

Current situation

Somalia is experiencing worsening drought following four consecutive seasons of failed rainy season. According to the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Famine Early Warning Network (FEWS NEST), Somalia received suboptimal amount of drier rains than expected since October 2021. Currently, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) estimates that the number of people affected by extreme drought has risen from 4.9 million in March to 7.8 million in September, with 1 million displaced from their homes in search of water, food, and pasture.

Some 6.8 million people - 45 per cent of the population - are acutely food insecure. For the first time since 2017, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification has confirmed pockets of catastrophic food insecurity (Phase 5) affecting more than 300,000 people². An estimated 1.8 million children under 5 years face acute malnutrition, including 515 550 who are severely malnourished³. The current situation including the displacement have led to more people being vulnerable to epidemic prone diseases, particularly acute diarrhoeal disease, and measles.



SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR DROUGHT-AFFECTED DISTRICTS

7.8 million people estimated to be affected by the current drought; one million have been internally displaced by drought as of August 2022.¹

Some **6.8 million** people - **45 per cent** of the population - are acutely food insecure

45 percent children face acute malnutrition

An estimated **7.7 million** people in the country require humanitarian assistance and protection.

Epidemiological weeks 44-45, 14/11/2022-27/11/2022



649
suspected cholera cases



8030
acute diarrhoeal disease cases



469
suspected measles cases



3736
SARI cases



805
confirmed cases of Malaria in August 2022

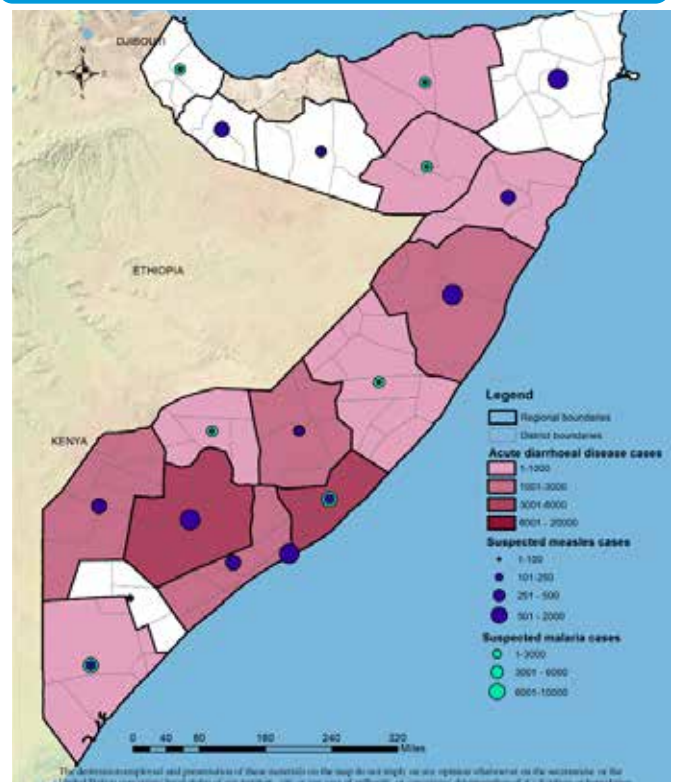


538
health facilities reporting through Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN)



2163
community health workers deployed in high risk areas including in drought affected districts

Reported cases of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI and clinically diagnosed malaria cases in drought-affected region of Somalia, (epidemiological weeks 1-47, 03 Jan to 27 November 2022)



The Federal Ministry of Health and WHO monitor the trends of epidemic-prone diseases in drought affected districts using data from the electronic-based EWARN, fever and rash surveillance system and community health workers deployed in drought affected districts. With support from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and in collaboration with state ministries of health, WHO is implementing activities aimed at preventing disease outbreaks, including the timely detection and response to alerts of epidemic-prone diseases reported among vulnerable communities in drought affected districts.

1 Somalia: 2022 Drought Impact Snapshot (As of August 2022) - Somalia | ReliefWeb
2 Somalia: Drought Response and Famine Prevention (1-24 October 2022) [EN/AR] - Somalia | ReliefWeb
3 IPC classification by FSNU as of 12 September 2022

CHOLERA IN DROUGHT-AFFECTED DISTRICTS

Recurrent cholera outbreaks have been reported in the drought-affected districts of Somalia since 2017, with no interruption in transmission in Banadir region. The number of new suspected cases of cholera have increased sharply in 2022 compared to the previous years due to an increasing number of people with limited access to safe water and proper sanitation practices especially in Internally Displaced People (IDP) camps (Figure 1). Since the epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 13 383 suspected cases of cholera with 73 associated deaths (CFR 0. 6%) were reported from 25 drought-affected districts. The number of cholera cases reported in 25 districts including Kismayo have decreased by 12% from 345 cases reported in week 46 to 304 cases in week 47 which is linked to implementation of interventions by health and WASH cluster partners. Of the 13 383 suspected cases of cholera, 8529 (64%) cases were children below 5 years, 6579 (49%) are women and 5271 (38%) are severe cases. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (5052), Bay (2 518) and Lower Juba (2213) and Kismayo 2213 which is the current epicenter of the outbreak (see Table 1).

A total of 1889 stool samples were collected from suspected cases admitted in eight treatment facilities supported by WHO and analyzed in the national public health laboratory in Mogadishu, out of which 257 (13.6%) samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa, 7(0.4%) samples were tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Inaba in Daynile and 1(0.05%) sample positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Hikojima in Marka. Culture and sensitivity studies conducted showed that the *V. cholera* serotypes isolate is sensitive to chloramphenicol and tetracycline but resistant to ampicillin and nalidixic acid.

ACUTE DIARRHOEAL DISEASES

The number of new cases of acute diarrhoeal disease reported in the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN) and from the communities in drought affected districts have increased starting in week 29 compared to the past two years. In the past two weeks, cases of acute diarrhoeal disease cases increased by 20% in the past four weeks. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 118 619 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which, 76% (90 316) were children under five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (41 024), Bay (11669) and Middle Shabelle (11371) (Table 1).WHO conducts sentinel-based surveillance for rotavirus in Banadir region which is the most common case of acute diarrhoeal disease among children aged below 5 years worldwide. Of the 662 stool samples collected from different locations from children aged below 5 years, 244(36.9%) were tested positive for rotavirus infections.

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

The trends of cases of severe acute respiratory illness (SARI) started to increase in week 29 of 2022 compared to the past two years. This increase may be attributed to increased displaced people who have poor shelter which resulted into people living in overcrowded conditions in camps (Figure 3). Since epidemiological week 1, 2022, a total of 59 326 SARI cases were reported from drought-affected districts of which 65% (38 340) were children under five years.. However, the number of new cases of SARI decreased by 15% from 2140 in week 44 to 1805 cases in week 47. The region reporting most of the cases are Banadir (14 631), Galgadud (10405) and Gedo (6852) (Table 1).

Week 46-47, 14/11/2022-27/11/2022

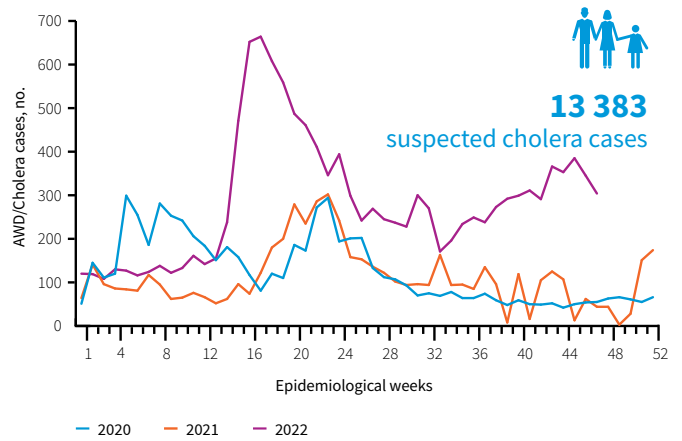


Figure 1. Trends of suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 46-47, 14/11/2022-27/11/2022

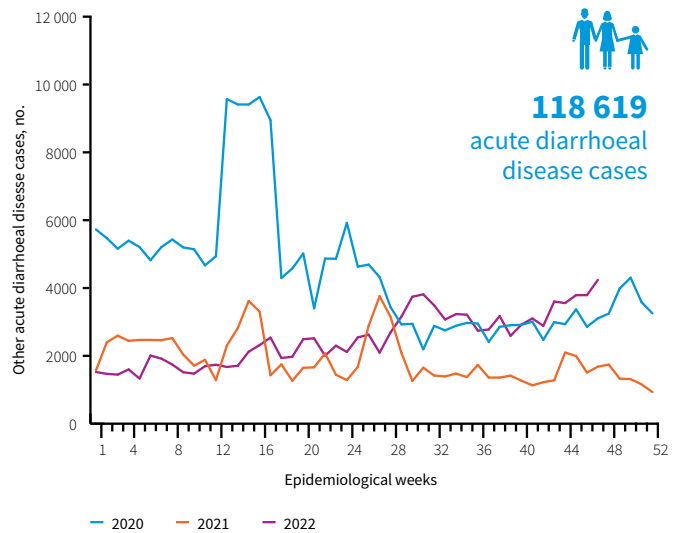


Figure 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 46-47, 14/11/2022-27/11/2022

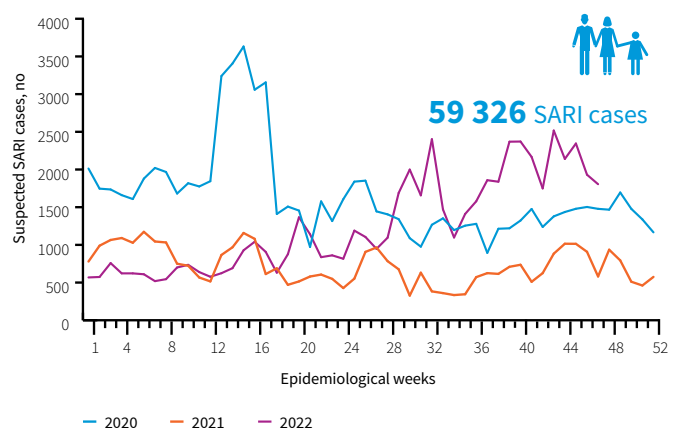


Figure 3. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

A total of 1638 suspected cases of influenza were enrolled at three sentinel sites- two located in Banadir region and one in Puntland were reported in the platform of Eastern Mediterranean Flu (EMFLU) network. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 1612 influenza cases were tested at the National Public Health Laboratory of which 132 (8.2%) were tested positive for influenza; 3 (2.3%) were positive for seasonal influenza A (H1N1); 20 (15.2%) were positive for influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 3 (2.3%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2), 13(9.8%) suspected influenza cases were not subtyped, 81(61.4%) were positive for influenza B Victoria Lineage, 1(1.2%) were positive for influenza Yagamata Lineage while 12(14.8%) Influenza B lineage not determined.

MEASLES UPDATES

The number of suspected cases of measles has increased in 2022 compared to the previous years. This surge in cases is linked to a decrease in measles vaccination coverage of children below five years in drought affected districts (Figure 4). Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 16 088 suspected cases of measles were reported through the surveillance system for fever and rash used by the polio programme in drought-affected districts. However, the number of new measles cases reported has increased by 30% from 204 in week 46 to 265 in week 47. This reduction is linked to scaling up of vaccination campaigns by outreach teams deployed by WHO in drought affected districts. Of the 16 088 suspected measles cases reported, 77% (12 396) are children below five years. The regions reporting most of the cases include Bay (3516), Banadir (3233), and Bari (2 088), (see Table 1), Of the 926 blood samples collected from suspected cases of measles and analysed in the laboratories, 61.9% (573) tested positive for measles-specific immunoglobulin M (IgM).

MEASLES VACCINE UPDATES

A total of 48152(96%) out of the targeted 54 836 children under one year of age received the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts in October 2022 according to data from district health Information software 2 (DHIS2) (Figure 5). From October 2019 to October 2022, the measles vaccination coverage ranged between 80% and 88% per month compared to the national target of 95%.

MALARIA UPDATES

The number of laboratories confirmed cases of malaria reported through DHIS2 has gradually decreased since January 2022 which might be linked to implementation of additional malaria control interventions in drought affected districts. However the number of confirmed cases of malaria reported over the past two months have increased by 37% from 1071 in September to 1470 in October (Figure 6). Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 273297 cases of suspected malaria have been reported of which 9206(3.4%) have been confirmed positive by RDT and blood smear. Of the 9,206 confirmed cases, 2390 (26%) are children aged under 5 years. Regions reporting most of the suspected malaria cases in 2022 are Banadir (33,229) Bay (25,398) and Gedo (23,310) (Table 1).

Week 46-47, 14/11/2022-27/11/2022

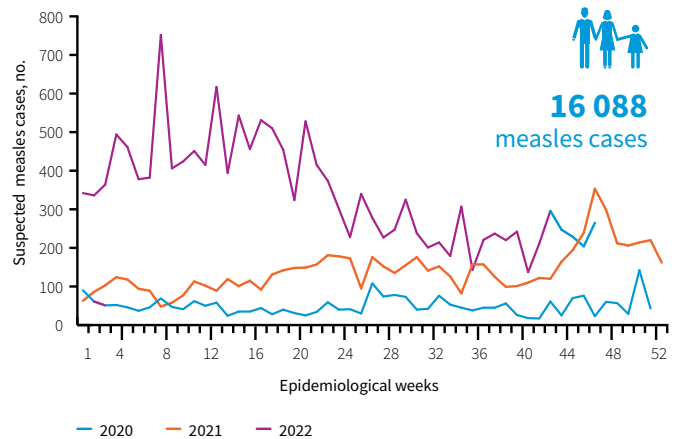


Figure 4. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020–2022

Week 46-47, 14/11/2022-27/11/2022

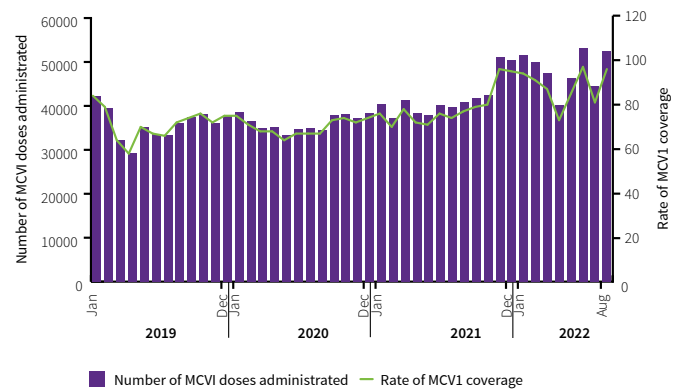


Figure 5. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019-2022

*The measles vaccination data for June and July 2022 is not yet available

Week 46-47, 14/11/2022-27/11/2022

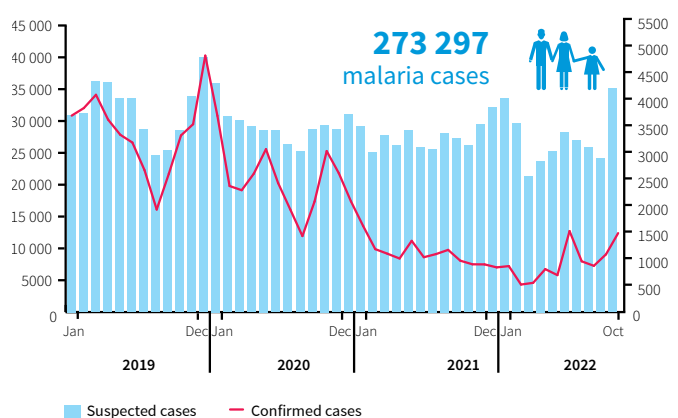


Figure 6. Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2019-2022

POLIO UPDATE

- In 2022, four circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were isolated from Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases, three circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were isolated from environmental samples (ES) while one vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (VDPV2) was isolated from an environmental sample.
- A total of 310 cases of AFP of which 140 were females and 170 males were reported in 2022. Of the 287 cases, 256 (93%) cases have laboratory results, and 23(7%) cases are pending for processing. Out of the 287 cases

with laboratory results, four were positive for cVDPV2, 6 suspected Polio Virus type 2 10 positives for Sabin Like (SL) type virus while 267 cases were tested negative.

- A total 193 environmental samples were collected from 16 sites and sent to the laboratory in 2022. Out of these samples, three were positive for cVDPV2, one was positive for VDPV2, thirty seven were positive for None Polio Enterovirus (NPEV), one Sabin like virus type 3(SL3), thirteen Sabin like virus type(SL2), one positive for both SL2, None enterovirus, ninety samples were negative and forty five are pending for processing.

Table 1: Cumulative number of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected cholera, suspected measles, SARI, and suspected malaria cases in drought-affected regions of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1-47, 03 Jan to 27 November 2022)

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease ⁴	Suspected Measles cases ⁵	Suspected Malaria case ⁶	SARI cases ⁷	Suspected cholera cases ⁸
AWDAL	0	119	13 005	0	0
BAKOOL	1905	287	7593	326	527
BANADIR	41 024	3233	33 229	14 631	5052
BARI	7704	2088	22 550	977	0
BAY	11 669	3516	25 398	6179	2518
GALBEED	0	392	9736	0	0
GALGADUD	1894	141	10 435	10 405	0
GEDO	3977	719	23310	5852	0
HIRAN	8163	367	15 137	3007	0
KARKAR	3752	-	6160	294	0
LOWER JUBA	2595	1105	16 345	1919	2213
LOWER SHABELLE	6275	563	19 538	1145	1910
MIDDLE JUBA	0	29	0	0	0
MIDDLE SHABELLE	11 371	325	17 430	1712	1163
MUDUG	4371	1789	20 275	791	0
NUGAL	5718	688	9028	1869	0
SOUTH MUDUG	3739	0	0	6076	0
SAHIL	0	37	5555	0	0
SANAG	3784	35	8150	730	0
SOOL	678	146	5639	513	0
TOGDHER	0	499	8059	0	0
TOTAL	118 619	16 088	273 297	59 326	13 383

Note: Continuous data quality review has been conducted which may lead to variation of figures for new cases and cumulative cases of epidemic prone disease in each region.

4 Source of data is EWARN as of November 2022

5 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system as of November 2022

6 Source of data is DHIS2 as of August 2022

7 Source of data is EWARN as of November 2022

8 Source of data is suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea surveillance system managed by the FMOH as of November 2022

8 Source of data is EPI/Polio Weekly update sitrep report



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