

### Context

The population in the Bari region is estimated at 367,368 (UNDP 2005) with an almost even divide between rural/urban, 188,005 and 179,633 respectively. Approximately 55 per cent of the population in Qardho, Bender Beilla, Iskushuban, Kandala and Alula are pastoralists. The region's economic activities include livestock, fishing and frankincense with part of the urban population depending on casual labour at the port. The Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) assessment in March 2011 indicated that the coastal *Deeh* areas in Bender Beila, Hafun, Bargal, Iskushuban and Alula experienced severe drought in 2010/11, resulting in loss of livestock and leading to displacement to urban areas.

At the end of December 2011, the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) survey showed 60,000 people in urban areas were in acute food and livelihood crisis (AFLC) compared to 40,000 people in crisis at the beginning of 2012. A significant improvement of the people in AFLC in rural areas from 50,000 at December 2011 to 35,000 in crisis at the start of 2012 was also noted. Meanwhile, all the 5,000 people that were in humanitarian emergency (HE) were lifted out of it in early 2012.

Bossaso is Puntland's main sea port and business center providing livelihoods for many people from various parts of Somalia. It hosts IDPs from all the regions of the country, although, drought-related displacement also occurs within Bossaso. There are over 49,215 IDPs, (11,439 households) scattered in 31 settlements in the region, and approximately 2,000 IDPs living in nine settlements in Gardo and other rural areas (WFP/DRC, May 2010). They struggle with inadequate shelter, hygiene and sanitation conditions, little access to livelihoods opportunities and water supply, and frequent fire outbreaks. Unsecured land tenure also leaves IDPs vulnerable to eviction.

Mixed migration, involving smuggling and trafficking of people from Bossaso to Yemen and the Gulf States, is a major humanitarian concern. Most of the mixed migrants come from southern and central Somalia, Ethiopia's Somali region and other parts of Ethiopia. They transit through Bossaso, to pursue a better life. Despite the current uprising in Yemen and the Puntland government's crackdown on both the smugglers and migrants, movement across the Gulf of Aden continues. Unknown numbers die attempting to cross the Red Sea. Conversely, the Movement Response Center (MRC) reported that 260 migrants returned to Bossaso between January and February 2012 allegedly due to political instability and unfavourable conditions in Yemen. IOM, in collaboration with the government, UNHCR, OCHA and DRC, is currently responsible for all mixed migration issues in Bossaso.

There are 247 registered refugee families and 4,204 asylum seekers recognized by UNHCR and the Government of Puntland. The majority of the asylum seekers in Bossaso are from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The lack of integration and durable solutions means that many go through arbitrary detention and forced repatriation by the Puntland authorities, and many also experience gender-based violence (GBV) and denial of wages and salaries by local employers.

### Humanitarian Needs

**Food Assistance:** The 75,202 people experiencing crisis or humanitarian emergency will remain dependent on food assistance.

**Nutrition:** With the exception of Nugal Valley and East Golis areas who remain in a critical phase, the nutrition situation remains serious across all livelihoods zones. The *Gu* rains saw a slight improvement in 2011 across all livelihoods. Nutrition rates range from critical to very critical with

deterioration among urban IDPs and children (GAM 24.1 per cent and SAM 7.2 per cent) caused by increased commodity and global fuel prices which limits access to food for the most vulnerable.

**Agriculture and Livelihoods:** The 2011 *Deyr* rains were normal to above normal in most areas with the exception of coastal Deeh and Dharoor Valley. The poor rains over the last three seasons affected livelihoods in coastal Deeh and East Golis of Qandala and the people are likely to remain in crisis with accumulated debts and reduced livestock assets (FSNAU December 2011). Bossaso is the only city providing sea port services and job opportunities to people in the region and other regions in Puntland for conflict and previous famine related IDPs and economic migrants from southern and central Somalia. However, it is unable to meet growing demands for jobs with increased migration. Road infrastructure is poor in most livelihood zones, with the exception of the tarmac road that links Bossaso to Galkayo. The *Gu* 2010 rains damaged the main roads connecting Iskushuban and Alula to the rural areas, restricting transportation. However, WFP supported the rehabilitation of the Kalaale road and improved access as far as the coast of the Iskushuban district. While the main roads to Alula are not open, the local community maintains most of the feeder roads.

**WASH:** In most parts of the region, access to water is critical with some rural communities relying on water harvested in traditional reservoirs over the past two rainy seasons. The price of water is relatively high at 4,000 – 5,000 SoShs (USD 0.12 to 0.15) for 20 litres. Greater effort is required to improve IDPs' access to water and sanitation particularly in the new settlement (Bariga Bossaso) where some of the IDPs evicted in May and June 2011 moved.

**Shelter/Non-food items (NFIs):** Shelter is of poor quality and often constructed from highly flammable materials, site planning and design is absent leading to overcrowding, fire hazards, and poor sanitation. In 2008 and 2010, UNHABITAT constructed 578 permanent houses with 80 per cent dedicated for IDPs and 20 per cent for the poor and vulnerable host community. Today, land tenure/land ownership constraints limit large scale construction of permanent shelter units. A new form of emergency shelter made of corrugated galvanized iron sheets is underway for over 1,600 IDP households in Bossaso. Issues of land tenure need to be addressed in order to scale up shelter assistance for the large number of needy IDPs.

## **Response & Gaps**

**WASH:** With CHF and other funding, emergency and sustained access to safe water, sanitation services and hygiene promotion increased over time in most settlements. A total of 63 remote drought-affected communities were supported through the water voucher system. In addition, in December 2011, over 20,000 people had sustained access to water as a result of WASH interventions. However, remote pastoral locations still face water scarcity.

**Agriculture and Livelihoods:** Over 20,340 persons benefited from different livelihood programs across the region, including cash relief and cash-for-work (CFW), small micro-business, cooperatives group loan schemes, vocational skill training and income generation activities. About 80 per cent of the beneficiaries are IDPs and 20 per cent are the poor host community in urban areas. The cluster's end-of-year target is 84,000 people.

**Food Assistance:** In February, 117,432 people received food assistance through targeted supplementary feeding programmes (TSFPs), family rations and food-for-work (FFW). However, the population in crisis or emergency will continue to require food assistance.

**Health & Nutrition Services:** There are 20 functioning maternal and child health centres (MCHs) providing free services including the regular targeted supplementary feeding programmes (TSFPs) for children under five and pregnant and lactating mothers including IDPs in the region. One main nutrition stabilization centre was set up including 36 out-patient therapeutic feeding programmes (OTPs). Advocacy and mobilization/awareness meetings for and with private medical doctors, social

groups and community members improved the understanding of the basic nutrition service package (BNSP).

**Protection:** The cluster's main activities are gender-based violence (GBV) advocacy/awareness raising, setting up referral and response mechanisms, livelihood monitoring and overall protection in IDP settlements. Private ownership of most land, limited IDP access to land and forced relocation remain a major protection challenge.

**Shelter/NFIs:** Despite deplorable IDPs' shelter conditions in Bossaso, the cluster made significant improvement to the lives of IDPs who benefited from corrugated galvanized iron sheets (CGI) structures. A total of 694 CGI structures were completed in Bariga Bossaso IDP settlement and 1,657 IDPs are expected to benefit by end of June 2012. Similar CGI shelter assistance was provided for 280 IDPs and host community members (about 20 per cent) in Gardo. In addition, 582 IDP households were provided with tents in Bossaso (432) and Gardo (150). In Bossaso IDP settlements, 30,000 people were reached with 7,075 full non-food items (NFIs) kits from UNHCR/Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) by end of December 2011. Another 2,160 full NFI kits were also distributed to IDPs in Gardo. NRC distributed 500 fire-preventive drums to help minimize fire outbreaks in the IDP settlements. Overall, 6,912 families benefited from shelter assistance in the region.

### **Likely Developments:**

Based on FSNAU's current rainfall forecast, it is likely (80 per cent chance) that the *Gu* rainfall will be below normal. Should this happen, poor pasture regeneration in the grazing areas will lead to low livestock performance in terms milk production, export and local consumption. These circumstances will seriously affect the general economic growth of Puntland, the livelihoods of poor pastoralists, the IDPs, and the urban poor. Drought-affected pastoralists in coastal *Deeh* will require increased humanitarian assistance to replace their decimated livestock assets.

Due to land tenure challenges and minimum assistance hampering relocation of IDPs to well-planned settlements, the living conditions of IDPs in Bossaso will remain unchanged. They will continue relying on humanitarian assistance until a medium or longer-term solution is found.

### **Operational Partners**

**UN presence:** UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, IOM, WHO, WFP, FAO/FSNAU/, UNDSS, UNHABITAT, and OCHA

**INGOs Presence:** COOPI, NRC, DRC, Mercy Corps, SC UK, VSF – Suisse, GRT, MDM and Horn Relief

**Major LNGOs:** KAALO, TAAKULO, TASS, SORSO, SORERDO, SHILCON, Hope Foundation, WAWA, CASO, ASAL, WAWA, HADO LQC and OPT

### **Sources:**

1. UNDP population Figure -2005
2. Cluster 3 W matrix for Bari region( OCHA)
3. Bossaso Humanitarian Gap Analysis
4. Nutrition Analysis Post *Gu* 2011, Technical Series Report No VI. 41 September 28, 2011
5. Food Security and Nutrition Post *Deyr* Report 2011-12
6. FSNAU *Deyr* 2011/12 Analysis, 26 January 2012

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