

COVID-19 Situation Report

Fast Facts



Confirmed
COVID-19 cases
In Somalia

3,310



Recovered
cases

2,579



Reported
Fatalities

93

Key Population Groups



Internally
Displaced Persons

2.6M



Women of
Reproductive Age

3.5M



Pregnant
Women

387,450



Adolescents and
Youth (Age 10-24)

2.7M

1. Overview

- Somalia continues to face triple humanitarian threats; desert locust, floods and the COVID-19 Pandemic. Among the 5.2 million in need in Somalia this year, 3.5 million are women of reproductive age. As of 29 August, 2020, confirmed COVID-19 cases in Somalia had reached 3,310 with 2,579 recoveries and 93 fatalities. Although some COVID-19 restrictions have been eased in the country, the food insecurity situation has already deteriorated due to the ongoing locust infestation. The triple crises have exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities of women and girls and affected livelihoods for the poor families and internally displaced persons in most parts of the country. Also, the number of women and girls facing abuse including sexual violence has significantly increased due to restrictions on movement, as well as economic and social stresses induced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- UNFPA Somalia continues to support the government and works with UN agencies and national and

international partners to minimize disruption to the lifesaving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services, supports the COVID-19 risk communication and community engagement, provide protective personal equipment (PPE) and supports the safety of patients and health workers through strengthening infection, prevention, and control. Also, UNFPA and its partners are currently responding to the current floods in the country.

- UNFPA Somalia has updated and activated its business continuity plan to ensure time-critical activities and functions related to managing staff safety and security despite the COVID-19 crisis and restrictions on physical movement in Somalia. The UNFPA country office has established systems and tools, including e-signatures and e-filing system, required to continue signing work plans and disbursing cash in a paperless fashion.



2. UNFPA Supported Services and Beneficiaries (25 July to 26 August 2020)

Women benefitting from SRH services (including antenatal and postnatal care, emergency obstetric and newborn care services)	People benefitting from birth spacing services, information, and counseling	People reached with services related to gender-based violence (prevention, risk mitigation, and response)	People benefitting from SRH and GBV awareness-raising and information campaign including coronavirus prevention	Health care providers and midwives benefitting from the training on coronavirus prevention guidelines
10,132 including 9,043 of normal deliveries assisted by Skilled Birth	795	2,761	96,273	41

3. UNFPA Response Summary

Coordination

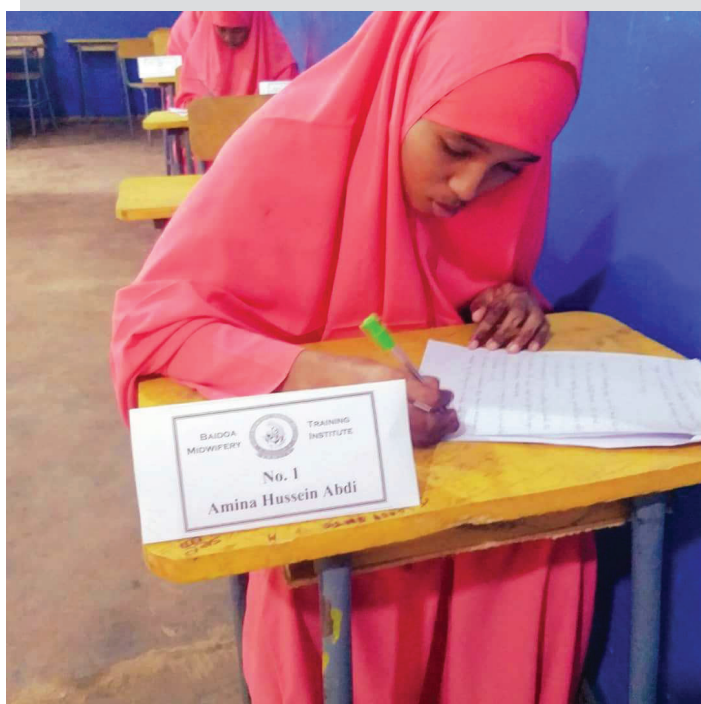
- UNFPA Somalia is working closely with the Federal Government and the Federal Member States, UN agencies, and other partners to ensure the continuity of SRH and GBV services. UNFPA is engaged in the various coordination mechanisms including the UN Country Team and Humanitarian Coordination Team and supports the national COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plans ensuring integration of SRH and GBV concerns
- UNFPA leads the national and sub-national GBV sub-cluster under the protection cluster and reproductive health working group under the health cluster
- UNFPA continues working to ensure that the supply of reproductive health commodities is maintained & that midwives & other health personnel have the personal protective equipment they need to stay safe amidst COVID-19 response and floods in Somalia
- UNFPA Somalia continues to produce COVID-19 vulnerability mapping by risk factor and related indicators from SHDS for the country’s major towns including Benadir, Baidoa, Garowe, Kismayo and Galkayo. The products are designed to guide the humanitarian partners for targeted COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities

Continuity of SRH interventions, including protection of health workforce

- Despite the funding challenges this year, UNFPA continue to provide leadership and support for the continuity of and access to quality life-saving essential SRH information and services for women, adolescents and youth during COVID-19 pandemic.
- UNFPA continues to support to the De Martino Hospital in Mogadishu which is currently serving as the government-designated national referral center for COVID-19 case management and isolation for the entire country

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- Providing support to the prevention and mitigation efforts of the spread and transmission of COVID-19 in Emergency Obstetric Care and Neonatal Care (EmONC) facilities across the country and supporting the procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for health care workers, including midwives
- UNFPA Somalia continues to support the training of health care workers including midwives on Infection Prevention and Control and Case Management using WHO guidelines for service providers



- UNFPA and its partners have trained university students to become knowledge-sharing champions on reproductive health on issues such as sexually transmitted illnesses & HIV, family planning in the context of COVID-19
- UNFPA and its partners continue supporting the provision of family planning services while responding to COVID-19 and floods across Somalia

Addressing Gender Based Violence

- UNFPA is ensuring the continuity of and access to lifesaving GBV prevention and response services such as the provision of clinical care, psychosocial support and legal aid and material support to survivors of GBV) for women, adolescents and youth
- Amidst COVID-19 response, UNFPA and partners continues to conduct capacity strengthening workshops for service providers in providing basic psychosocial support for survivors of gender- based violence

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- UNFPA and partners are ensuring the continuous provision of psychosocial support to survivors of gender-based violence amidst COVID-19 response. UNFPA also supported the training of staff and production of training manuals for psychosocial first aid responders across Somaliland
- UNFPA continues to strengthen the GBV One Stop Centres across the country, which integrate care for survivors of Gender-Based Violence with reproductive health services
- UNFPA and its partners are supporting the mobilization of medical doctors, religious leaders and civil society leaders for radio talk shows on #EndFGM Campaign to reach out to more people as Somalia sees a rise in Female Genital Mutilation during the COVID-19 lockdown
- UNFPA supported the development of GBV-COVID-19 messages including guidelines and dissemination using service sites and during the distribution of dignity and hygiene kits
- UNFPA is supporting the training and sensitization of social workers, counsellors and legal aid focal points to put in place measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 during GBV service delivery



Risk communication and community engagement

UNFPA Somalia continues to support and engage with the Government and partners in the risk communication and community engagement through:



- Production of COVID-19 vulnerability mapping by risk factor and related indicators from SHDS for Benadir Region, Baidoa and Galkayo in support of the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) by all the humanitarian partners. The products are specifically useful for proper targeted RCCE activities for the concerned locations
- Communication platforms such as podcasts, and media (videos, radio, web-based) to reach as many people as possible across the country



- Participation in risk communication and community engagement working groups within the COVID-19 taskforce pillars
- An effort to mitigate the risks of FGM/GBV/SRH: UNFPA is supporting joint awareness raising, education, and activism with a wide range of partners, including communities targeting women of reproductive age, youth, elderly men and women, female health workers and Internally Displaced Populations (IDPs)
- UNFPA continues to support and guide young people's engagement in Somalia through mobile caravans. Communities are informed on the significance of staying at home and social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19

4. Resource Mobilization

- Due to the increased humanitarian threats in Somalia and to address the needs of women and girls in Somalia, more funding is required to support scaling up of the response. Also noted is the overall declining trend of funding for GBV service provision in the country. This is due to reprioritization and the struggle to get GBV prioritized within contingency plans for COVID-19 at the UN and the national level
- UNFPA Somalia is trying to reach out to bilateral donors to mobilize the required funding for UNFPA Somalia's COVID-19 response plan for SRH and GBV activities including services, supplies, information, and coordination



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