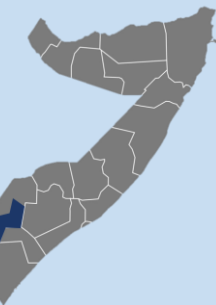


BARDERA FLOODS RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT

OCTOBER 2019



ASSESSMENT BACKGROUND

- The ‘Deyr’ rainy season began in October 2019 with heavy downpours leading to floods in Bardera district. These extreme weather conditions have affected IDP camps, agro-pastoralists and the riverine communities in the same district for the last two weeks.
- The flood has been worsened by the heavy rains in the upper parts of the Ethiopian highlands, causing an overflow of the Juba river. The flood water has destroyed crops and farm lands, which are now inaccessible.
- Other districts in Gedo region along the Juba river were also affected by the floods, such as Burdhubo and Luuq, located 120 km and 190 km respectively from Bardera. This flooding shows the highest intensity in the area for the past two years.
- The flood has engulfed most of Bardera town and the low laying surrounding areas. The affected people are moving to higher grounds and are in need humanitarian assistance.

METHODOLOGY

In light of the information above, ACTED conducted a rapid needs assessment to identify settlements that would be affected by the anticipated decline in food security, accessibility and the feasibility of supporting through cash assistance.

The assessment was conducted on 22-23 October, 2019 in Bardera District, Gedo region. Overall, six sites were assessed; Shimbirole east, Bula Asharaf, Sarinley, Aminey, Kurtumaley and Yaacdo.

The assessment was conducted through key informant interviews (KIIs) with Village Chairmen.

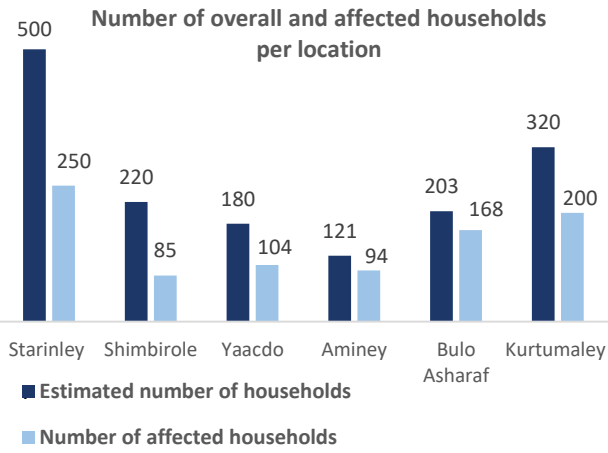
Location	Type location	IDP site	Number of KIIs
Shimbirole east	Rivernine	Yes	1
Bulo Asharaf	Rivernine	No	1
Sarinley	Rivernine	No	1
Aminey	Agropastoral	No	1
Kurtumaley	Agropastoral	No	1
Yaacdo	Agropastoral	No	1
Total			6

Table 1: Assessed locations & KIIs

HOUSEHOLDS AFFECTED

According to the interviewed key informants, **58% of the households (HHs) were affected by the floods**, with an alarming rate of 83% of households in Bulo Asharaf affected, 78% in Aminey and 63% in Kurtumaley.

Overall, **901 households** have been affected by the floods according to the Key informants (KIs).



IMPACT OF FLOODS

LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES

The floods destroyed agricultural equipment such as irrigation pumps in Shimbirole, and caused the death of goats and cattle (86 and 12 respectively in Yaacdo). In every assessed location, **crops have been severely damaged by the floods**. In Sarinley and Shimbirole, expected harvested crops were fully destroyed, highly affecting daily agricultural works, the main income source for the HHs. Farmlands were also entirely under water in Bulo Asharaf and Kurtumaley villages.

TRANSPORT NETWORK

Roads connecting the villages and IDP sites to the main Bardera market have been damaged by the flood, **limiting access to food, main goods and services**. Car transportation between Aminey, Bulo Asharaf, Kurtumaley and Bardera are no longer possible.

WATER SUPPLY

Water supply has critically worsened in every assessed villages, due to the floods.

An average of 85% of the population uses river streams as their main source of both drinking and domestic water in Sarinley and Shimbirole. These sources are now polluted from the flood waters. In Yaacdo, the floods have destroyed all water catchments, which is the main source of drinking water. The quality of the water in every location, has now become muddy and is polluted with organic waste. **Water is thus unsuitable for drinking.**

SANITATION & HYGIENE

In all assessed areas, KIs reported the **destruction of existing latrines** location (95% of the latrines are flooded in Aminey and 90% in Kurtumaley). **Open defecation** is now practiced by the whole population as a consequence. No watery diarrhea outbreak has been reported in any of the villages nor IDP sites, but the communities fear the **risk of water-borne disease outbreaks**.

SHELTER

The floods have damaged shelters in every location. Bulo Asharaf is the most affected village with 152 shelters destroyed (75%). Ninety-four (94) HHs have lost their house in Aminey (78%), 20 shelters were affected in Kurtumaley (6%) and 5 in Yaacdo (3%).

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DISPLACEMENT

The **heavy rainfalls have caused displacements** of population from villages near the river bank*, to some of the assessed villages such as Sarinley, Shimbirole and Yaacdo. No HHs fled to Aminey, Bulu Asharaf nor Kurtumaley.

However, **65 HHs in Aminey left the village** to reach Bardera town after having lost their houses, and some of Bulu Asharaf's HHs left for an upper land location (Bula-bay).

While a few households depending on agricultural activities **left Shibmirole** village to reach Bardera in search of livelihood opportunities, as a result of their agricultural livelihoods being disrupted.

The remaining households also depending on agriculture have the intention of leaving the village too. No displacements were reported in Kurtumaley.

MARKETS

ACCESS TO MARKETS

Bardera market remains accessible for all villages **by foot** according to the KIs. The market is located 7km away from the villages on average.

HHs in **Aminey no longer have access to their regular market** and are therefore go to Bardera market. Commercial connexions (by car) between **Asharaf, Kurtumaley and Bardera Market are no longer possible due to road destructions.**

* Villages located by the river bank are notably Kurman, Garaay, Bay Gajece, Bula Bana

PRICES & VENDORS

Due to the **deterioration and impracticality of commercial roads** leading to Bardera, prices of goods are increasing daily in the market.

According to the KIs, 90% of vendors still accept money transfers in the market.

PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

All KIs agreed on the fact that all goods were available in Bardera market but are however of medium or low quality.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



No humanitarian assistance has been reported in any of the assessed locations following the floods. Women, children and elderly remain the most vulnerable population.

URGENT NEEDS

All assessed locations reported their main needs at the moment were **cash transfers, access to clean water, food and hygiene kits, in priority order.** Yaacdo and Kurtumaley KIs also reported the need of **mosquito nets.**

Bulu Asharaf, Kurtumaley and Aminey villages also highlighted the urgent need of **shelter support and latrine reconstruction.**

As most HHs depend on agricultural activities, the clearance of irrigation pumps and distribution of farming inputs is also highly recommended.

6

KEY
INFORMANT
INTERVIEWS

3

RIVERNINE
SITES

3

AGRO-
PASTORAL
SITES

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The river flooding impacts the most vulnerable communities in Bardera and immediate needs are reported lack of **clean water, shelter, food** as well as **latrine construction and hygiene kits distribution.**



In the rural areas, displaced people often move to nearby-elevated areas and Bardera town after having lost their crops and/or houses. As Aminey, Bulu Asharaf and Kurtumale were most affected by displacement and shelter damage, **shelter kit distribution would be highly needed.**



Water supply conditions have significantly worsened and a vast majority of existing latrines are under water. The assessed communities are thus in urgent **need of hygiene kit distribution** and support for **access to clean water.**



Bardera market is still accessible by foot for all of the assessed villages, but prices keep increasing daily.

Cash distribution would thus be needed for access to food and basic needs.



Most cultivable land are underwater and agricultural equipment and infrastructure is damaged, including canals, culverts and irrigation pumps. The irrigated and established crops are destroyed by the floods and this in turn has impacted on low production and limited agriculture and labour opportunities. **Farming inputs** distribution is therefore highly recommended too.



Sarinley road to Bardera market to access or purchase daily base needs, October 22th 2019

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Village along the west bank of the river Juba cut off by the floods, 16 October, 2019



Shimbirole crops destroyed by the floods, October 22 2019



Bulo asharaf road to Bardera market near Bardera bridge, October 22 2019