

Public Land Allocations for Displaced Populations in Somalia

September 2018

Overview:

More than 1.5 million people have become internally displaced in Somalia since November 2016 as a result of drought, conflict and flooding. This number is in addition to an existing estimated 1.1 million people in protracted displacement. Most displaced people are leaving rural areas and moving towards urban centres in search of livelihood opportunities and humanitarian assistance. The majority of people have self-settled in sub-standard private IDP sites and are repeatedly identified as the poorest and most vulnerable, often with limited local acceptance due to their social background. Local authorities have struggled to cope with the doubling of populations in urban areas and the multitude of problems associated with the influxes. In the past year, several district and state authorities have decided to allocate public land for displaced populations in order to improve service delivery and living conditions and to mitigate the negative effects associated with private IDP sites such as gatekeepers and evictions.

According to the CCCM Cluster Detailed Site Assessment, only 8% of IDP sites are on land belonging to local authorities or the federal government while 83% of IDP sites are on privately owned land.

Dollow

Displacement: An approximate 76,000 displaced people live in Dollow. 72,000 of these people are in two main IDP sites - Kabasa and Qansaxley.

Rational: Displaced people started arriving in Dollow in 2011. The local government allocated public land in two locations in order to accommodate the IDPs in Kabasa and Qansaxley. In 2016, the drought sparked another large influx of displaced people into Dollow. The local government allocated additional space adjacent to existing sites for new arrivals and requested the CCCM cluster to support the site planning in order to improve service provision and living conditions.

Land Allocation: Additional land was allocated to increase Kabasa site in order to accommodate new arrivals.

Site Specifics: The CCCM partner re-planned the existing site and the extension to give increased plot sizes and bring service areas closer to the population. More than 10,000 (2,600 HH) people have been internally relocated. Plot sizes increased from 3x3 m² to 8x6 m². WASH systems were vastly improved to exceed sphere standards to one family shared latrine for four families and 15 litres per person of water per day. Site planning was also conducted in the additional space of Qansaxley so that all new arrivals to Dollow could move there with the exception of IDPs joining existing family.

Coordination: CCCM partner coordinated with local authorities and partners working inside the two sites.

Beneficiary criteria: New arrivals from 2017 and beyond were relocated



Timeline: October 2017 – July 2018

Baidoa:

Displacement: Baidoa is hosting 40,000 IDP households, roughly 300,000 individuals in 371 IDP sites.

Rational: After Mogadishu evictions in December 2017, a meeting was held by the Mayor of Baidoa to discuss how to avoid mass evictions in South West State (SWS). Since January 2018, 2,400 households were evicted from 22 settlements in Baidoa. To mitigate evictions and raise the living standards of displaced people, the government decided to allocate two pieces of land for IDP settlements.

Land allocation: Two sites (15 km² in the north and 20 km² in the south) have been donated and assessed by the local government and humanitarian partners.

Site Specifics: Site Planning has been ongoing in conjunction with State Ministries and UN Habitat ensuring that the site meet the requirements of overall urban Planning and with the possibility of increasing plot sizes in the long term aim exceed sphere standards. The draft site plan will be presented to government authorities, Task Force members and clusters for comments by mid-September.

Coordination: A Baidoa Publis Site Task Force was formed and the first meeting was held in mid August. The task force is co chaired by Government and CCCM Cluster. The task force includes members of the local, state and regional authorities, clusters, national NGOs, international NGOs, UN agencies and durable solutions partners. Meeting are held monthly.

Beneficiary Criteria: Relocation will be carried out in phases with the initial pilot phase targeting 4,000 IDP households. Beneficiary selection will first target IDP sites at risk of eviction, congested sites, vulnerable toflooding, , and those who may need to be relocated as part of the urban plan.

Timeframe: TBD

Galkayo North

Displacement: North Galkayo has 34 settlements and around 122,000 IDPS

Rational: The government decided to allocate public land to IDPs to alleviate problems that IDP sites were experiencing such as gatekeeper extortion, poor living conditions for new arrivals, and the scattered nature of settlements making a challenge to implement humanitarian interventions.

Land allocation: The local authorities donated two plots of land (one in West and one in East Galkayo) to accommodate over 40,000 IDPs. The land was acquired by the local authority through a purchase and through a formal donation from the Host community. The site in the West is two square kilometres (2 km²). It is located approximately three kilometres from the town and can host between 3,000 and 3,500 households (roughly 20,000 IDPs). The second site on the East is three square kilometres (3 km²) and approximately 16 km from the town and can host over 4,000 households (roughly 24,000 IDPs).

Coordination: In February 2018, a Task Force was established to coordinate the relocation between Government and humanitarian organizations. The Task Force is co-chaired by the government and the Protection Cluster and comprised of 22 agencies and institutions (Puntland state, UN, NGOs). The Task



Force has developed a draft framework to guide the relocation and coordinate action of the involved actors, encompassing three phases: pre-relocation, relocation and post-relocation. A technical committee has been established within the Task Force to oversee technical teams on Shelter, Protection, Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM).

Beneficiary criteria: The relocation option is open for drought displaced IDPs and other IDPs who are in similar situation and risk for eviction. The relocation is to happen gradually and IDPs who are in greater risk will be supported first. Four IDP sites will be prioritized for relocation to site in Wadajir (West Galkayo) by end of the year. An intentions survey was carried out in August and IDPs confirmed their willingness for relocation - subject to availability of basic services - to Wadajir. A total of 750 households are planned to be relocated in the first stage within a period of one month. The registration of IDPs by the local authorities in four targeted sites is tentatively scheduled to start in September.

Timeframe: 1 year timeframe

Galkayo South

Displacement: According to a Detailed Site Assessment conducted in November 2017, there are 26 IDP settlements in South Galkayo with 4,461 households (20,600 individuals). However, government sources indicate that around 19,395 households are displaced due to drought. The majority of IDPs live informal spontaneous sites in and outskirts of the town, where landlords/gatekeepers act as site managers.

Rational: Similar to Galkayo North, the local authorities have allocated public land for IDPs to alleviate a host of problems that IDP sites were experiencing such as recurrent evictions affecting around 8,000 individuals.

Land allocation: A plot has been secured from a landlord in the East side of Galkayo South for the above mentioned number of IDPs. The site in the East is one square kilometer (1km²). It is located approximately five kilometers from the town and accessible to humanitarian agencies. The authorities were unable to share any formal documentation associated with the land donation so it was agreed by the Task Force that humanitarian agencies/organizations should avoid improvements of the land until issues of land documents and tenure is resolved.

Coordination: A Task Force was established in May 2018 made up of key clusters and government authorities. The Task Force has drafted tentative framework for the process and to guide the relocation and coordinate action of the involved actors.

Beneficiary criteria: Only IDPS who are affected by evictions are being considered for the relocation by the Government.

Timeframe: TBD