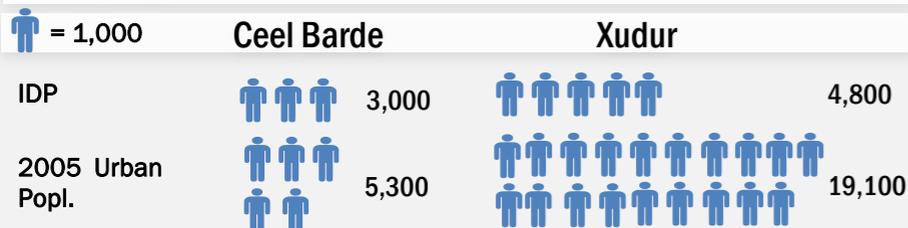


The withdrawal of Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) from Xudur, the regional capital of Bakool created a security vacuum in the districts. An estimated 2,500 individuals were displaced after the insurgent group Al-Shabaab quickly took control of the town. The displaced followed the ENDF troops to the border town of Ceel Barde. In this town, they settled alongside the existing host-community who are assisting the new arrivals. However, evidence gathered during a recent mission show a strain in the capacity of the host community to cope with the need of the new arrivals. The displaced persons have secured tenure in this settlement; however, the duration of the tenure is uncertain, evictions although no eminent is foreseen. Local authorities estimated 250 individuals to have crossed the border into Ethiopian village of Muhidle looking for assistance. They further stated that if assistance if Ceel Barde arrives, these individuals will return to Ceel Barde.

Facts and figures

Basic data



Highlights

Shelter

Emergency shelter is the most critical gap identified. About 800 – 1,000 shelter items is needed for the displaced persons. The IDPs have put shelter frames in anticipation of plastic sheeting. The approaching Gu raining seasons puts the lives of the displaced persons using cardboards and natural material as shelter at risk. The risk posed is enormous since it has knock-on effects on the wellbeing of the displaced.

Water & Sanitation

The displaced persons and the host community access water from only one borehole. Access to water is limited which further hinders the sanitation of the settlement. Since this settlement is new, there were no latrines/toilet facilities apart from those used by the host community.

Transport / Logistics

With the coming *Gu* rains (main raining) in Somalia will most likely affect movement on the loose weather road linking Ceel Barde to the neighboring towns of Belet Weyne and Rab Dhure. This will further hinder the response capacity of humanitarian actors already affected by security.

Total arrivals in Ceel Barde

2,500

Cross-border movements to Ethiopia

250

Unaccompanied minors in Ceel Barde

100

Legal assistance / Protection

The displaced moved so haphazardly and quickly that families were separated. An unknown number of children and elderly were left behind in Xudur. On the other hand, an estimated 100 unaccompanied children moved to Ceel Barde, several of whom are sleeping on the streets. Children left behind in Xudur are increasing being attacked by the militants. One child indicated that his brother was beheaded by the Al Shabaab. Due to the existence of the Islamist group Al-Shabaab in Xudur, return is unlikely in the short run. Even though the Al-Shabaab has offered amnesty to the IDPs to return, the IDPs are afraid due to the actions of the militants. It was recently reported that, the Al-Shabaab beheaded a prominent Imam, attacked fleeing persons in Aboore and beheaded a child in Xudur. In Ceel Barde, local authorities displaced from Xudur are maintaining their roles in the settlement. However, the minimal presence of the Somali National Forces (SNF) limits the capacity of the authorities to maintain security. But the community has adopted by practicing “community policing” whereby suspects are identified, reprimanded and referred to the local leaders. Both the leaders of Xudur and Ceel Barde are working closely to ensure assistance is provided to the IDPs.

Muhidle

An estimated 250 individuals crossed into

