



**OUTBREAK OF VIOLENCE IN GALKAIO:  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**DECEMBER 2015**

## **Background**

Galkaio is the capital city of Mudug region, situated between central and north-east Somalia. Originally, Mudug had five districts before the collapse of the Somalia central government. Since Puntland was established in 1998, its territory was limited to roughly two-and-a-half districts from the original demarcation, while the remaining territory was administered by various sub-clans of the *Hawiye* clan.

Galmudug state was recently formed as part of the current federalization vision by the Federal Government of Somalia. Galmudug comprises Galgaduud and Mudug regions; Galmudug holds that Mudug is constitutionally part of Galmudug and not Puntland. In addition, there have also been historic disputes among clans in Mudug over territory.

In 1993, during the civil war, an accord was reached between the Mudug clans in which territorial demarcation and rights of administration were defined. It was agreed that the North part will administer both the checkpoints in Galkaio as well as the Galkaio airport. Since the creation of Galmudug state, territorial dispute over Mudug region has been widespread and has claimed hundreds of lives since the 1993 accord.

29% of Galkaio's estimated 300,000 inhabitants live in 27 IDP settlements in North and South Galkaio. In October 2015, a meeting between traditional elders from both areas was held in the suburb of Garsor village, near the so called 'Green Line' (dividing North and South Galkaio), to discuss the construction of a road connecting Garsor village (in North Galkaio) with the main tarmac road (linking Galkaio and Cadaado). This project was opposed by the Sa'ad community from South Galkaio, who had gathered near the green line to oppose the road construction. Subsequent meetings of elders from both sides were held, however, the disagreement remained unresolved. Upon resumption of construction on 22 November 2015, security forces of Puntland and the Galmudug administration clashed and fighting erupted.

From 28 November, Puntland Authority recommenced the construction of the disputed road construction at Garsor village. According to Puntland Authority, Galmudug security forces have responded by attacking the Puntland military personnel present at the site. The fighting escalated as both sides summoned back up forces and exchanged fire from heavy weapons. The fighting had stopped at the time of writing, but the situation remains tense and highly volatile.

The Prime Minister of Somali Federal Government along with some cabinet ministers, President of Juba-Land, and President of South-West Interim Government have all arrived Galkaio to drive reconciliation efforts between Puntland and Galmudug state authorities. President Abdiweli of Puntland and President Abdikarim of Galmudug have also arrived in Galkaio for talks. On 2 December, an agreement was reached between the states that comprised four main articles: 1) immediate ceasefire; 2) withdrawal of military forces from the front line; 3) formation of committees comprising state- and local-level representatives to resolve contentious issues; and 4) and immediate return of Galkaio communities (both host communities and IDPs). The agreement was officially signed off by the Presidents of Puntland and Galmudug in front of the UN, IGAD and other Somalia leaders, and was officially announced through the media.

## **Humanitarian Impact**

Thousands of both host community and IDPs have moved out of Galkaio, both south and north Galkaio in search of safer surroundings. Among those are vulnerable IDP communities those have neither relatives nor villages they may evacuate to or seek support from immediate relatives they

may have. The only viable option for the IDPs to flee was to walk on foot and reach north IDP settlements, in which the nearest IDP settlement takes 11km to reach. The evacuated IDPs have been resided public structures included schools and health facilities as there were no other available shelter for them. Humanitarian emergency was reported at those evacuated areas, lack of water, food, medicine and shelter are among those humanitarian gap reported since the run off.

On 27 November, SCI's office was temporarily closed and all staff were evacuated to Garowe. Only the field manager remained in Galkaio to oversee and monitor the security situation and provide regular updates to the area and country office. As part of responding to the humanitarian emergency for the evacuated IDPs, a secondary data has guided us to develop a response plan, which confronting different humanitarian front. Provision of water trucking, provision of emergency mobile health services, distribution of NFIs and hygiene kits and unconditional cash grants; as plans went forward, constant reviews to the plans and budget sourcing sustained, a first wave response was finally agreed to kick of the emergency medical services and the procurement of the NFI as part of the first wave response. To move forward, qualitative primary data was deemed crucial as it provides necessary options and decision. Piloting a preliminary rapid assessment was seen crucial as it offers clear directions.

### **Assessment Methodology**

The assessment was simple and targeted only at the community committees of the villages assessed, IDPs community committees, and camp managers. A simple, half-day exercise was planned at 12 locations where the majority of displaced persons from Galkaio were accommodated.

The methodology was to reach a community, explain our mission objective and ask for a committee or camp manager to ask few questions. The teams were oriented not generate expectation from the community while explaining the objective of seeking information to facilitate a response. Proper Interacting and engaging with our respondents provided us the information we required within the minimum timeframe.

The teams were equipped with the assessment tool, two 4WD land-cruisers and smart phones they may use as photo capturing. They travelled 5am on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, and came back from the field by 5pm in the afternoon with mission accomplished. The tools were fully filed and inclusive photos were taken from the evacuated IDPs during the mission.

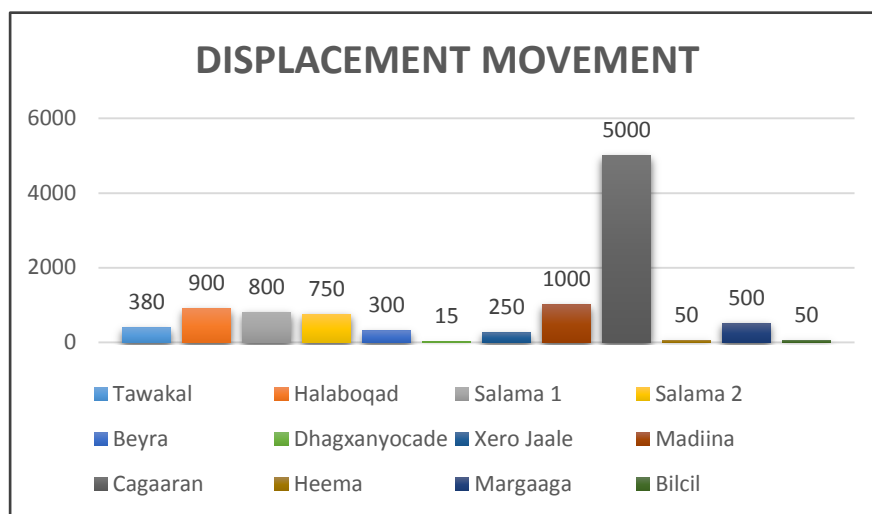
### **Key Results**

1. 9,995 households were reported to have evacuated to 12 assessed villages/IDP camps to north Galkaio side
2. 43% of 9,995 HH evacuated to 6 north Galkaio IDP settlements
3. 50% of 9,995 HH evacuated to Cagaaran village, some 32km north Galkaio, a town that resided by host community with an IDP setting already established
4. Only 7% of the 9,995 HH evacuated to other villages, non-IDP settlement
5. According to the 12 assessed sites, Dhagaxyacado village received the lowest evacuated communities which is 15 HH only
6. According to the 12 assessed sites, Cagaaran villages accommodated the highest number of the evacuated communities which is 5,000 HH
7. 7 out 12 sites responded that food distribution was their priority one, while 3 of out 13 villages consider food distribution as priority two
8. 6 out of 12 sites responded that, health services was their priority two, and 4 sites regard health services as priority three

9. 2 out of 12 sites responded that, water trucking is their priority one, while 2 sites regard water trucking as priority 3, 3 sites regard as priority four and 4 out of 12 consider water trucking as no priority at all
10. Only 5 out 12 sites consider NFI distribution as priority three, while 3 out of 12 regard it as priority four and 2 sites each in favour NFI distribution as priority one and two.

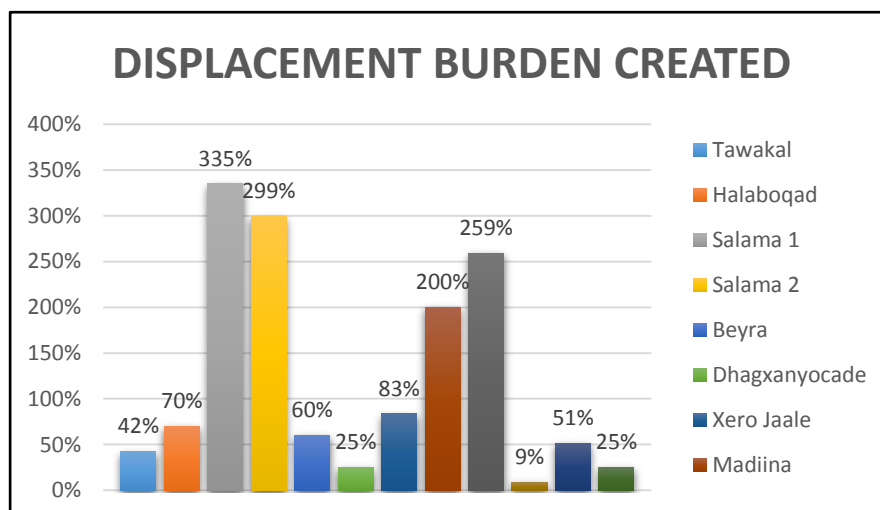
### Detailed Results

According to the rapid assessment, 9,995 HH evacuated to 12 locations to north Galkaio town, 6 of those locations were originally situated as IDP settings while the rest were host community settings. As the report states, almost 50% of the evacuated families both Galkaio IDPs and host community have flow to Cagaaran village, 32km north of Galkaio while Dhagaxyacado village accommodated the least number of the evacuated families that tall only 15 HH.

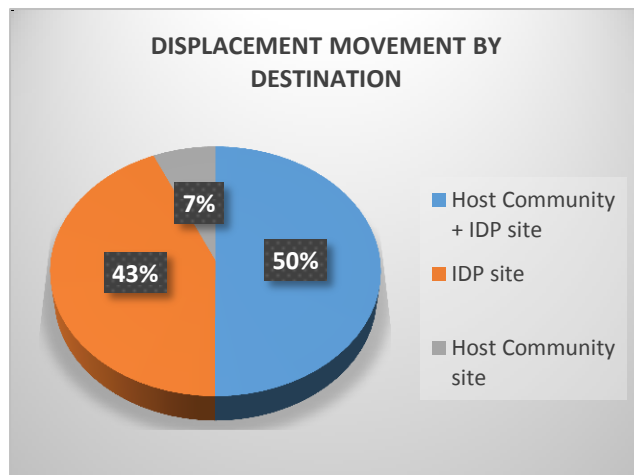


Madiina IDP situated north Galkaio recorded the highest IDP that accommodated almost 1,000 HH, more than twice its origin residents those were 500 HH. Halaboqad and Salama IDPs are among those accommodated the highest evacuated IDP communities in Galkaio.

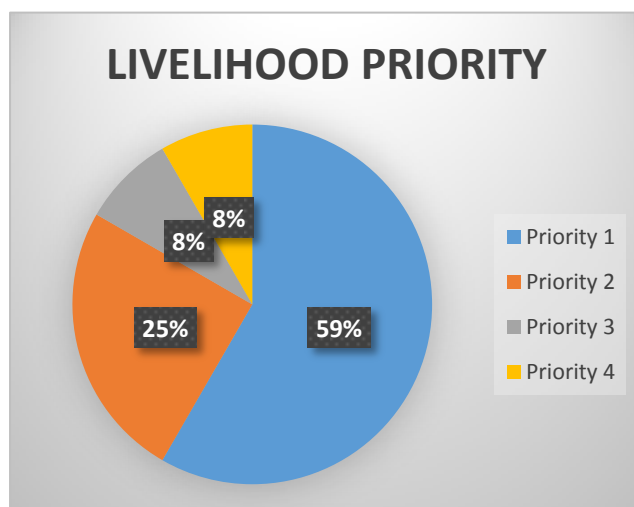
According to our respondents, the displacement has affected their situation and has created a huge humanitarian gap to the existing communities as resources were initially limited.



According to the original number of the community in the 12 assessed sites, 122% population burden was noted on top of their existing population figure and as a result, it has affected the existing livelihood structure of those 12 sites; as shown the above graph, some of the sites named Salama 1 IDP camp have accommodated 335% people on top of their population figure while Salama 2 IDP camp, Cagaaran and Madiina IDP have received a burden of 299%, 259% and 200% respectively.



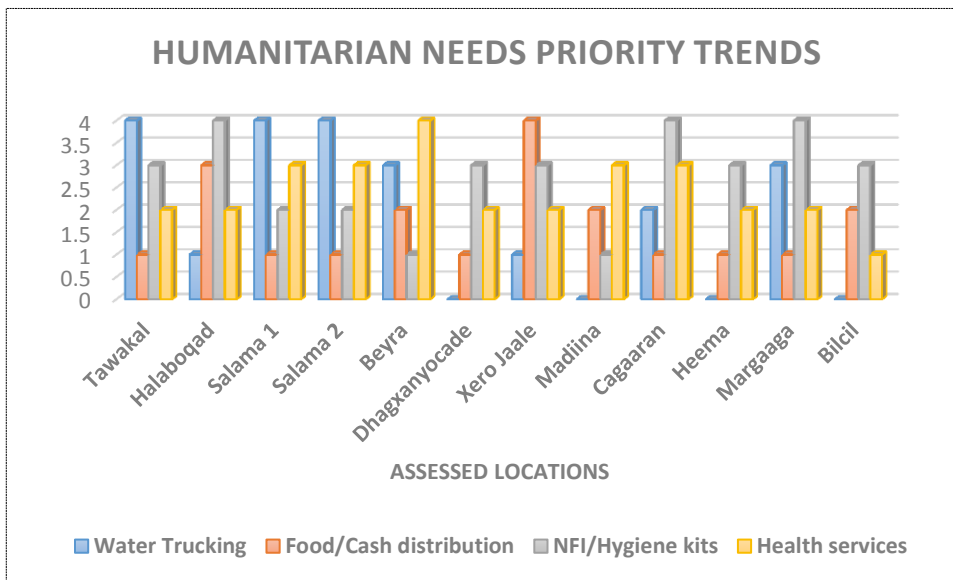
As shown by the left graph, evacuated communities movement was significant as the IDP camps accommodated 47% of 9,995 households comparing to the other destinations. Cagaaran villages ranks the highest as it received almost half of the displacement movement to the 12 assessed sites in north Galkaio. 6 Galkaio nearby villages where there is exclusive host community setting has only received 7% of 9,995 which is 665HH.



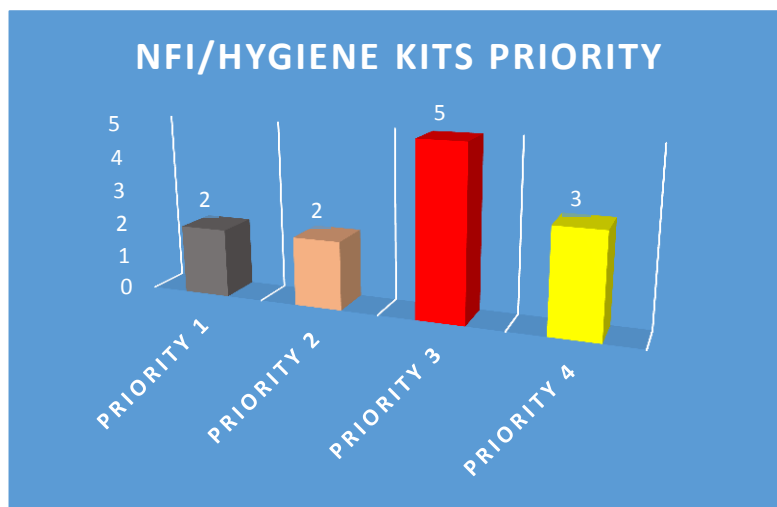
Based on our simple valuation tool indicators, we have focused on the 4 charitable needs stated at the left graph; as trends indicate, respondents priorities are not balanced and are in favour for specific needs. Majorly of priorities lay under the livelihood priorities as 7 out of 12 sites assessed indicated their humanitarian priority to be livelihood while 2 sites priorities for NFI and water trucking respectively. Below is analysed further on how these four humanitarian assessment outcome needs will guide us through our response plan.

According to the 12 sites assessed, 7 of them have prioritized food as the prime need for the current humanitarian situation at the evacuation locations. 3 other locations have responded as food supply is their second priority, combined both priority one and two are 10 sites out of 12.

It is also worth mentioning that, 5 of the 7 sites prioritized their needs as food supply first are IDP settings; this give us further dimension of the livelihood crisis in the IDP evacuation settings.



Most of the evacuated communities from Galkaio were reported to have flow out of their homes with nothing as they struggle to get materials for cooking and sleeping; as the respondents stated, people have not sleeping materials and not mosquito nets while the area Malaria prevalent rate is high. As show the left graph, people may have prioritized their prime needs as food supplies yet, 5 out of 12 sites assessed prioritized the need for NFIs as priority three. 200 kits of NFIs and 200 hygiene kits were already prepositioned in Galkaio while 375 more kits for NFI to Galkaio.



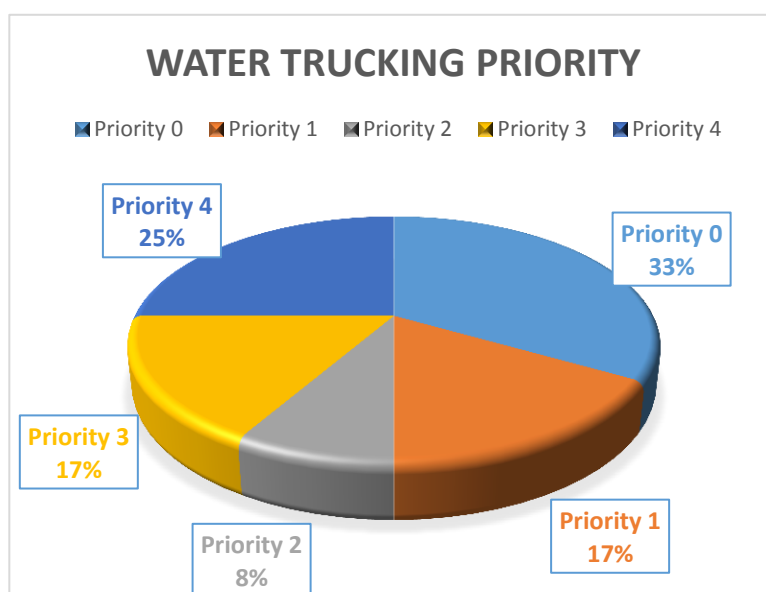
According to the data provided and physical observation made during the rapid assessment, 3 IDP settings are rated to be those have the most basic necessity for NFIs are have topped in terms of prioritization rank. Those IDP settings are named Madiina with additional 1,000 HH evacuated to, Salaama 1 and 2 IDP settings with each accommodated an additional 750 HH. Assessment team and field manager have made a joint discussion on the possibility of fair distribution of 575 NFIs to those respective IDP sites; we have also drawn a criteria for who is eligible to be given. Both eligibility criteria and proposed NFI distribution is clearly tabled below.

Criteria:

1. The household should come from an IDP community originally
2. The household should be among those recently evacuated from Galkaio fighting
3. The household should be the most vulnerable with inadequate household materials available to them
4. The household should be full sized with children

Distribution plan:

1. Madina IDP camp 215 NFI kits
2. Salama 2 IDP camp 200 NFI kits
3. Salama 1 IDP camp 160 NFI kits



In our initial emergency response plan, in which we have proposed to provide 250 water trucking to 5,000 HH in 12 villages/IDPs, the outcome of the rapid assessment has given us a different dimension where water trucking is no longer a priority according to the interviewed respondents. Most of the 12 villages/IDP settings have piped water system and barket water storage. As shown the right graph, 4 sites out of 12 have responded as water trucking is no longer a major priority to our emergency response plan while 2 out of 12 sites stated a priority one and the reason being that, both sites have a generator that requires fuel support to generate water from the water source. The provision of fuel support to Margaaga and Halaboqad IDPs, will further reduce the risk of water scarce in both locations currently accommodate a combined of [original commusnities and those evacuated to] are 1,474 and 2,184 households respectively.

On top of that, Xerojaale village respondent have claimed that they don't have water system in place and prioritized water trucking as number one urgency, and is among locations evacuated to by both Galkaio host communities and IDPs. Xerojaale village is resided by 300 HH of minority clan with inadequate access to health, education, WASH and most importantly livelihood and as a result of 250 more HH evacuated to, the humanitarian situation give the impression of further deterioration.



As the left graphs states, health priority for our emergency response plan remains high priority as per the result of the respondents; 6 out of 12 assessed sites indicate that, the immediate need for health service remain in great appeal and stated as priority two, only ahead of livelihood appeal.

Despite earlier emergency health services efforts carried out by SRCS, yet was inadequate as a result of huge demand from the evacuated crowds. SCI has planned two emergency mobile teams as

part of the initial emergency response plan, both teams planned to cover 14 sites, among those 12 sites already assessed. The mobile health response was coordinated with ministry of health, MoH brought the health personnel and medical supplies while SCI provided the transport and financial support for the mission. The mission commenced December 3<sup>rd</sup> and will continue 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### Coordination with Stakeholders

SCI has coordinated the ongoing emergency response with Galkaio OCHA field office, SRCS and GMF, MoH and local Galkaio municipality. SCI provided the details of emergency response activities were are undertaking with OCHA, a detailed information on what we are doing and where we are working and whom we are working with.

#### Conclusion

The Galkaio insecurity situation is dynamic and tension is further escalating to its limit, so as the humanitarian situation of the evacuated communities; the options are unpleasant and safety is unreliable. Despite our wishes to continue supporting the ongoing emergency to the hardly affected communities yet our choices are limited. Emergency health services are our first wave response and is ongoing; our second milestone would be that, if we remain resilient and continue to provide the NFI distribution to the affected vulnerable IDP communities, it would be significant achievement for SCI, the only INGO/UN on the ground providing support.

This rapid assessment may not be sufficient enough to capture all the relevant information we might need to support our decision of responding to the current crisis yet it may give us a breakthrough to make parallel with our current response efforts.

#### Recommendations

1. Continue the ongoing emergency mobile health services and look for more essential medical drugs as there are some shortages of essential items
2. Continue sourcing funds to further procure NFI for the affected IDPs
3. Distribution the current available NFI, 575 to the proposed affected IDP communities

4. Continue coordination with other ongoing efforts with SRCS and GMF and OCHA
5. Provision of fuel supply to Halaboqad and Margaaga water source generators so as to produce sufficient water available to the affected IDPs
6. Water trucking provision to Xerojaale minority community, 550 HH
7. Emergency livelihood program to be initiated as part of food supplies to the hardly affected IDP

ANNEX I

LIVING CONDITIONS OF DISPLACED FAMILIES

