

When the resources are scarce...

The shelter requires \$25 million to reach some 700,000 displaced households. The overall context of Somalia has been dominated by a nutrition and food security context. In this light, funding shelter activities would not be expected to be a donors' priority. Since the beginning of the year, the shelter cluster has only received a funding of \$6 million. In the first half of 2017, more than 200,000 persons have been assisted with emergency non-food assistance and more than 80,000 assisted with Emergency Shelter Kits, leaving a gap of about 56,000 households in need of emergency Shelter kits and about 121,000 households in need of emergency NFIs.

Limited funding will affect the provision of emergency shelter and NFIs in drought and conflict affected areas of Banadir, Lower Shabelle, Baidoa, Dollow, Buhodle, El afweyn, Erigaabo, Beletweyne and Kismayo. The lack of prepositioned stocks of NFIs, and emergency shelter kits due to long standing low funding for shelter activities hampers timely response to displaced populations. The Shelter cluster estimates that about \$19 million is required to support about 121,000 households with emergency NFIs and 56,000 households with emergency shelter kits for the next six months.

To mitigate for the low funding, the shelter cluster endeavours to use the several approaches including enhancing advocacy, response prioritization, leveraging markets, establishing pipelines and linking relief with rehabilitation and development.

The only way to increase funding is to increase advocacy activities. The shelter cluster is achieving this through several fronts. The SC has maintained a steady representation in the Somalia drought operation coordination centers. The DOCC is strategic since it provides an opportunity to raise shelter needs other humanitarian actors and donors. Just recently, the British minister for foreign aid pledged to give \$1 million for shelter response after a visit to the DOCC. The DOCC has also eliminated competition between clusters for pooled funds, and instead a collaborative strategy has been adopted which looks at a more integrated approach in meeting the needs of the affected populations.

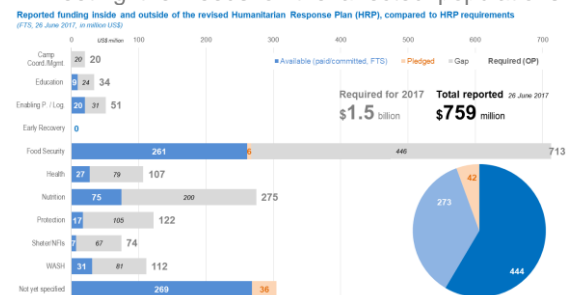


Figure 1: Somalia HRP funding situation- OCHA Somalia

Since shelter cluster members are also members of other cluster's, and noting that substantial funds reach them through bilateral arrangements with donors, the members have been tasked to ensure that shelter activities are presented as a priority.

The media is a good avenue to enhance SC advocacy. Social media will be leveraged to show response and the gaps. Radio channels, like Radio Ergo, are already being used to spread the message on just how much the displaced populations are in need of shelter assistance. The shelter cluster is using various websites to increase its visibility.

The gap between the needs and the available resources is huge. It is therefore necessary to ensure

that the limited resources are used in the most effective way possible. Intuition will be employed to ensure that the highest impact is achieved. For example, only the most vulnerable should be targeted. The Shelter Cluster holds that households with pregnant and lactating mothers, and children aged below 5 should area priority.

Areas where partners have easy access, and where markets are functional are being prioritized in order to enhance effective monitoring and reduce distribution overheads. Owner driven approaches also ensure that the beneficiaries can negotiate for more value for each dollar spent. Moreover, SC prioritizes places where beneficiaries are also receiving assistance from other sectors like WASH, protection, health, nutrition and Food. This will ensure that the beneficiaries will not move from the location in search of these services.

There is need to improve the SC preparedness for emergency. In this regard, the SC plans to establish a system for maintaining emergency NFI/Shelter stocks during periods on relative normalcy. This will ensure that future emergencies are responded to effectively, and promptly.

SC approaches for mitigating low funding

1. *Enhancing Advocacy*
2. *Prioritizing response*
3. *Leveraging markets*
4. *Establishing supplies pipelines*
5. *Linking relief with rehabilitation and development*

The cluster is placing more emphasis on sustainable shelter solutions for protractedly displaced persons. In the search for Durable Solutions for displacement affected populations (IDPs, returning refugees and host communities), land tenure remains one of the main obstacles. There is need to strengthen the role of the government and find potential ways for development actors to engage in the displacement context in Somalia. The is also need to look at the construction sector as a whole and bridge the gap in-between humanitarian and developmental interventions through an area-based and locality driven approach, building into existing humanitarian and development plans.

Humanitarians have already started to engage more and more with the private sector regarding construction through the set-up of cooperatives and vocational training.

Public-private partnerships in Somalia are limited, but can easily be scaled up. UNHABITAT, in collaboration with the Shelter Cluster, and protection cluster already initiated a survey looking at the feasibility of engaging Mogadishu landlords in a rental subsidy program for IDPs.

Shelter Cluster partners in Somalia have embraced the concept of Local Building Culture to reduce the budget of low-cost housing projects.

NEEDS ANALYSIS

- 761,000 drought displaced people are in need of Shelter/NFI assistance. The majority of the displacement is to Baidoa and Mogadishu. The displaced families are confronted with the need of shelter and other household non-food items.
- Nearly 1.1 million protracted Internally Displaced people exist countrywide
- Safe and secure settlements are needed to provide crisis-affected communities with protected and healthy living spaces and environments, while ensuring sufficient privacy and dignity.

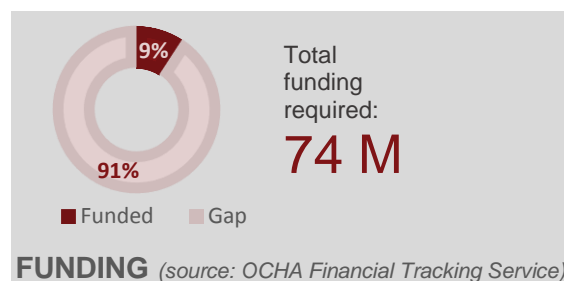
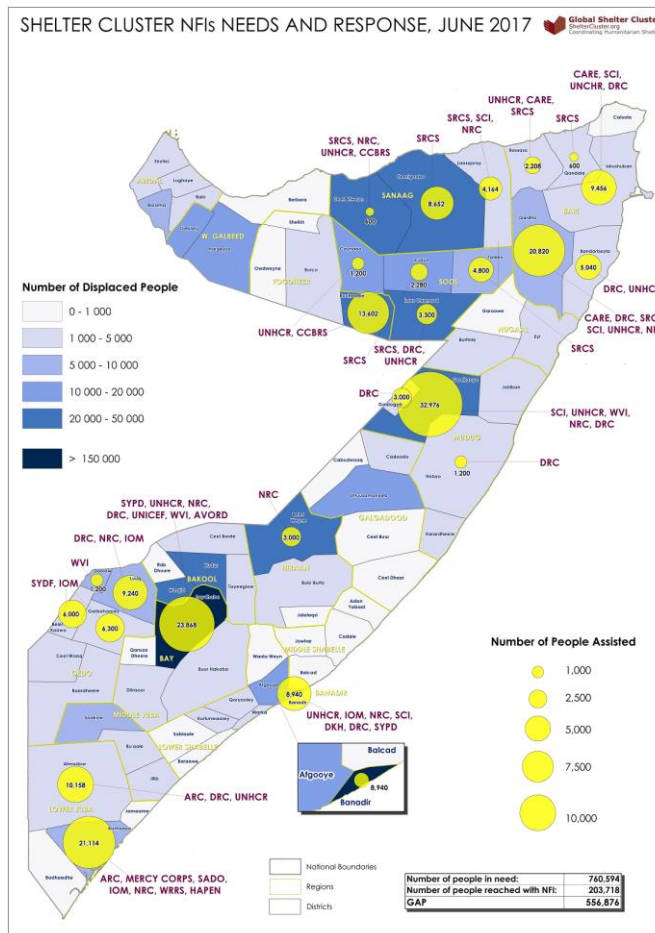
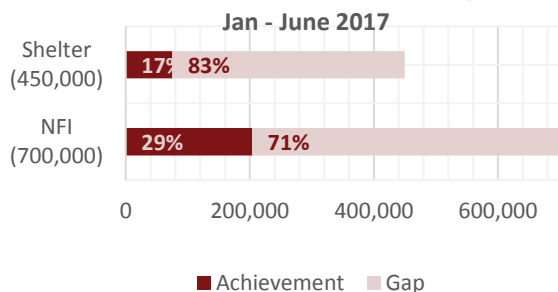
GAPS / CHALLENGES

- Poor infrastructure inhibits the provision of NFI supplies to the interior regions of Somalia.
- Restricted humanitarian accessibility continues to affect the provision of assistance to affected people in some parts of south and central Somalia.
- Lack of funding of shelter activities has exceptionally affected the capacity of cluster partners. The resulting gaps are aggravated by the sharp increase in emergency shelter needs which calls for stocks to be positioned for timely response to emergencies all over Somalia.

RESPONSE

- 49200 persons have received emergency assistance Package (NFIs) in May
- 18000 persons have received emergency Shelter assistance (ESKs) in May

COVERAGE AGAINST TARGETS (Individuals)



SHELTER CLUSTER CONTACTS / DOCS / LINKS

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KEY DOCUMENTS

- <https://www.sheltercluster.org/response/somalia>

KEY LINKS

- <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/somalia/emergency-shelter-and-nfi>
- <http://reliefweb.int/country/som>