7,050 pastoralists displaced to Kismayo and Abdala Biroole due to drought

Displaced Families: 1,175
Displaced Individuals: 7,050
Deaths: 2
Injuries: 3
Coordinates:
- Kismayo (Lat:0.3569341, Long:42.5307257)
- Abdala Biroole (Lat:0.490869, Long:42.200085)
Incident Date: 14 September 2022

Background

PRMN has observed a gradual deterioration in the humanitarian situation in Kismayo and surrounding locations over the last few weeks due to drought. The lack of pasture for livestock and water has led to a significant increase in food insecurity in Jubaland, which is one of the worst affected states. More than 1,175 pastoralist families (approximately 7,050 individuals) displaced by the ongoing drought have arrived in Abdala Biroole and Kismayo.

According to PRMN field monitors in Kismayo district, the displaced households arrived in Abdala Biroole and Kismayo between 11 and 13 September. The worsening drought has led to increased movement of pastoral communities in search of pasture and water for their remaining livestock. It is reported that majority of the pastoralist communities that lost their livestock are joining IDP settlements in urban areas to seek humanitarian assistance. According to Habiba* (name has been changed to protect privacy), who was displaced from Qudus with her three children:

“I am a mother of three children. I gave birth last night with no food to eat nor medicine. We had more than 150 sheep and goats to support our family, but all were killed by the drought, forcing us to move to Dulcad IDP site in Kismayo. I am currently struggling to meet the basic needs of my family due to lack of income.”

Local and regional authorities led by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Kismayo district authorities have also confirmed the newly displaced families urgently need humanitarian interventions, including food, water, and protection services. The government and humanitarian partners have started to provide minimal emergency support services though humanitarian needs are enormous with increasing new arrivals each day. UNHCR in collaboration with NRC and the Jubaland Commission for Refugees & IDPs (JUCRI) are working with the local
landlord to secure a long-term communal lease agreement for the two IDP sites (Dulcad and Xaar Xaar), currently accommodating 250 drought-affected households.

**Protection Issues**

- **Risk of forced evictions**: New arrivals are either joining existing IDP sites or forming new IDP sites with no security of tenure, increasing their vulnerability to forced evictions.
- **Lack of adequate housing and essential services**: Displaced families live in makeshift shelters without access to essential services. Most displaced individuals, including persons with disabilities, children, pregnant and lactating mothers, and elderly persons, are exposed to protection risks due to the lack of proper shelter and privacy in overcrowded IDP settlements. Two new arrivals have reportedly died from hunger.
- **Child protection issues**: Due to the increased movement of families, five unaccompanied and separated children with protection concerns, including forced marriage and family separation, were identified and referred to specialized service providers.
- **Heightened protection risks**: Persons with specific needs, including the elderly, women, and children, have heightened protection risks and face threats of gender-based violence, such as rape and physical assaults. Protection concerns are likely to increase for all groups, primarily manifesting as negative coping mechanisms, especially for young women, as the drought situation deteriorates.
- **Heightened vulnerabilities**: Vulnerable members of the population with mobility challenges including persons with disabilities, the elderly and the sick are reported to have remained behind in the place of origin without access to basic services and social support.

**Urgent Needs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Emergency Shelter</th>
<th>Protection</th>
<th>Non-Food Item</th>
<th>Communal Latrine</th>
<th>Safe Drinking Water</th>
<th>Treated Mosquito Net</th>
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</thead>
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The PRMN is a UNHCR-led project which identifies and reports on displacements as well as protection risks and incidents underlying such population movements. On behalf of UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 38 local partners in the field in Somalia (South Central regions, Puntland and Somaliland) undertake data gathering (primarily through interviews with affected communities and key informants) and monitoring at strategic locations.

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