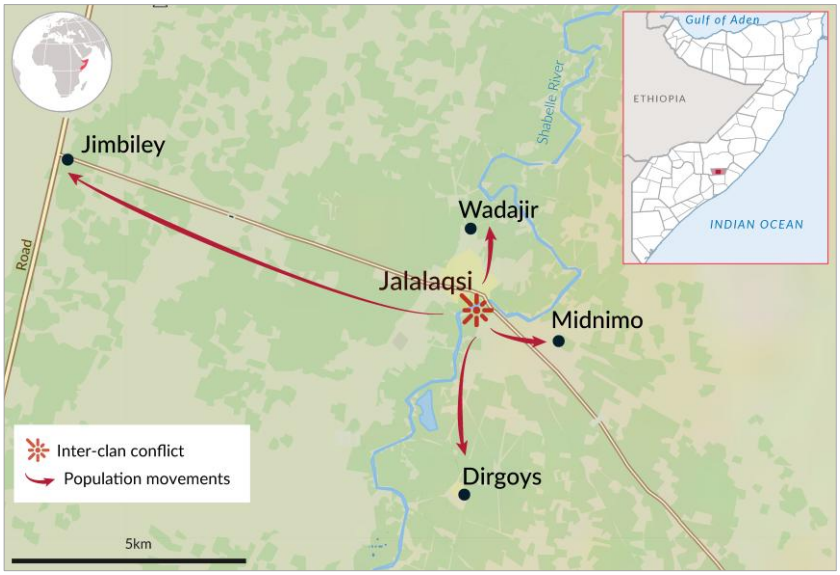
Escalating Inter-Clan Conflict in Jalalaqsi, district, Hiraan Region Displaces Over 9,000 Civilians exacerbating Protection Risks

Displaced Families	Displaced Individuals	Cross-border movement	Deaths	Injuries	Incident Date
1,500	9,000	0	3	5	June 18 - 20, 2026

Background

Jalalaqsi District in Hiraan Region experienced inter-clan conflict between 18 and 20 June. The conflict reportedly originated from longstanding grievances between the affected clans. The escalation of tensions resulted in armed clashes that significantly affected the civilian population. The conflict displaced an estimated 1,500 households, which is approximately 9,000 individuals. The displaced population includes an estimated 4,900 children, 2,800 women, and 1,300 men, as well as 25 persons with disabilities. The scale and speed of displacement have heightened vulnerabilities among affected communities, particularly among children, women, older persons, and persons with specific needs. and



In addition to large-scale displacement, the clashes resulted in multiple protection incidents, civilian casualties and damage to civilian property. Reports indicate that at least three civilians were killed and five others injured. The violence also led to the destruction of 15 shelters and 4 small business kiosks.

Displaced families fled to nearby locations, including Wadajir Village, Midnimo Village, Dirgoys, and Jimbiley Afcad, seeking safety from the violence. Most displaced families were forced to leave their homes with limited belongings, leaving them in urgent need of a protection intervention. PSMN partners conducted site assessments in the affected locations to identify protection risks and humanitarian needs among displaced and host communities. Partners also provided basic counselling to affected individuals during the assessment process.

Protection Risks

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): The recent inter-clan conflict and resulting displacement have heightened protection risks for women and girls in Wadajir, Midnimo, Dirgoys, and Jimbiley Afcad villages. During consultations, displaced women and girls reported concerns regarding overcrowded shelter conditions and the lack of privacy in collective displacement sites. Shared living spaces limit their ability to sleep, change clothes, breastfeed, and manage personal hygiene with dignity and confidentiality. Many temporary shelters

lack adequate partitions, lockable doors, and other privacy-enhancing measures, contributing to feelings of insecurity, particularly during nighttime. In addition, insufficient lighting around shelters, latrines, and water points increases concerns about safety and potential exposure to GBV risks when accessing essential services after dark. The assessment also further identified that existing facilities are not sufficiently gender-sensitive and do not adequately meet the privacy, safety, and accessibility needs of women and girls. These conditions have contributed to heightened fear and psychosocial distress among affected women and girls and underscore the need for improved shelter conditions, adequate lighting, and gender-responsive protection interventions.

Psychological Distress and Mental Health Concerns: The inter-clan conflict and resulting displacement have had a significant psychosocial impact on affected populations, particularly children, women, and caregivers. Community members reported increased levels of stress, fear, and emotional distress linked to exposure to violence, civilian casualties, loss of property, and forced displacement. Children were reported to exhibit signs of anxiety, withdrawal, and sleep disturbances, while women and caregivers expressed grief, distress, and uncertainty about the future. Mental health and psychosocial well-being emerged as a key protection concern, highlighting the need for strengthened mental health and psychosocial support services.

Attacks on Civilians and Civilian Objects: The inter-clan conflict resulted in civilian casualties, injuries, and damage to civilian property. Reports indicate that at least three civilians were killed and five others injured during the clashes. The violence also led to the destruction of 15 shelters and four small business kiosks, disrupting livelihoods and forcing affected families to flee with limited belongings. Displaced households reported that the clashes erupted rapidly, leaving little time to prepare or safeguard assets. The destruction of homes and livelihoods has further exacerbated humanitarian needs and protection risks among affected populations.

Urgent Humanitarian Needs

The recent inter-clan conflict in Jalalaqsi has displaced approximately 1,500 households (9,000 individuals), many of whom fled with limited belongings and are currently residing in Wadajir, Midnimo, Dirgoys, and Jimbiley Afcad villages. The displaced population requires urgent humanitarian assistance, including emergency shelter, non-food items, food assistance, safe drinking water, and sanitation services. Access to healthcare is needed for injured individuals and other vulnerable groups.

Protection concerns remain significant, particularly for children, women, older persons, persons with disabilities, and female-headed households. Priority protection interventions include protection monitoring, case identification and referral, mental health and psychosocial support, child protection services, and measures to mitigate gender-based violence risks. Improved shelter conditions, adequate lighting, and gender-sensitive facilities are needed to enhance the safety and dignity of women and girls. There is also a need to strengthen community-based protection mechanisms and prevent the recruitment and association of children with armed actors. Humanitarian assistance should be delivered in a conflict-sensitive manner and include support to host communities that are accommodating displaced families despite limited resources.

Emergency Shelter Assistance: An estimated 1,500 households are in urgent need of emergency shelter and non-food items (NFI) assistance. Current living conditions in displacement sites fall below minimum standards of safety, dignity, and adequacy. The lack of proper shelter significantly increases protection risks, particularly for women and girls. Critical emergency items—including tents, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, blankets, and other essential NFIs—are urgently required to stabilize living conditions. Severe overcrowding in makeshift shelters is further heightening exposure to gender-based violence risks as well as increasing the likelihood of communicable disease outbreaks.

Food Assistance: Food insecurity is a key concern among the 1,500 households. Most families fled to nearby villages, including Wadajir, Midnimo, Dirgoys, and Jimbiley Afcad, with no food stocks, cooking utensils, or access to livestock, resulting in the loss of both immediate food supplies and livelihoods. Host communities are sharing limited food resources, but their capacity is overstretched due to pre-existing vulnerabilities. Consequently, displaced households are facing reduced meal frequency, poor dietary diversity, and growing reliance on external assistance. Children, women (about 2,800), persons with disabilities (25 cases), and other vulnerable groups are at heightened risk of acute food insecurity and negative coping strategies without timely assistance

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): WASH conditions in displacement sites remain critical and deteriorating due to ongoing rainfall. Displaced families in Wadajir, Midnimo, Dirgoys, and Jimbiley Afcad have limited access to safe water, with existing sources insufficient for both IDPs and host communities.

Sanitation facilities are inadequate or absent, and rain has increased contamination risks and the likelihood of waterborne diseases. Women and girls face heightened protection risks when accessing distant or unsafe facilities, especially in poor weather conditions.

Protection and Psychosocial Support: Urgent protection and psychosocial support is needed for communities affected by the inter-clan conflict in Jalalaqsi District, with particular attention to women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and households exposed to violence, loss, and displacement. Immediate action is required to strengthen protection monitoring,mediation and conflict resolution, identify and refer individuals at risk, provide psychological first aid and child-friendly spaces, and facilitate family tracing and reunification where necessary. Access to specialized services, including child protection and GBV survivors, should be ensured, while reinforcing community-based protection systems to prevent further harm and support recovery.

Support to Persons with Specific Needs: The assessment identified that urgent assistance is required for individuals at heightened risks, particularly women, children, older persons, and persons with specific needs. Priority interventions include case management, psychosocial support, referrals, assistance tailored to the needs of persons with disabilities including mobility aids and assistive devices and Individual Protection Assistance (IPA) for the most vulnerable cases.

Response Action: PSMN partners reported that no response has been delivered at the time of reporting. Affected households and host communities remain in urgent need of life-saving assistance, including food, water, shelter, health care and protection including mediation, conflict resolution and peaceful co-existence initiatives with the leadership and collaboration of the government. The absence of humanitarian presence increases vulnerability—particularly for women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and the injured—and delays timely identification and referral of urgent needs.

Newly displaced families arriving in Midnimo Village, east of Jalalaqsi, seeking safety and protection from the ongoing inter-clan conflict©PSMN

Newly displaced people arriving in Midnimo Village after being displaced by inter-clan conflict in Jalalaqsi District©PSMN

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Internal Displacement Solutions Fund

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**