

Highlights

- Active cholera transmission is currently reported only in Banadir region. In 2019, a total of 1,889 cholera cases with no deaths, were reported across Somalia.
- EWARN surveillance data for August 2019 recorded a total of 395,883 consultations across 405 (out of 485) health facilities.
- A total of 616,726 people aged 1 year and above received the second dose of OCV in six hot spot districts of Hamarjajab, Kahda, Heliwa, Bal'ad, Afgoi, and Kismayo.
- WHO, in collaboration with UNFPA and national ministries and departments, conducted a mission in Baidoa, Mogadishu, and Hargeisa to assess the blood bank services. The finding suggests limited healthcare infrastructure to collect and store blood.



Children received OCV2 vaccination certificate during the campaign implemented jointly by MOH, WHO and UNICEF in August 2019.

Overall Situation

- Somalia is experiencing prolonged negative impacts of low *Gu* rains (April – June 2019) that followed below average *Deyr* rains (October – December) in 2018. This has also compounded poor recovery from the drought that was experienced in 2016/17. The poor rains have led to the displacement of 1.7 million people and 2.2 million in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.
- In some parts of the country, heavy rains over a short period of time led to flash flooding that further aggravated the negative consequences to health. These conditions have led to an increased number of new cases of water borne diseases from the drought affected districts.
- There has been an overall reduction in the number of suspected measles cases in all areas of Somalia following a mass measles vaccination campaign that was conducted in early 2018. Since the start of the year, a total of 3402 suspected measles cases were reported, of which 502 were during August 2019. The number of suspected measles cases however started to increase during epidemiological week 23, possibly due to an increased number of susceptible children which calls for another measles mass vaccination campaign in 2019.

Key figures: HEALTH SECTOR

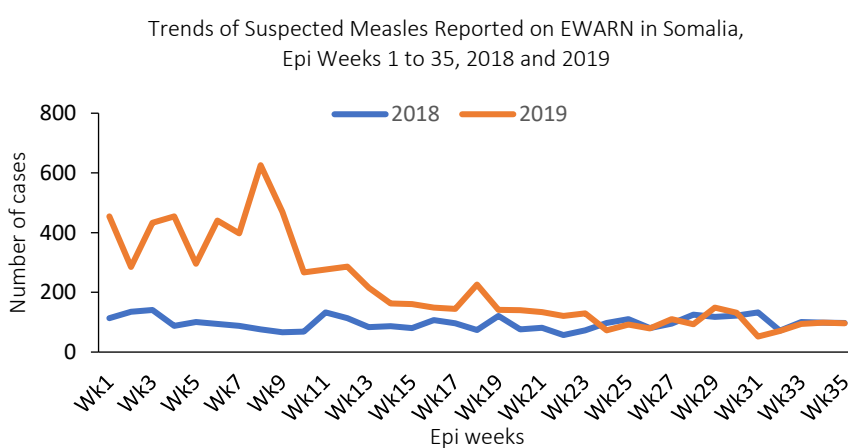
| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 105 | Health cluster partners |
| 3 million | People in need of health care |
| 2.4 million | People targeted for health care |

HEALTH FACILITIES

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1,421 | Health facilities |
| 485 | EWARN reporting sites |

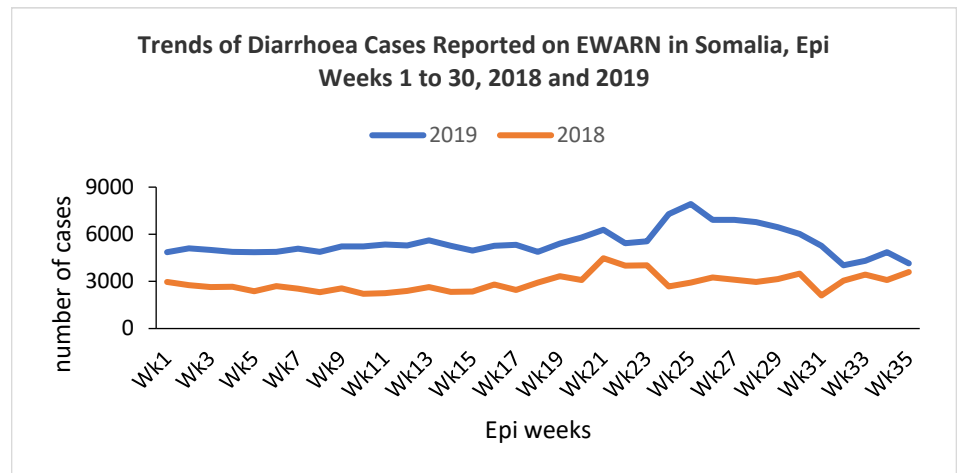
FUNDING US \$

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 8.3 m | required for WHO's health Emergency programme in 2019 |
|--------------|---|



- The number of acute diarrhoea disease cases reported across Somalia have increased in all states compared to the cases reported during the drought season of 2016/17. This may be linked to the prolonged negative impact of drought conditions with shortage of safe water, and thereby negatively affecting hygiene and sanitation measures. The drought situation has led to the displacement of persons due to limited access to safe water, proper hygiene and sanitation services. Since January 2019, a total of 169 725 cases of acute watery diarrhoea were reported from all health facilities reporting to the Early Warning, Alert and Response Network (EWARN) system.

Epidemiological surveillance update



Emergency Response activities in health

- A total of 485 health facilities across Somalia are equipped with the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN) system, out of which 405 (77%) submitted weekly surveillance data during August 2019.
- In South West State and Jubbaland state, EWARN members still use paper-based surveillance system. These health facilities are often not share data manually due to security constraints, and EWARN coverage decreases as a result.
- A total of 616 726 people (one year and above) received oral cholera vaccines (OCVs) during the second round, covering six high-risk districts: Hamarjabab, Kahda, Heliwa, Bal'ad, Afgoi, and Kismayo. No adverse event was reported following the immunization.
- The Rapid response team (RRT) in Awdal district of Somaliland verified suspected measles alerts reported on EWARN. They identified a total of 14 people (including eight women) with fever and rash. Their blood samples were collected by RRT and shipped to the public health lab in Hargeisa, awaiting for result analysis.
- A total of 2 945 people affected by drought from Karkar district of Puntland received basic primary health care services for acute diarrhea, malaria and acute respiratory illness by an integrated Emergency Response Team (IERT).
- The Ministry of Health in Somaliland, with technical support from WHO, conducted a consultative meeting which aimed to develop a cholera strategy. This consultation was supported by the Global Task Force for Cholera Control (GTFCC), and GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, are jointly supporting this initiative to reduce cholera deaths by 2030.
- WHO supported the ministry of health in Somaliland to develop an Ebola preparedness and response plan, which will improve the early detection and response to suspected cases of Ebola in Somaliland.
- WHO health emergencies team in the South West State of Somalia participated in a joint verification of the informal settlement for the internally displaced people (IDP) by drought. In Baidoa district, the estimated IDP population figure was 359 994 including 435 new IDPs.
- On the 25th of August, 2019, a suspected outbreak of cholera was reported from Badade district. On this date, 22 cases and one death were reported. The cases were from Badade town and Diidaay village. The district is under Alshabab control and access to the district is very difficult. A cholera treatment center is established at Kulbiyow MCH; severe cases are admitted and received treatment.
- As of August 30, 2019, a total of 70 cases and one death reported. 38 of the cases are female while 65 of them are under five years children. The death is also under five years of child who died before reaching health facilities in Diidaay village.
- On 29th August 2019. (45) Forty-five returnees had arrived in Baidoa from Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya, as part of the UNHCR voluntary repatriation program. Of whom, 18 female, 13 male and 14 were children under five years. The Ministry of Health with support from WHO provided health services at the reception center, OPV and measles vaccine, Vitamin A was given to children under five years. Accordingly, 8 girls and 6 boys have received vaccination with Vitamin A, health education awareness and medical check-ups of adults was also done.

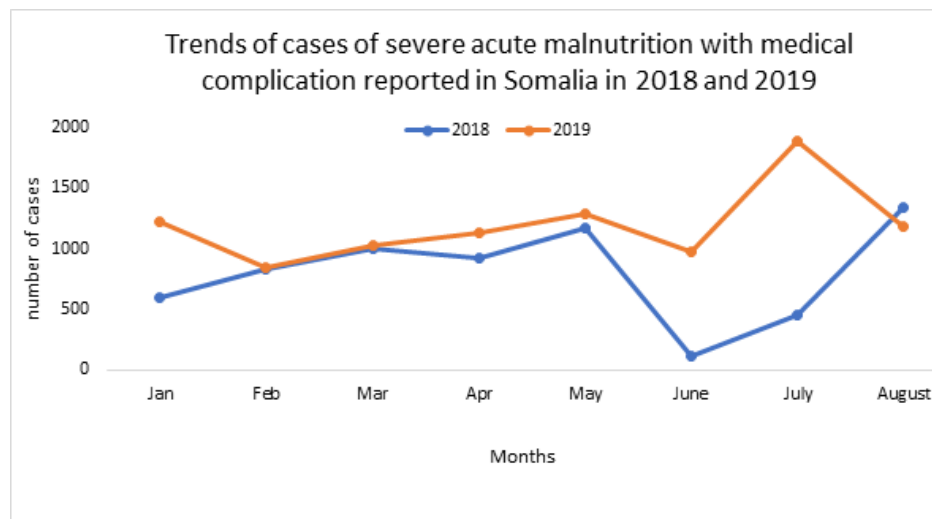


Joint WHE and Polio supervisions in Kalabeyr and Sunajif health centers August 2019

- An estimated 1 008 500 children under the age of five years are likely to face acute malnutrition, and 178 400 are likely to be severely malnourished until June 2020 due to drought. Therefore, integrated interventions (treatment as well as nutritional support) are needed to support recovery and prevent deterioration in the nutrition situation.
- A total of 1 181 SAM cases with medical complications (among children below 5 years) were reported from all states in August 2019, compared to 1,882 cases during the same period in 2018.
- Out of 53 nutrition stabilization centers across Somalia, only 38 (72%) submitted monthly reports in August 2019, compared to 39 in July 2019. The unreported cases might have contributed to a decline in the number of SAM children.

Nutrition updates

Results from 33 separate nutrition surveys conducted by the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) Somalia in June and July 2019 indicated the persistence of widespread acute malnutrition in Somalia due to a combination of factors, including food insecurity, high morbidity, low immunization and vitamin-A supplementation, and poor care practices.



Health Cluster and coordination

- In Galmudug state, a Health Cluster meeting discussed strategies to increase vaccine uptake in all districts of the state.
- In Puntland state, a Health Cluster meeting discussed the mapping of health service providers in Taleh and Hudun districts of the Sool region that was affected by drought and protracted conflict. This mapping exercise will contribute to avoiding the duplicating the implementation of health-care services in those two districts



WHO presented, at the national Health cluster meeting held in August, the importance of gender based planning for implementation of health activities in Somalia.

Supervision and training

- In Puntland, WHO conducted supervision and on job training for 51 health facilities, one from each health facilities in August 2019, to enhance the use of standard case definitions and reporting in those health facilities. The supervision was conducted by WHO supported regional surveillance officers, Health Emergency and Polio teams. This was a follow up to EWARN training conducted in July 2018 and June 2019 in Puntland.

Monitoring of trauma cases

Blood is one of the crucial requirements for emergency trauma care, yet it is in short supply in Somalia. Limited healthcare infrastructure to collect and store blood is one of the critical shortcomings.

Trauma continues to be one of the most significant public health challenges in Somalia, and in August alone, 953 new trauma cases were reported.

WHO, in collaboration with UNFPA and national ministries and departments, conducted a mission in Baidoa, Mogadishu, and Hargeisa to assess the blood bank services.



In collaboration with UNFPA, WHO conducted a mission to assess the blood bank services in Baidoa, Mogadishu and Hargeisa in August 2019

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