



Transitional shelters for Returnees in Baidoa – Intersos

CLUSTER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- SO1: Contribute to the protection of newly displaced people and those affected by natural hazards. (NFIs, ESKs)
- SO2: Improve the living conditions of the protracted internally displaced persons (Transitional shelters, NFIs)
- SO3: Facilitate access to durable solutions for IDPs that are willing to locally integrate or return (Permanent shelters)

NEEDS ANALYSIS

- The current flood crisis in Somalia, caused by the above average 'gu' rains that began in mid-April has temporarily displaced over 200,000 people living along the Shebelle and Juba riverine regions, and low lying IDPs settlements in Mogadishu and Baidoa. A tropical cyclone in late May left in its wake a damage to infrastructure and other physical assets, including shelter, for communities living in the northern coastal regions of Awdal and Sahil in Somaliland. However, the most affected are IDPs who were living in poor shelter conditions, with limited access to basic services and in very crowded settlements of Mogadishu, Baidoa and Kismayo.

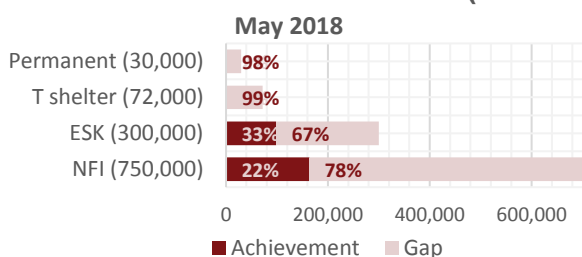
GAPS / CHALLENGES

Close to 300,000 IDPs have been affected by heavy rains and floods so far. Cluster partners continue to face the challenge of limited resources, having depleted all prepositioned stocks in 2017. Transitional and more sustainable support to IDPs facing protracted displacement has diminished, with attention focused on addressing new and unforeseen emergencies. Realising durable shelter solutions for the displaced is further constrained by high costs of permanent shelter solutions and unpredictable security of tenure.

RESPONSE

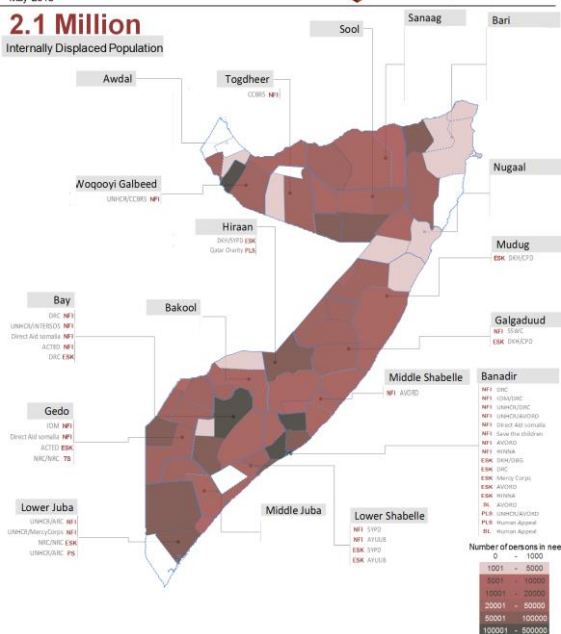
During May 2018, the Shelter & NFIs cluster, reached 28,981 persons with emergency non-food Items (NFIs) assistance, bringing the total assisted in 2018 to 162,979, or 22 %of the annual target of 750,000. 10,500 persons benefitted from Emergency Shelter Kits assistance, bringing the total number of people assisted in 2018 to 98,508, or 33 %of the annual target of 300,000. Additional 29,364 people were supported with plastic sheets.

COVERAGE AGAINST TARGETS (Individuals)



SOMALIA
Shelter Activities - Who is doing What Where (3W)
May 2018

Shelter Cluster
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating humanitarian Shelter



SHELTER CLUSTER CONTACTS

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KEY DOCUMENTS

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

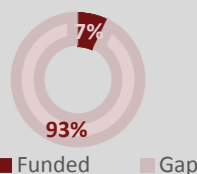
KEY LINKS

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

KEY FIGURES

24 Cluster partners **1.5M / 1.3M** People in need / targeted

FUNDING (source: OCHA Financial Tracking Service)



Total funding required:
70 M

ENHANCING REINTEGRATION THROUGH SHELTER ASSISTANCE

Sharifo is a single returnee mother from Kenya living with two children in Wadajir village, Baidoa. She had lived as refugee in Kambios camp in Dadaab until February, 2017. She narrated that life in the refugee camp was very difficult. She was jobless at the Dadaab camp and lived on insufficient amount of food ration and had no freedom of movement within Kenya. She gave up living as a refugee and decided to go back to Somalia.

She said “Living as a refugee is not a dignified life, I developed interest to lead a dignified humble life in my home

country. I knew the situation was tough here but was overpowered by nostalgic emotions and desire to end refugee life. I returned voluntarily and do not regret leaving Kenya for my home country”.



A beneficiary showing her Volrep documents in front of her house – Intersos

In February, 2017, Sharifo was repatriated and found her way to Baidoa town. After getting the return package including the installation grant from UNHCR, she bought a piece of land in Baidoa at a cost of \$ 1300 and established a temporary make shift house.

In December, 2017, Sharifo got shelter voucher at a cost of \$ 1000 from UNHCR through INTERSOS, an implementing partner. She utilized the funds to establish a semi- permanent shelter which was more protective than where she was living before. She has decorated her house with carpet and curtains giving magnified appearance as compared to those at her neighborhood. She also constructed a latrine at a cost of \$ 400 and kitchen at a cost of \$130. She realized the money from her business proceedings which supplemented her return package.

Not very far from her homestead, she managed to establish a business premises. She established a food kiosk using plastic sheets she was given by UNHCR as return package. Most of her clients are returnees and host community living around her business premises. She manages to make a monthly profit of \$ 180 which she meets her livelihood needs. She has an ambition to expand her business but cited lack of capital. She mentioned high cost incurred in sourcing for water as there is no nearby borehole to serve adjacent villages. She said that she has coexisted peacefully with the host

community and did not face any discrimination in Baidoa town.

She appreciated the support given by UNHCR and INTERSOS which has placed her among many Somali women who have achieved sense of resilience in environment characterized by armed conflict, male chauvinism, drought and protracted displacement. She has reintegrated successfully and is optimistic in life.

“ There is no difference between me and the host community: most of them are my relatives, customers and friends. I have no plan to move from Baidoa to another place. I own a house here, able to fend for my family and educate my children out of this small scale business”

Sharifo’s story is one among the 100 returnee families who benefited from INTERSOS’ cash for shelter project. According to INTERSOS data collected through the post return monitoring activity, more than 70% of returnee families who arrived between January and April 2017 found shelter in one of the 316 IDP settlements in Baidoa town mostly because of financial constraints and access to humanitarian aid. This trend contributed to the deterioration of the living conditions in the IDP camps that became overcrowded exposing residents to communicable diseases and protection risks.

INTERSOS as one of the main UNHCR partners, explored possibilities of supporting returnees who owned a plot of land in Baidoa District and were willing and able to settle permanently in the area to attain safe and dignified living conditions. This was achieved through cash transfer of 1,000 USD for construction of semi-permanent and permanent shelters.

Beneficiaries are provided with all the necessary clarifications and support regarding the activity aim. The verification of beneficiaries was strictly done to ensure fairness of the process for the eligible candidates through verification of documentation of land ownership. The selection process also included members from the Ministry of Resettlement and Diaspora Affairs (MORDA) and the District Commissioner

The cash transfer was done in two instalments. The first instalment equivalent to \$ 700 were released through mobile money via Hormuud service. The remaining \$300 was released as second instalment after verification of 75% completion of ongoing constructions.

Conditional cash for construction of permanent shelters was extremely successful. One lesson learned is that for improving accountability the cash distribution should be done through cash vouchers. This procedure has been assessed by INTERSOS staff, UNHCR, local authorities and beneficiaries as fundamental to ensure more accountability of the resources utilized. The use of vouchers for the cash transfer will also promote those vendors that are able to supply the best material in terms of quality and cost thus ultimately promoting more safe and dignified shelter conditions for the beneficiaries