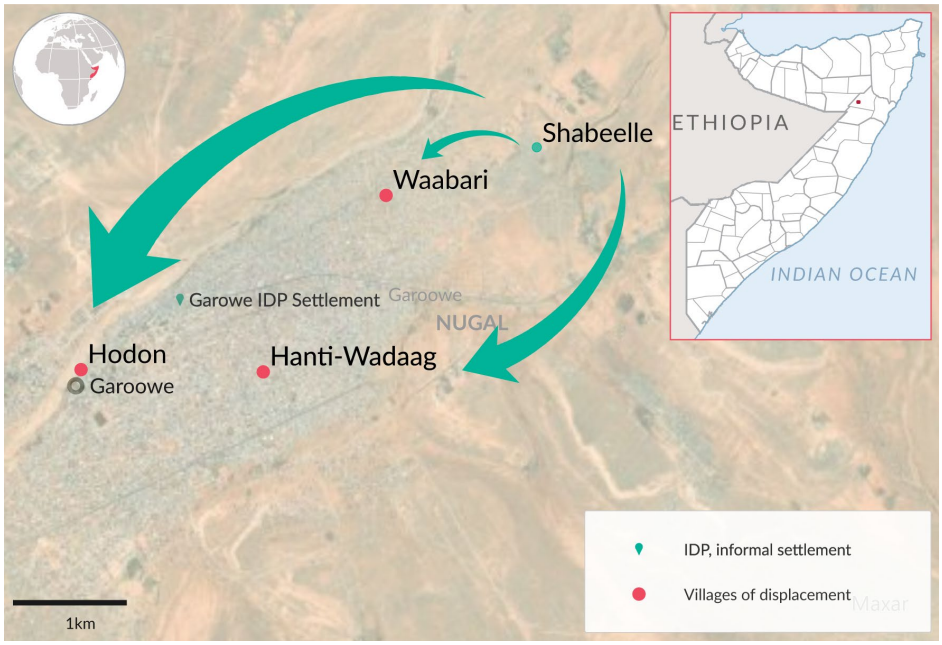
Heavy rainfall displaces over 3,000 IDPs from Shabeelle Camp in Garowe

Displaced Families	600
Displaced Individuals	3,600
Deaths	0
Injuries	1
Coordinates	8.4071° N, 48.4876° E
Incident Date	13 June 2025



Background

On 13 June, Garowe experienced intense and prolonged rainfall that triggered severe flash floods, overwhelming drainage systems and further impacting already vulnerable communities. The most affected area was Shabeelle IDP Camp, one of the oldest settlements in Garowe, where floodwaters damaged approximately 400 shelters, and affected 600 households. As a result, around 3,600 individuals are currently residing in open areas or partially damaged shelters.

Previous Location	Arrival locations	Households
Shabeelle IDP Camp	Hodon village	400
Shabeelle IDP Camp	Waabari and Hanti-Wadaag villages	200
(Total 3,600 individuals)		600 households

Among the most affected are highly vulnerable groups including women and children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and individuals living with chronic illnesses. Many of the displaced have relocated to nearby villages including Hodon, Waabari and Hanti-Wadaag. While some residents have offered temporary shelter, these areas are now severely overcrowded and lack adequate resources to address the growing needs of the displaced and their hosts. Other displaced households are currently sheltered in makeshift tents with plastic sheeting, with no humanitarian services available at present.

Protection Risks

Forced displacement: The flash floods displaced over 600 households from their residences to safer locations less impacted by the flooding. The destruction of their homes and the sweeping away of essential site facilities left them with no alternative but to relocate.

Shelter destruction: Floodwaters completely destroyed more than 400 shelters within Shabeelle IDP Camp, leaving many residents homeless and displaced. These displaced individuals now face heightened risks of exposure to harsh weather conditions and are vulnerable to physical protection risks. Immediate provision of temporary shelters is urgently needed to mitigate these risks.

Psychological and emotional distress: The incident has occasioned severe psychological and emotional distress to affected individuals following the loss of their homes, personal belongings and livelihoods.

Urgent Needs

Emergency shelter: The intense flooding destroyed approximately 400 shelters, leaving thousands of individuals homeless and exposed to harsh weather conditions. The lack of adequate shelter increases the risk of physical harm, including injuries and exposure to physical violence. Immediate emergency shelter assistance and non-food items are urgently required.

Food assistance: The displaced population from Shabeelle IDP Camp has lost all access to food sources, including any stored food items that were destroyed by the floods. This has significantly worsened food insecurity among the affected households and highlights the immediate need for food assistance, including the provision of hot meals and food rations.

Psychosocial support: Urgent psychosocial support and counselling is required to address the trauma experienced by the displaced population. This situation further increases their vulnerability particularly for groups who are already at-risk, and targeted support is required to respond to specific protection needs.

Health and Sanitation: Displaced families currently sheltering in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions face a severe threat from mosquito infestations. The absence of protective measures, particularly treated mosquito nets, has significantly increased the risk of mosquito-borne illnesses such as malaria and dengue fever. Immediate distribution of mosquito nets is critical to safeguarding public health and protecting the most vulnerable, especially children and the elderly.

Figure 1 and 2: Impact of flood waters on IDP site shelters and roads © NRC Somalia

Disclaimer: This alert serves as a call for an urgent and coordinated humanitarian response. For that purpose, preliminary information is reported outlining immediate priority needs. Assessments of the situation are ongoing and updates will be shared as further information becomes available.

The Protection and Solutions Monitoring Network (PSMN) is a UNHCR-led project that identifies and reports on displacements, as well as the protection risks and incidents driving such population movements. On behalf of UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 10 local partners across Somalia conduct data gathering—primarily through interviews with affected communities and key informants—and monitor displacement trends at strategic locations.

To request further details on displacement, please contact **SOMMOPMN@UNHCR.ORG**