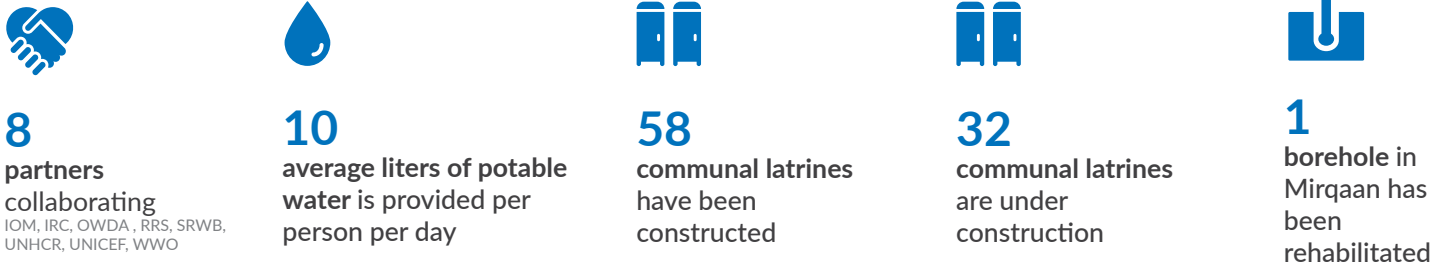


Overview

The **protracted drought** in the Doolo Zone has impacted people's access to water and sanitation across the region. As part of the Inter-agency Response Plan, UNHCR in collaboration with RRS and partners are concentrating efforts to **rehabilitate and extend local water infrastructure** to ensure both host community and refugees have reliable and

sustained access to appropriate amounts of safe water and sanitation services. Gender-separated **latrines** are being installed in the Mirqaan Settlement, whilst hygiene and sanitation **awareness-raising activities** are ongoing with a strong engagement from the refugee and host community.

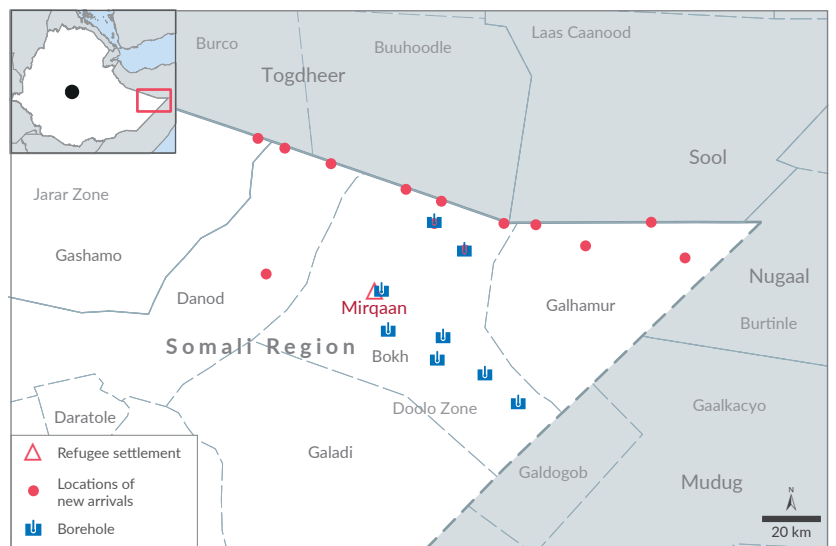
Key figures



NEEDS

- The **prolonged drought** in the Doolo Zone impact people's access to water and sanitation across the region and the WASH services are strained with the arrival of an estimated 100,000 refugees.
- More than **2,500 households** living in two *kebeles* located at the border areas rely on the boreholes located in Somalia and therefore have difficulties accessing water supplies.
- Host community continue relying on traditional water catchment ponds called *birqa* for water provision which raises the risk of **water borne diseases**.

Boreholes in Bokh Woreda and Locations of the New Arrivals in the Three Woredas



RESPONSE

- Partners are concentrating efforts to provide **longer-term water provision solutions** through repairing damaged infrastructure and drilling of new boreholes. The Mirqaan borehole, which serves the Mirqaan town with a population of 45,000 has been rehabilitated and **two boreholes** that will serve the Mirqaan Settlement to initially support 20,000 people, have already been identified with the water provision is expected to begin within three months.
- Hygiene promotion through **community engagement** with both the host community and refugee coordination committee is ongoing.
- Community sensitization** efforts regarding the risks of using *birqa* water is ongoing.

GAPS

- Considering the needs, **lack of funding** for all WASH activities remain low to support people affected.
- In line with the Inter-Agency Response Appeal, WASH assistance that goes beyond short term water trucking and includes the provision of **long-term WASH service delivery**, supply of family hygiene kits, rehabilitation of existing WASH infrastructure, and water and sanitation management is needed.
- For the planned capacity of 45,000 people in the Mirqaan Settlement as well as the Mirqaan *kebele* at least **8 additional boreholes** and more than **700 latrine facilities** are needed.

UNHCR thanks donors who contributed earmarked and unearmarked funds for their support to our response to this emergency (As of May 2023)



• International Organization for Migration (IOM) • International Rescue Committee (IRC) • Organization for Welfare & Development in Action (OWDA) • Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) • Somali Regional Water Bureau (SRWB) • United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) • United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) • Bokh Woreda Water Office (WWO)