

Situation and Humanitarian Needs

- Laas Caanood has been embroiled in a relentless conflict since 6th February 2023. The situation on the ground remains unstable and volatile despite calls from the international community for a peaceful resolution to the crisis. Nonetheless, further efforts are needed if any semblance of peace is to return to the region.
- OCHA reports that commodities such as food in the town of Kalabeydh, situated 28km southwest of Laas Caanood, have seen a 10-15% rise in cost. This is most likely due to decreased availability of commodities at local markets where displaced families live.
- Although exact figures for the number of people displaced by conflict have not yet been determined, humanitarian organizations are using estimated counts ranging from 154,000 to 203,000 individuals.
- An inter-agency joint assessment mission was initiated on April 2nd and is expected to run until the 10th of April in ten different locations. This mission will help better identify areas of need across these various sites.

Programme Highlights



HEALTH

- UNICEF has been providing incentives and supplies to run integrated health and nutrition services in 17 health facilities. Over 12,800 people have received treatment within the Outpatient Department (OPD); out of them, 6,118 were children under the age of five.
- A total of 792 children also received measles vaccinations. Additionally, a response plan has been revised fill in gaps in service delivery revealed during an interagency assessment mission. The revision entails supporting seven additional health facilities.



NUTRITION

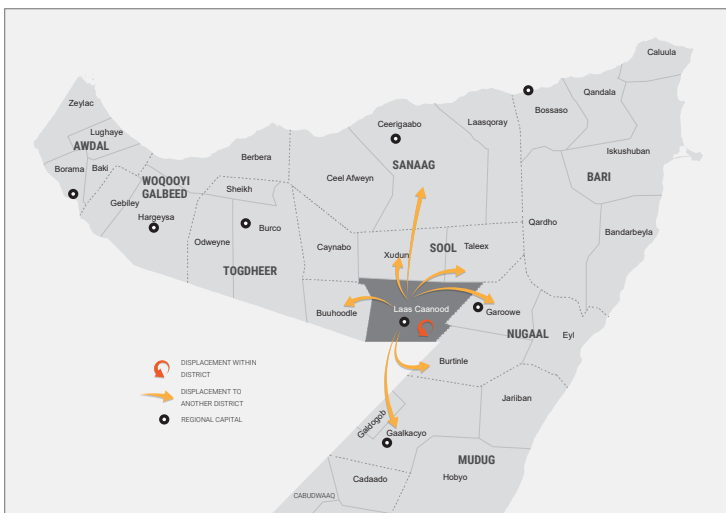
- To date, 3,278 children have been screened for malnutrition; 268 were admitted into the Outpatient Therapeutic Program (OTP), 16 were treated in stabilization centers, and 1,518 received Vitamin A supplementation.
- Further, 7,148 pregnant and lactating women - far exceeding the target number of 2,154 - received counseling on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) as well as health education.



WASH

- UNICEF continued providing emergency water to 35,332 people through water trucking.
- Additionally, 2,290 individuals received hygiene kits, aqua tabs, and soaps.

Sool Region - Laas Caanood District



CHILD PROTECTION

- UNICEF supported the deployment of twelve social workers to provide community mobilizations, psychosocial support, and referrals. As a result, 3819 children have accessed mental health and psycho-social services.
- Through house-to-house visits, 80 vulnerable families were identified and provided with emergency cash assistance accordingly.
- Furthermore, two safe houses have been established to support women and children who are survivors of gender-based violence. In the past two weeks alone, these safe houses welcomed 49 women and children in need; as of now, a total of 127 vulnerable women and children (unaccompanied or separated minors (AUSC), women survivors affected by gender-based violence, and orphans) have been hosted.
- With the support of UNICEF, 51 CAAFAGs (Children Associated with Armed Forces or Groups) were identified, screened, and provided with community-based reintegration services, including vocational education. Additionally, 4,903 children received essential child protection-related messages.



EDUCATION

- Through UNICEF's support, an estimated 1,400 children benefited from educational and learning activities in 12 schools. Furthermore, UNICEF targets 3,000 children with the provision of cash assistance at a rate of USD 50 per child for over two months. Additionally, with support from the Government, another 3,400 children were given access to free education.

Coordination

- During the reporting week, UNICEF collaborated with WASH cluster partners to review ongoing WASH interventions in Sool and Cayn regions. Participation included partners that are primarily providing emergency water trucking services, hygiene kit distributions, and strategic borehole rehabilitations. A consensus was reached on specific action points to ensure sound coordination within the WASH response.
- Coordination within UNICEF offices in Somaliland and Puntland have been working effectively and sharing critical information to ensure vulnerable communities receive timely assistance.

Challenges/Recommendations

- To meet the growing humanitarian needs facing displaced populations in Somaliland and Puntland, better coordination is needed between the wider humanitarian community on both sides to facilitate information sharing.
- Additional funding and supplies are required to address these increasing needs adequately.

UNICEF RESPONSE

WASH



35,332

of people reached with temporary safe drinking water through water trucking

2,290

of people reached with hygiene kits including soaps and aquatabs for water treatment

NUTRITION



3,278

of children screened for acute malnutrition

268

of children admitted for OTP SAM treatment

12

of children admitted for SC SAM treatment

7,148

of pregnant and lactating women receiving counselling on appropriate IYCF/IYCF-E "

HEALTH



6,118

of number of under five children recieved OPD consultation.

577

of number of diarrhea cases treated in health facilities

792

of number of children vaccinated measles

CHILD PROTECTION



3,819

of children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support through mobile social workers and child friendly spaces with intersectoral programming interventions disaggregated by sex.

221

of unaccompanied and separated girls and boys registered with family tracing and reunification services and family- based care or appropriate alternative services disaggregated by sex.

51

of CAAFAC identified, screened and provided with community-based reintegration services including vocational educational.

4,903

of persons reached with IEC material with key CP messages on prevention of family separation, mine risk awareness, prevention of GBV, SEA & child marriage and prevention of child recruitment