# Health Emergency Programme Update – Somalia May 2020



## **Highlights**

- COVID-19: In May 2020, a total of 45 795 people were screened for COVID-19 at 6 land crossings in Kismayo, Dolow, Dobley, Luuq, Beletxawo and Ceelwaaq Jubaland State. Furthermore, in May 2020, the Ministry of health working with WHO tested 3250 suspected cases of COVID-19, of which 1351 tested positive (967 males, 384 females)
- FLOODING: A total of 205 198 people have been affected by the recent flooding in Southwest, Hirshabelle, Somaliland. Of these 111 732 people were displaced and 10 deaths. A total of 750 houses were damaged by the heavy Gu rains.
- CHOLERA: Cholera cases continued to be reported in Banadir, Bari, Hiran and Middle Shabelle regions. A total of 3957 cases and 22 deaths have been reported since the beginning of 2020.
- EWARN: Out of 535 health facilities, 288 sent weekly surveillance data in May. A total of 252 389 consultations were recorded which was 38% decrease from the previous month (407 983). Diseases causing the highest morbidity were acute respiratory infections (22 476 cases) and acute diarrhoea (15 424 cases) which was 31% and 41% decrease respectively. This may be due to low health seeking behavior during the COVID-19 pandemic.



WHO handing over emergency supplies to SWS MOH on 20 May 2020. WHO airlifted life-saving medicine and other emergency supplies for flood-affected areas in SWS, Hirshabelle and Jubaland

# **Epidemiological/Surveillance Update**

- Out of the total 535 health facilities participating in the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN), 288 (55%) submitted weekly surveillance data in May 2020. The incidence of acute diarrhoea cases in May 2020 (15 424 cases) comparing to that of April 2019 (22 900 cases), there is decrease of 41% number of acute respiratory cases reported in May, as well as acute diarrhoea 31% decrease; this is due to lock down for COVID-19, which let also under reporting (Fig.1).
- The number of acute respiratory cases decreased in May 2020 (22 476 cases) compared to April 2019 (27 101 cases). This may be due to low health seeking behavior during the COVID-19 pandemic.

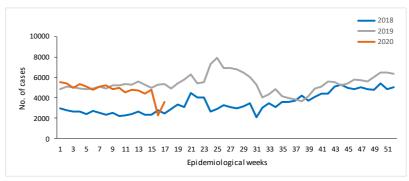


Fig. 1. Trends of acute diarrhoea cases in Somalia, 2018, 2019 and 2020

# HEALTH SECTOR

# **Key figures**

105 Health cluster partners

**3.1 million** People in need of health care

**2.4 million** People targeted for health care

## **HEALTH FACILITIES**

1 074 Total Health facilities

**588** EWARN reporting sites

## HEALTH EMERGENCY INDICATORS

1.4 Consultation per person per year

**77.6%** SAM cure rate

**50%** Measles1 vaccine coverage rate

44% Reporting timeliness

## **FUNDING (US\$)**

**8.3 million** Required for WHO's health emergency programme

## **Health intervention coordination**

- National Health Cluster coordination /sub national Coordination Meetings was
  conducted during May 2020 the implementing partners has expressed concern about
  the current flood and indicated that At least 300 IDP families affected by the floods in
  Jowhar and Balad area have recently arrived at new IDP settlement North East
  Mogadishu, at Daynile district, the heavy rains, combined with wind has left lack of
  shelter and of adequate food, it likely to increase in illnesses such as diarrhoea and
  respiratory diseases and the vulnerable group are among women, children and the
  elderly.
- WHO state public health officers have verified 236 of the total 447 alerts reported to EWARN during the reporting period which verification rate shown to be 50% of the total, the alerts reported were 95 COVID-19, 26 Malaria, 10 AWD and The main alert diseases that confirmed as true include measles COVID-19 (95), AWD 115 and Malaria (26), Verification and investigation were done. Counselling and referral to hospital

## **Response operations to COVID-19**

#### key updates on coordination,

- State level incident management coordination meeting and support to MOH and health partners has improved through regular communication, sub national cluster coordination and WHO health emergencies response. Preparation of cluster meeting minutes and circulate the cluster meeting outputs, presentations & minutes to all partners.
- Maintaining our support by providing life-saving interventions and leadership to other health partners (UN agencies, NGOs, Civil societies and MOH) in
  emergency and crisis preparedness at the national and sub national levels. Coordinating with MOH distribution plan for medical supplies to health facilities
  across the State and coordination of COVID-19 response plans with MOH and Polio team

### Surveillance, and laboratory

- As the necessary to strengthen the testing capacity of the health sector, WHO, has installed PCR machines in Somaliland and provided the required testing kits to the laboratory and trained the Laboratory staff; which enabled the ministry of health to test COVID-19 suspected people as the result of 332 were tested positive.
- On May 2020, WHO supporting Jubaland state ministry health has transported total of 50 samples specimen of suspected COVID 19 to Mogadishu and the laboratory result are pending.
- WHO has provided Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) machine to enable state level testing COVID-19 to Puntland state ministry of health and Reagents and consumables for processing as a result a total of 504 samples were tested in the May 2020 of which 152 (115 Male and 37 Female) were tested positive. of the positive cases 8 sample were sent to KEMRI for quality check.
- As WHO is supporting the electronic surveillance system (EWARN) a total of 119 alerts of COVID-19 have been reported and investigated by the 20 RRT (14 are male, 6 are female) deployed in Galkayo, Bossaso and Gardo during the reporting period May 2020.
- WHO is continuously supporting and strengthening the testing capacity of the state ministry of health, as to enable fully testing coverage for COVID-19, where
   75 COVID19 sample collection kits were dispatched to Galmudug ministry of health. this has enabled the ministry of health to collected a total of 202 samples of suspected COVID-19 and transported to the national laboratory in Mogadishu, of the 202 samples 64 tested positive.



EWARN expansion training for Baidoa health facilities on 18 to 19 May 2020



WHO and MOH held coordination meeting, discussed in how to improve communication and information sharing in May 2020

#### Case management,

- Galmudug state ministry of health has opened functional isolation center in Dusamareeb, this isolation has the capacity of 28 Beds supported by WHO, a total of 42(19 are female, 23 are male) health workers were recruited and trained to support the isolation.
- As the 5% of infected COVID-19 develops severe type of the disease, those people who are in need of Oxygen Therapy in ICU, in response to this need WHO has dispatched four ventilators to isolation sites in Somaliland; the ventilators were handed over to Somaliland state ministry of health.
- on 29 May 2020, WHO Health Emergency provided COVID-19 Training to health care workers in Jowhar isolation center of which 20 are Male and 18 are Female, the team were deployed them due to the Flood results in the State of Hirshabelle State.
- COVID-19 isolation facilities were assessed in Garowe, Galkayo, Bossaso and Gardo where 160 isolation beds were available for management of patients. The
  assessment identified priority needs as human resource, Protocols for case management, infection prevention and control (IPC) material and training.
   Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE),
- As the result of Community transmission of COVID-19 in Somaliland, WHO supporting Ministry of Health of Somaliland has trained and deployed a total of 186 rapid community surveillance workers into eight districts in Somaliland.
- WHO supporting state ministry of health in Puntland are in advanced stages for deploying and starting the community based surveillance of COVID-19; as part of this Garowe MOH has started mapping of 230 District Field Assistants (DFAs) and 165 community social mobilisers in Garowe
- As of May 31, 2020. Southwest has confirmed 111 cases of COVID-19 with 5 deaths and zero recoveries were documented, as of community level transmission were observed during the reporting period, WHO has continued to act as a technical point for information sharing and responding in multiple high-risk areas to address preparedness and response plans of mitigation measures, and manage the overall coordination at state level as to fight against the global COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.
- In most of the States there are ongoing massive risk communication and community engagement activities including distributing 100 Posters, 1000 leaflets, Sensitization meetings with 100 religious leaders and community leaders were conducted by MOH, 60 messages for COVID-19 prevention aired through TVs and radios in Garowe and other affected districts.
- During the reporting period risk communication and community engagements were conducted in Somaliland state ministry of health, the activities conducted including Soundtrack awareness, media messages (e.g. TV, Radio and Journals) to increase the level of community awareness for COVID-19.

#### **Donations**

• in response to outbreaks, floods and conflict, WHO has distributed 3 IEHK (3 IEHK kits enough to manage 30 000 people in need for 3 months) to Banadir, Galmudug, Southwest states, each kit is enough to manage 10 000 people, and 6 Cholera kits which is enough to manage 300 patients for 10 days. In addition to that WHO and EU have airlifted 150 emergency medical supplies and 200 cartoons of emergency flood response to Hirshabelle state; the supplies are enough to manage 6000 beneficiaries.

# **Nutrition updates**

WHO is supporting the medical component of the malnutrition in the drought, flood and conflict affected districts in Somalia, specifically the Severe acute malnutrition with medical complication through nutritional supplies to the stabilization centers in the country. tones of nutrition supplies including SAM Kits are dispatched to the state health ministries on quarterly bases.

- In May 2020, there were 811 new admissions from 21 stabilization centers (SC) (3 SC from Banadir region, 10 SC from Jubaland, 5 SC from Galmudug, 2 SC from Hirshabelle, and 1 SC from Puntland).
- Out of these 811 admissions, there were 22(2.7%) deaths, 629(77.6%) cured, 49(6%) defaulters, 4 (0.5%) medical referrals, and 694 (86 %) total discharges.

# **Monitoring of trauma cases**

The country is experiencing different types of emergencies; one of the emergencies occur is conflicts which have let a major health consequences including injuries, deaths and displacement, evictions, loss of property especially the people most suffered are women, children, disable and elderly people. Due to conflict cumulatively a total of 2 580 people injuries and 50 deaths were report in Banadir, Hirshabelle, Galmudug, Southwest, Puntland and Jubbaland states linking this WHO has prepositioned 60 tons of emergency medical supplies and 738 cartoons of Trauma kits which is enough to manage 64 723 beneficiaries.

During the reporting period, in May 2020, a total of 375 injuries and 10 deaths were reported, of which 93 are female 29 are children of under-five years of age, the 10 deaths 8 of them were health care providers in Gololey village in Balcad district, WHO with the support of state ministry of health distributed 1 trauma kit and two surgical kits to the state ministry of health and each is enough to manage for 100 patients in 10 days.

The Health Emergencies Programme of WHO Somalia is supported by the UN OCHA Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)



#### Contacts

| Dr Hussein Y. Hassan, PhD<br>, WHE Team Lead<br>hassenh@who.int | Mr Kyle Defreitas , External Relations Officer defreitask@who.int |
|---|---|
| Ms Fouzia Bano, Communications Officer                          | Mr Omar Omar , Information Management Officer                     |
| <u>banof@who.int</u>  | oomar@who.int   |

### Our weekly and monthly information products

| Weekly EpiWatch:                             | Monthly Reports:                             |
|--|--|
| http://www.emro.who.int/somalia/information- | http://www.emro.who.int/somalia/information- |
| resources/weekly-epi-watch.html              | resources/situation-reports.html             |

Follow us
Twitter: @WHOSom

Facebook: World Health Organization-Somalia