

## Highlights

- Between 24 November and 06 December 2019, an integrated campaign for vitamin A, deworming, measles, and polio vaccines was conducted reaching over 800 000 children under 5 years of age
- An upsurge of Chikungunya fever was reported in Togdheer region of Somaliland affecting 389 people from September 2019
- Surveillance data from the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN) recorded a total of 377 043 consultations in 406 (out of 498) health facilities in November 2019
- Diseases causing the highest morbidity were acute respiratory infections (33 278 cases) and acute diarrhoea (22 507 cases)
- Active cholera transmission is currently reported in Banadir region only. In 2019, a total of 2594 cholera cases and 2 deaths were reported
- A total of 466 (including 98 children under 5 years of age) new trauma cases were reported from referral hospitals .



Photo 1: WHO staff supervise integrated measles and polio vaccination campaign in Hirshabelle state in November 2019

## Key figures

### HEALTH SECTOR

<b>105</b>	Health cluster partners
<b>3 million</b>	People in need of health care
<b>2.4 million</b>	People targeted for health care

### HEALTH FACILITIES

<b>1074</b>	Total Health facilities (SARA)
<b>498</b>	EWARN reporting sites

### HEALTH EMERGENCY INDICATORS

<b>1</b>	Consultation per person per year
<b>95%</b>	SAM cure rate
<b>75%</b>	Measles1 vaccine coverage rate
<b>68%</b>	Reporting timeliness

### FUNDING (US\$)

<b>8.3 million</b>	Required for WHO's health emergency programme
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## Overall situation

- Flood-affected districts in Hirshabelle, Jubbaland and South West states of Somalia are still recovering from the negative effects of the overflow of rivers Juba and Shabelle since October 2019. This follows a period of drought resulting from insufficient rainfall reported in 2017 and 2018.
- The flooding affected close to 547 000 people with 370 000 being displaced in a country that already had an estimated 2.6 million internally displaced persons and 2.2 million in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. Further displacement has been reported in Dholeby town of Jubaland state following recent rainfall, where over 3000 households are estimated to be affected with destruction of 2 000 latrines.
- The situation predisposes affected communities to diarrhoea and mosquito-borne disease outbreaks.

## Epidemiological/Surveillance Update

- Out of a total 498 health facilities equipped with EWARN, 406 (82%) submitted weekly surveillance data in November 2019.
- As reported on EWARN, the incidence of acute respiratory infections has reduced in November 2019 (33 278 cases) compared to October 2019 (38 495). Similarly, the number of acute diarrhoea cases reduced in November 2019 (22 507) compared to October 2019 (26 338 cases). However, compared to the same period in 2018, the number of cases reported for epidemic-prone infectious diseases is higher (Fig. 1). This may be as a result of the prolonged negative effects of drought conditions with large displacement of populations, overcrowding, and shortage of safe water, which are risk factors for infectious disease outbreaks.

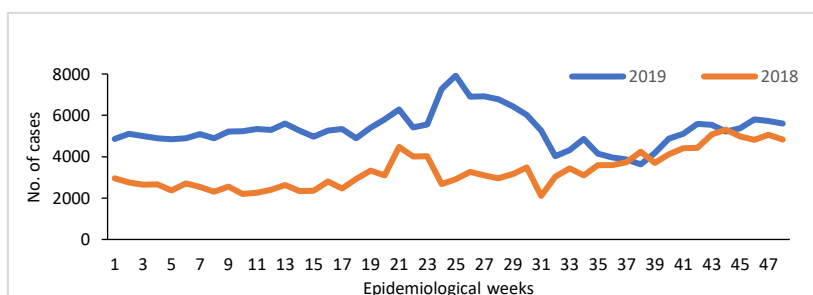


Figure 1. Trends of acute diarrhoea cases in Somalia, 2018 and 2019

## Emergency response activities

- An upsurge of Chikungunya fever was reported in Burco district of Togdheer region in Somaliland. A total of 389 cases (177 female, 212 male) have been recorded since the cases were first reported on 30 September 2019. Out of 28 samples sent to a reference laboratory, 21 samples tested positive for chikungunya virus by reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). Response measures by Ministry of Health, WHO and partners included an assessment to conduct additional investigations; feasibility to conduct fogging in affected areas; in-service health care workers training on case management; and community awareness to prevent transmission.

## Emergency response activities

- In November 2019, 846 alerts of epidemic prone infectious diseases were reported on the early warning surveillance network. Trained rapid response teams investigated 123 cases of which 56 were verified as true in the flood and drought-affected districts including (Beletweyne, Jowhar, Balcad, Qardo and Bossaso). The cases received immediate treatment and were referred to the nearest health centre.
- WHO donated a total of 1 449 cartons of medical supplies including trauma, cholera, and integrated emergency health kits (IEHK) to Jubbaland, Southwest and Hirshabelle states as a response to the flood affected communities in Beletweyne, Berdale and Bardheere districts. The supplies were enough to treat 20 000 beneficiaries for a period of two months.
- Rapid need assessment conducted in flood affected districts of Beletweyne, Berdale and Bardera identified immediate gaps as: limited medical supplies; lack mosquito vector control measures; limited primary health services among vulnerable women, children, and disabled people; and limited alert investigation due to breakdown in road infrastructure.
- A two-day training on Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN) for disease surveillance was conducted in Baidoa and Beletweyne. A total of 67 Health workers (44 men, 23 women) from health facilities were trained on surveillance, case definitions, use of mobile application and reporting. Following the training, 42 new health facilities will be added to the EWARN surveillance contributing to early detection of epidemic prone diseases.



Photo 2: WHO public health officers conducted EWARN training in Baidoa town as a part of EWARN expansion strategy under CERF project November 2019

- In response to the flooding and droughts affected communities in Hirshabelle, Jubbaland and South West states, WHO deployed 20 Integrated Emergency Response Health Teams (IERT) who provided live saving primary health care services to 32 576 (16 886 female, 15 690 male; 13 138 children under five years of age) people cumulatively.
- In response to floods in Dusamareeb in Galmudug state where 9000 people were estimated to be affected, health promotion activities were conducted reaching 1500 people (920 female, 580 male) and one rapid response team was trained to respond to alerts of infectious disease outbreaks. WHO, with support from the state Ministry of Health, is closely monitoring disease trends in flood-affected districts.
- WHO has launched an accelerated outreach EPI program in Baidoa district to improve vaccination coverage in IDPs and hard-to-reach villages. A total of 38 vaccination teams (composed of 38 vaccinators and 38 social mobilizers) were trained and deployed for two days per week to enhance vaccination coverage in Baidoa – one of the districts with low immunization coverage and high numbers of IDPs. As of the end of November, a total of 8312 children under 5 years of age received different vaccines, of whom 3915 (47%) were vaccinated through the outreach programme. The programme will continue for a period of 3 months. WHO will continue to monitor, support, and analyse the impact of the outreach services.
- A total of 22 health facilities and 12 IERT mobile health teams in Galmudug, Puntland, South West State, Jubaland, and Hirshabelle states were supervised by state-based public health emergency officers to assess surveillance activities, check the quality of data, and verify treatment of patients using standard guidelines. On-the-job training was done to address identified gaps.

## Nutrition updates

- In November 2019, nutrition training was conducted in Baidoa for 30 health workers (23 men, 7 women) from nutrition stabilization centres on management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications including measles, respiratory tract infection and cholera. Training was conducted over 5 days, including a one-day practical session in Bay regional hospital.
- The total number of new admissions in November 2019 was 1207 from 34 stabilization centres which submitted monthly reports in November 2019 compared to 34 SC in October 2019.
- Overall completeness of reporting was 64% (34 out of 53 stabilization centres).
- Stabilization centre treatment outcome indicators shows that, a total of 1 150 SAM cases were discharged from stabilization centre of whom, 1 090 (95%) were cured, 18 (1.6%) died, 46 were referred for further medical treatment and 21 (1.8%) defaulted from treatment. WHO support to stabilization centres in management of medical complications, through training, SAM kit supplies, and supportive supervision contributed to improved outcome indicators within Sphere standards for emergency response.

## Monitoring of trauma cases

- Since July 2019, 4522 trauma cases were reported of which 466 trauma cases and 3 deaths were reported in November 2019, from health facilities in Hirshabelle, Puntland, Jubbaland, Galmudug and South West states of Somalia. Of the 466 cases, 98 (21%) were below five years of age. The deaths were mainly reported from hospitals and referral hospital in the states.

## Health cluster and coordination (HCC)

- On November 2019, subnational health cluster coordination for South West State was held in Baidoa. Thirty-two health partners attended the meeting to discuss key public health issues including flood response, health update and gaps in health interventions. Partners shared their response on the flooding in Beletweyne including mass distribution of treated nets and food.
- In Puntland, the health cluster focused on prevention and control activities for increase diarrhoeal diseases as reported on EWARN
- In November 2019, WHO held consultative meetings with the Ministry of Health, donors, and partners, and conducted site visits in Baidoa, Banadir, and Hargeisa to collect information to develop a background paper which will inform the health sector on implementation of the humanitarian development nexus (HDN).

## Integrated measles and polio campaign

- An integrated measles, polio, Vitamin A supplementation, and deworming campaign was implemented in Galmudug, Hirshabelle, South West and Jubbaland States between 24 November and 06 December 2019. Planning, implementation, and supervision was done jointly by Federal and State Ministries of Health with support by WHO, UNICEF and NGO field partners. The table below shows the preliminary results of the campaign (4 districts in Jubaland State have not submitted full results at the time of this publication).

Table 1: Summary of integrated campaign conducted in Somalia from 24 November to 06 December 2019

State/Population Target	Galmudug			Hirshabelle			South West			Jubbaland		
	Target	Vaccinated	%	Target	Vaccinated	%	Target	Vaccinated	%	Target	Vaccinated	%
Measles target (6-59 Months)	230,480	209,080	90.7%	194,855	177,672	91.2%	484,219	400,226	82.7%	97,277	91,066	93.6%
bOPV target (0-59 months)	256,089	232,013	90.6%	216,506	195,709	90.4%	538,021	452,603	84.1%	108,085	102,139	94.5%
Vitamin A target (6-59 months)	230,480	209,728	91.0%	194,855	177,917	91.3%	484,219	400,527	82.7%	97,277	85,059	87.4%
Deworming target (12-59 months)	204,871	183,980	89.8%	173,205	129,855	75.0%	430,417	223,508	51.9%	86,468	69,010	79.8%

NB: The campaign experienced delays in Puntland, Somaliland, and Banadir Municipality; high-level discussions to agree on timelines for the campaign are ongoing.

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