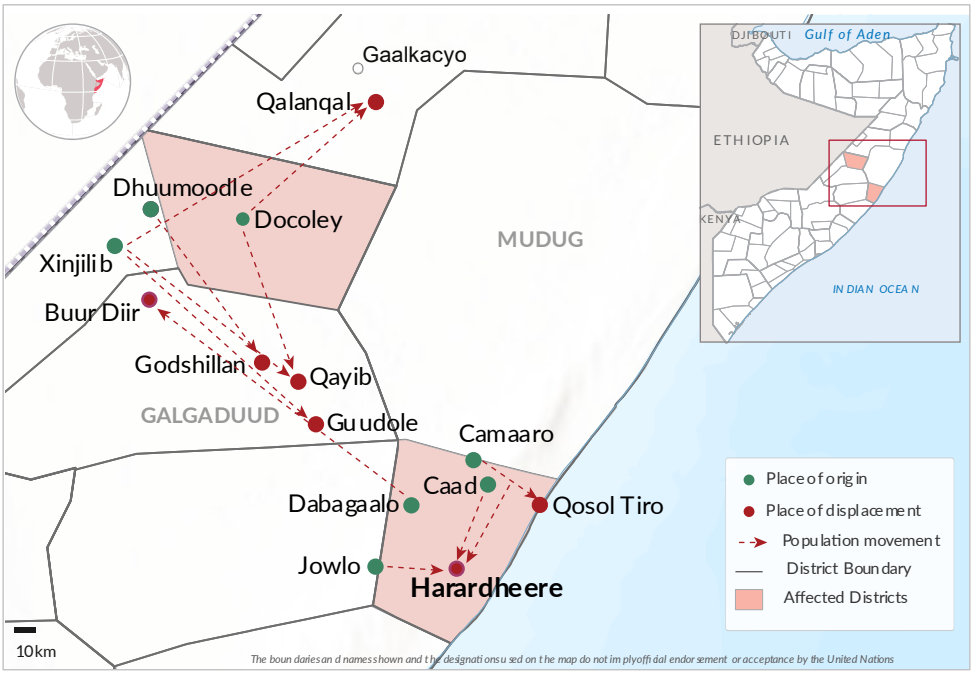
Severe drought in Harardhere and Adaado Districts in Mudug and Galmudug Regions Displace Over 48,000 Individuals

Displaced Families	8,050
Displaced Individuals	48,300
Deaths	2
Injuries	2
Coordinates	
Incident Date	January 05-06, 2026



Background

On 5 and 6 January, displaced families, primarily pastoralist and agro-pastoral households, fled from drought-affected rural settlements in Harardheere and Adaado districts, in Mudug and Galmudug regions, respectively. People in Harardhere settlements have been displaced to Ceel Ugaas, Buur Diir, Qosol Tiro, Halbeereed, and Tuulo Daaqaay villages while people in Adaado settlements, to Magyoley, Qayib, Qalanqal,Guudole, Godshillan, and Magaag-gudle villages. Additional population movements have also been reported from other drought-affected parts of Mudug Region to look for access to basic services, water points, and humanitarian assistance.

The rapid influx of displaced populations is placing significant pressure on already limited resources in host areas. Competition over water sources, grazing land, and food assistance is increasing the tensions between displaced households and vulnerable host communities living in Harardhere and Adado districts and its surrounding villages.

In addition, the presence of Al-Shabaab-controlled areas in parts of Galmudug continues to restrict civilian movement, limit access to services, and heightened protection risks. The combined impacts of drought and insecurity are driving sustained and escalating displacement within Harardheere and Adado districts.

At the time of reporting, the Protection and Solutions Monitoring Network (PSMN) partners reported approximately 8,050 households (48,300 individuals) have been displaced. Most of the displaced are now sheltering in Ceel Ugas, Qosol tiro, Qayib and Gudoole. Four civilian casualties were reported: 2 deaths and 2 injured, resulting from stepping on a landmine during the movements in Harardheere District, Mudug Region. These figures are expected to rise further in the coming weeks, particularly if rainfall failure continues. The majority of displaced households are pastoralists who have lost most of their livestock and they were unable to sustain remaining animals due to severely depleted grazing lands.

A significant number of women, children, and the elderly are reportedly mostly vulnerable among other displaced people Many have joined existing IDP settlements and host communities, which are already

overstretched and still recovering from recent drought-induced displacements. As of the reporting period, no significant humanitarian assistance has reached to the newly displaced population except the support planned from January-March 2026 by DRC through its ongoing food security (MPCA Programme) targeting 500 cases in Harardheere.

Protection Risks

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): Women and girls, particularly widows and female-headed households, face heightened risks of GBV, exploitation, and abuse within informal displacement sites. Contributing factors include overcrowding, lack of privacy, absence of safe spaces, limited lighting, and economic hardship. Access to GBV response and protection services remains limited.

Risks to Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities: Elderly individuals and persons with disabilities face significant mobility and access challenges, limiting their ability to reach water points, food distributions, health services, and sanitation facilities. These groups are at increased risk of neglect, health complications, and exclusion from assistance.

Communal tensions and the risk of conflict: while no active conflict is reported at the time of this flash alert, this drought-related displacement may exacerbate inter and intra clan tensions due to competition over scarce resources, particularly water and food, grazing land and territorial control between displaced populations and host communities. These tensions increase the risk of social conflict and may further undermine protection and social cohesion if displacement continues without adequate support.

Presence of mines and other explosive ordinance: The presence of landmines and explosive remnants of war continues to pose a significant protection risk, particularly in areas of population movement. In a recent incident in Harardheere District, Mudug Region, two civilians were affected—one killed and another injured—after encountering a landmine/explosive ordinance while on the move, underscoring the persistent threat to civilian safety in contaminated areas.

Urgent Needs

Emergency Shelter: Most displaced households are living in makeshift shelters constructed from salvaged materials, providing minimal protection against harsh weather conditions, heat, and insecurity. Immediate support is required to provide emergency shelter materials to ensure safety, privacy, and dignity, particularly for women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

Water Trucking: Severe water shortages persist due to dried-up water sources, including shallow wells and traditional water tanks, and the majority of displaced households cannot afford to purchase water due to high prices in the displacement areas. Emergency water trucking is urgently required for both human and livestock consumption to ensure access to safe and sufficient drinking water for displaced households.

Food Assistance: Displaced families have lost their livelihoods, livestock, and food stocks due to prolonged drought. Immediate food assistance is required to address acute food insecurity, prevent malnutrition especially among children under five, pregnant and lactating women and reduce negative coping mechanisms such as skipping meals or selling remaining assets.

Psychosocial Support: Psychosocial support is reported needed as affected populations, especially women, girls, children and person with disabilities, experience trauma, loss, and prolonged stress. It will help individuals cope emotionally, rebuild social connections, and restore daily functioning.

Protection Response: Protection services are urgently needed to address heightened risks faced by displaced populations, including gender-based violence, child protection concerns, psychosocial distress, and risks faced by elderly persons and persons with disabilities. Protection monitoring, case management, referral services, victim assistance for survivors of explosive hazards and community-based protection mechanisms are essential to ensure the safety, dignity, and well-being of affected populations.

Newly displaced family from Harardhere migrating from the villages of Harardhere to other nearby IDP camps to look for humanitarian services.

Displacement matrix

Previous Location	Arrival Locations	Households
Jowlo	Harardheere, Ceel Ugaas, Halbeereed	2,625
Dumaaye	Qosol Tiro, Harardheere, Tuulo Daaqaay	750
Dabagaalo	Ceel Ugaas, Buur Diir	1,360
Caad	Harardheere, Ceel Ugaas	590
Camaaro	Qosol Tiro, Harardheere	1,175
Docoley area	Magyoley, Qayib, Qalanqal, Guudole	800
Xinjilib area	Qalanqal, Qayib, Guudole	350
Dhuumoodle	Godshillan, Maagaag-gudle, Qaayib	400
(Total 48,300 individuals) 8,050 households		

NRC NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL
United Nations CERF Central Emergency Response Fund
Internal Displacement Solutions Fund
From the People of Japan

The PSMN (Protection & Solutions Monitoring Network) 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**