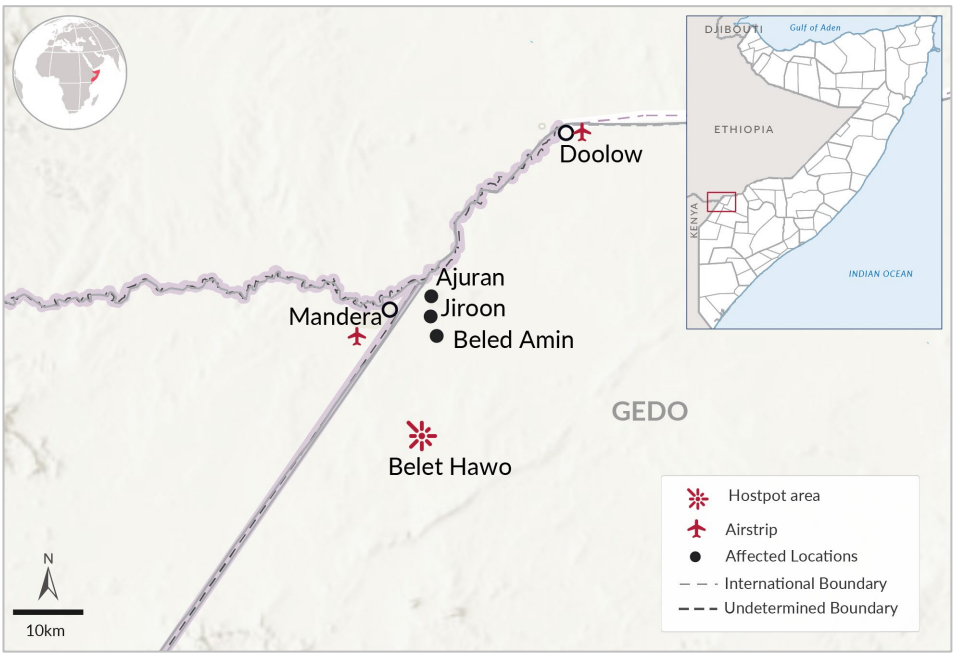
Third Wave of Armed Clashes in Belet-Hawo, Gedo Region Displaces Thousands

Displaced Families	2,530
Displaced Individuals	15,180
Deaths	0
Injuries	2
Coordinates	3.9289° N, 41.8742° E
Incident Date	11 Aug 2025



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Background

On 11 August 2025, armed clashes erupted in Belet-Hawo, Gedo Region, between two armed groups affiliated with the Federal Government of Somalia and the Jubaland State. The incident was triggered when an armed group associated with Jubaland, previously relocated from Belet-Hawo to Mandera (Kenya), returned and established a base near the Tool-Amiin IDP site. Their presence heightened tensions in an already militarized area occupied by Federal forces, creating fear among the local and displaced populations.

Previous Location	Arrival locations	Households
Jiroon	Liilan	480
Jiroon	Idan	500
Camp Ajuran	Liilan	360
Camp Ajuran	Liilan	340
Camp Ajuran	Hodan	280
Camp Ajuran	Oda	120
Tula-amin	Gawido	450
		2,530 HHs. Approx. (15,180) individuals)

In the early morning, fighting broke out between the two groups, leading to the new displacement of 2,530 households (15,180 individuals) to surrounding areas including Liilan, Idaan, Gaawido, Hodan and Oda. The displaced communities are currently without adequate shelter. Reports indicate that two civilians were injured as a result of the crossfire.

This marks the third wave of armed clashes in Belet-Hawo since July 2025, intensifying the scale of forced displacement and heightening protection risks. Those most affected include already vulnerable groups such as children, women, older persons, and persons with disabilities.

Protection Risks

Attacks on Civilians and Civilian Objects: Civilian casualties have been documented, and the volatile situation presents a high risk of further attacks on civilians and unlawful killings. Civilian infrastructure and IDP settlements remain exposed to potential damage as the conflict persists.

Forced Displacement: Over 15,000 individuals have been forcibly displaced in the third wave of clashes, with many experiencing secondary displacement that further exacerbates their vulnerability.

Gender-Based Violence: Women and girls face heightened risks of GBV, including sexual assault and domestic violence, due to overcrowded living conditions, lack of safe shelter, and insecurity.

Urgent Humanitarian Needs

Emergency Shelter and NFIs: Newly displaced families are sheltering in overcrowded sites alongside already displaced populations, living in makeshift shelters with limited privacy. There is an urgent need for emergency shelter materials and non-food items to restore minimum living conditions and preserve the affected population's health, safety and dignity.

Food Assistance: Many displaced households were already food insecure prior to this displacement. The influx of newly displaced from Tool-Amiin and Camp Ajuuran has worsened the food security situation.

Water: Many have been displaced have settled in locations where water trucking is underway. This has increased the number of households relying on this service and reduced the available water supply per household.

Protection services: Psychosocial support and counselling services are urgently required, including cash assistance to enable displaced households to address immediate needs, mitigate protection risks, and prevent negative coping mechanisms.

Figure: Displaced families living in makeshift shelters in Lilaan village ©Aug 2025/NRC

The Protection & 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.

Data Attribution

All data and information in this Flash Alert are sourced from UNHCR's Protection and Solutions Monitoring Network (PSMN) and its partners.

The following citation is required when referencing any part of this report:

"UNHCR Somalia. Protection and Solutions Monitoring Network (PSMN) – Third Wave of Armed Clashes in Belet-Hawo, Gedo Region Displaces Thousands (August 2025). UNHCR, Somalia."

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