding on their shelters.

## **4.0 Assessment Objectives:**

The primary objective of the assessment is to comprehensively evaluate the impact of heavy rains and subsequent flooding on vulnerable communities in Jowhar District, this rapid assessment in Jowhar District, conducted on April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, had the following main objectives:

- Identifying and analyzing the critical needs, gaps, and responses of the affected population in terms of WASH, shelter, food security and livelihoods, CCCM, Protection, Health, Nutrition and Education.
- Assess the basic needs of flood-affected IDPs.
- Identify vulnerable groups and their specific requirements.
- Analyze the impact of new arrivals on strained basic services in flood-affected areas.
- Prioritize and recommend immediate relief interventions.

## **4.1 Key Findings:**

### **4.1.1: FSL Condition:**

Food insecurity is the most pressing issue for the internally displaced populations in the visited sites. Limited access to food in the market due to low purchasing power leaves many households with only one meal a day. Flood effected IDPs reported no food aid received since the Disaster. The main sources of income for the affected populations are washing clothes for the host community, collecting and reselling firewood, and begging, which they are an able since the flooding.

Notably, these households are facing dire circumstances: they have no food to eat and no source of income to sustain themselves or their children. Their current survival strategy involves borrowing and begging from neighbors to purchase food. The situation is critical, and urgent humanitarian aid is needed to provide these families with necessities and a safe place to stay. However, Lactating mothers are among the most vulnerable. They urgently requested food rations to feed themselves and their children. The situation demands immediate humanitarian intervention to address the urgent needs of these displaced families. However, Lactating mothers are among the most vulnerable. They urgently requested food rations to feed themselves and their children. The situation demands immediate humanitarian intervention to address the urgent needs of these displaced families.

### **Key Gaps and Recommendations**

- ✓ Some of 620 displaced households need food assistance.
- ✓ Vulnerable hosts and IDPs need also emergency unconditional Cash and Voucher for food.
- ✓ According to the assessment data about 65% have no stable food as well as no substitute and 90% of the people have no household stocks at the evacuation sites.
- ✓ 75% reported the main income source is affected but the market is accessible.
- ✓ Food prices have increased and need market monitoring and market stabilization at the evacuation sites.
- ✓ Livelihood input is needed to sustain and improve purchasing power.

**4.1.2: Shelter Conditions:** The assessment revealed widespread damage to shelters, particularly in IDP sites located in low-lying areas. Many shelters were found to be inadequately constructed, using materials such as plastic sheets that deteriorated rapidly under heavy rainfall. Urgent shelter needs include repairs to damaged shelters and provision of durable materials to enhance resilience to future flooding events.

### **Key Gaps and Recommendations.**

- ✓ Number of people accommodated in common sites (Hard Cover) are 30% while Number of people accommodated in common sites (Tents) and makeshifts are 60%. The pregnant, breastfeeding, under 5 and adolescents are living in the same hut.
- ✓ Provision of emergency shelter kits especially since the rainy season is still on and according to SWALIM rainfall forecast is expected moderate and heavy rainfall in the region and communities are living in poor, shelters and are very vulnerable to weather elements.
- ✓ Provision of treated Mosquito Nets to prevent disease outbreaks (i.e., malaria) especially since Pregnant women and children under five years constitute a significant group of the displaced population.

**4.1.2 WASH Facilities:** WASH facilities, including water sources, pit latrines and hygiene facilities were severely affected by the flooding. Many latrines were damaged or destroyed, posing significant health risks to the affected population. Access to clean water and sanitation facilities were seen limited, exacerbating the risk of waterborne diseases. Immediate interventions are required to repair and restore WASH infrastructure and ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.

#### **Key Gaps and Recommendations.**

- ✓ In evacuation sites 95% of the assessed households respectively don't have access to sanitation as per the assessment findings and require latrine construction to enhance equitable access to sanitation.
- ✓ More than 65% of the assessed households don't have access to safe water and they do require the provision of water storage containers to improve safe water storage and supply of clean water to the displaced populations.
- ✓ Water extension to new IDP settlements that don't have access to safe water supply in their camps.
- ✓ Provision of water storage containers to more than 838 families that reported not to have water storage

**facilities.**

**4.1.3 Food Security and Livelihoods:** The flooding has had a detrimental impact on food security and livelihoods in the affected communities. Farmlands were inundated, resulting in crop losses

and diminished agricultural productivity. This has led to increased food insecurity and economic hardship, particularly among vulnerable households

**4.1.4 Protection and GBV Risks:** The assessment identified significant protection risks, including gender-based violence (GBV), in the flood-affected areas. Displacement, overcrowded living conditions, and limited access to safe spaces have heightened the vulnerability of women and girls to GBV incidents. Existing protection mechanisms were found to be inadequate to address these risks effectively

**4.1.5 Examine NFI Distribution:** The displaced families had limited non-food items (NFIs), including plastic sheets, cooking materials, utensils were assessed to address shelter needs and protect vulnerable populations from the elements. However, the assessment revealed shortcomings in the distribution process, with insufficient quantities of NFIs available to meet the demand. Many households lacked adequate shelter materials, leaving them exposed to harsh weather conditions

**4.16. Health and Hygiene Conditions:** The prevalence of waterborne diseases and poor hygiene conditions were observed to be significant concerns in the flood-affected areas. Contaminated water sources, damaged latrines, and overcrowded living conditions have contributed to the spread of diseases such as diarrhea and cholera. Access to healthcare services and hygiene promotion activities were found to be inadequate to address these health risks effectively.

### **Key Gaps and Recommendations.**

- ✓ Establishment of integrated emergency response teams to provide emergency essential health care services (OPD consultation, MPHSS, CMR, Immunization) to floods affected internally displaced persons and the host community in the evacuation sites.
- ✓ Strengthening of surveillance epidemic prone diseases and alert verification system in the community
- ✓ Scale up risk communication intervention and community engagement for AWD/Cholera prevention and working with WASH partners.
- ✓ Distribution of Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) for vulnerable host and displaced communities
- ✓ Coordination with nutrition and health Cluster partners to strengthen the IPC protocols in health and nutrition facilities providing nutrition services by ensuring the procedures for cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces are in place and practiced.

- ✓ Improvement for optimal MYCN in emergency prioritizing infant and young children and lactating mothers

## 5.0 Identification of Vulnerable Areas:

One startling finding of the meticulous evaluation of flood-prone locations is that vulnerable communities—especially those living in IDP sites—are perilously situated in areas that are prone to flooding.

No.	Site Name	Lattitude	Longtittude	# of HHs
1	Tawakal	2°46'33.28"N	45°30'21.20"E	130
2	Jiliyaale	2°46'35.26"N	45°30'18.38"E	150
3	Sh Omar	2°46'30.36"N	45°30'41.82"E	110
4	Alla Aamin	2°47'0.81"N	45°29'21.13"E	270
5	Daryeel	2°47'9.33"N	45°29'27.75"E	240
6	Alle Suge	2°46'33.72"N	45°29'9.08"E	300
7	Alle Tuug	2°46'22.05"N	45°29'14.70"E	145

The identification of these vulnerable areas underscores the urgent need for targeted interventions and proactive measures to mitigate the impact of flooding on vulnerable populations.

## 6.0 River Breakages and Localized Flooding:

The recent torrential rains and rising water levels in the River Shabelle have led to multiple river breakages, exacerbating the flooding situation in the Jowhar district. Two major river breakages at Maandheere village, located approximately 12 km southeast of Jowhar, have caused significant floods that have engulfed nearby villages and farmlands.

The flooding has submerged vast tracts of farmlands, damaging crops and affecting agricultural productivity, which is the primary source of livelihood for the local communities. The destruction of farmlands has resulted in substantial economic losses, exacerbating food insecurity and poverty among the farming communities in the region.

Additionally, river breakages in **Bulo Hajji, Bayaxaaw, kulmis weyne, maandheere and Bulo Sheikh** areas have contributed to further localized flooding, intensifying the challenges faced by the residents of these regions. The flooding has inundated residential areas, displacing families and forcing them to abandon their homes and seek shelter in safer areas.



## 7.0 Recommendations:

The urgency of the situation demands a swift and targeted response to address the pressing needs of flood-affected communities and here are the recommendations tailored to the situation in Jowhar.

- Provision of NFI and emergency shelter support (ESK) to the affected families in the assessed IDP Sites in Jowhar.
- Construction of emergency latrines, Distribution of Sanitary tools
- Carry out intensive hygiene promotion to promote adaption of good hygiene practice and reduce health risks.
- Distribution of emergency plastic sheets to shelter them from the ongoing rains
- Strengthening early warning systems, emergency response mechanisms, and community resilience initiatives is paramount to ensuring the safety and well-being of vulnerable populations.
- None of the households have access to hand washing with soap. This is a critical gap that needs humanitarian attention. They need hygiene promotion and access to soap to mitigate the spread of viruses and Vibrio cholera.

Annexes:

### Photos



*1 interviews for affected persons*









