

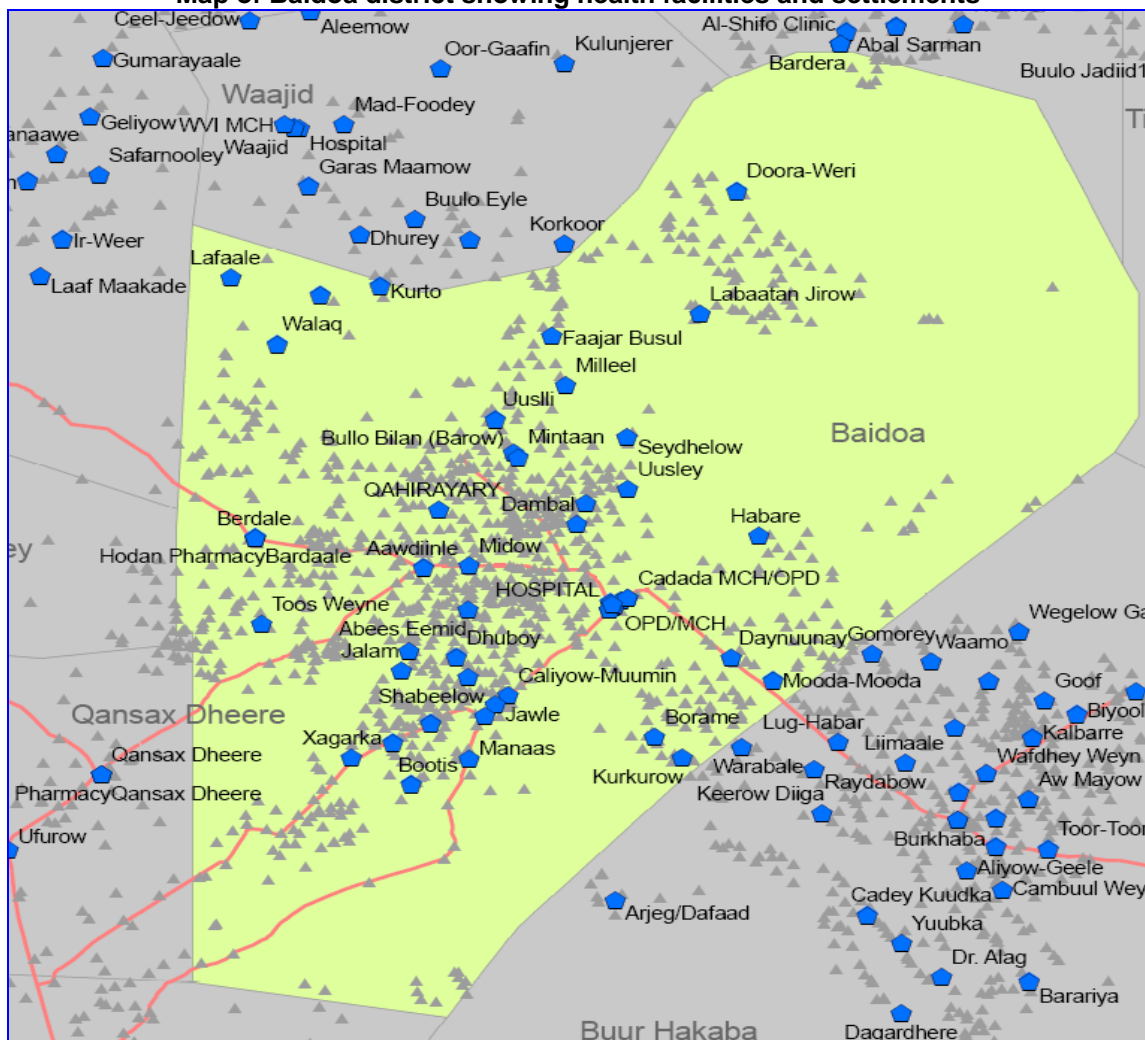


## Health assessment: Baidoa district, Bay Region, Central Somalia

27-30 March 2010

**Background:** Baidoa is the capital city for Bay region and home to an estimated 250 330 people of which upto 75 000 are said to reside in Baidoa town alone (population figures in Somalia are disputed hence actual population estimates could be different). There are 32 internally displaced peoples (IDP) camps hosting an estimated 5745 households.

Map of Baidoa district showing health facilities and settlements



From 27-30 March 2010, WHO visited Baidoa district in Bay region for routine health monitoring. The aim was to establish the area population vulnerability to outbreak-prone communicable diseases especially during the current acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera seasonal transmission period.

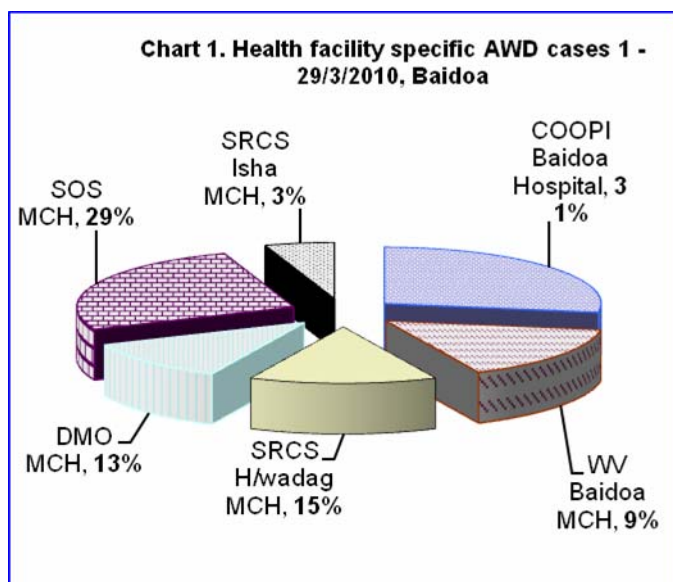
**Health situation and services:** Overall, the health situation of the communities that reside in Baidoa town has improved in comparison to previous years when there was a high number of AWD outbreaks being reported in addition to an increased number in trauma cases as a result of fighting by the warring factions.

In Baidoa town, there are 5 mother and child health centres (MCH)/out-patient departments (OPD), one OPD, the regional hospital and one TB and VCT centre. There are also more than 20 private pharmacies in the town. The health partners on the ground include COOPI, World Vision (WVI), SRCS, ALHUNEYN (an Islamic Relief), UNICEF, SOS, DMO and SAMA.

Baidoa Hospital currently run by COOPI with the support of WHO, is the only referral secondary health care facility in Bay region. The main departments at the hospital are housed in a delapidated building which makes it difficult to admit patients due to broken windows and leaking roofs as a result of re-curent fighting. Some departments have since been rehabilitated by UNOPS who were sub-contracted by WHO. Phase 1 rehabilitation of the maternity and theatre was completed by WHO. The operation theatre (OT) is currently run by nurses who usually refer complicated cases to Mogadishu due to the lack of surgical doctors and limited equipments (complications include trauma cases and obstructed labour in women). Patients referred to Mogadishu have to travel about 240 km by road transport to access life-saving interventions. The Baidoa Hospital has an in-patient and out-patient department with 120 beds and is staffed with one general practitioner, 69 health workers including 22 volunteers and 6 qualified Nurses.

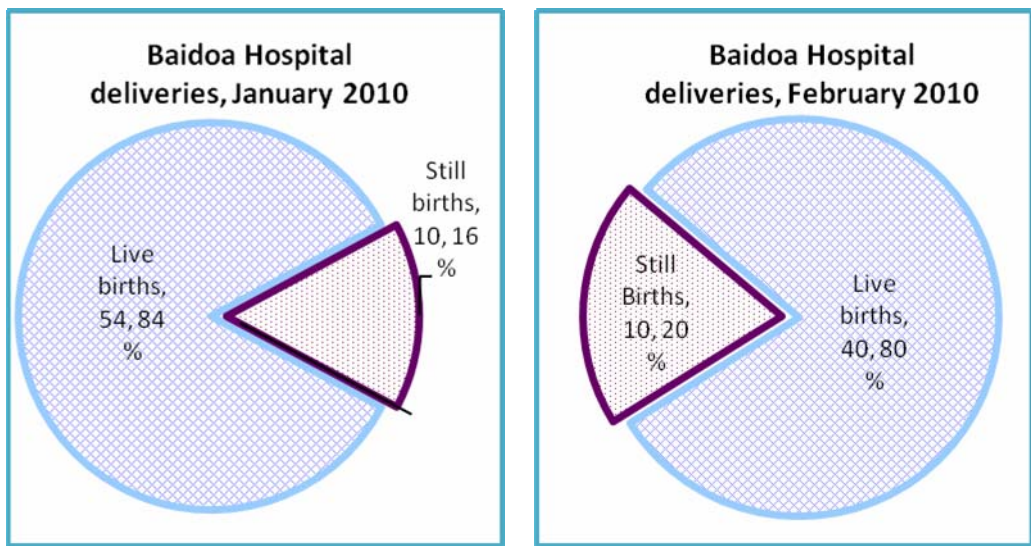
These include the MCH/OPD department, stabilization centre for nutrition, the female and male general ward. Although most of the rehabilitation work was up to standard, during this visit few cracks could be seen in the recently rehabilitated MCH/OPD wing. Notably, un-rehabilitated sections are posing a hygiene threat. The hospital has a borehole but no running water to the building including the wards.

**AWD situation:** Retrospective data from 6 health facilities visited during this period indicate that 251 AWD cases including 32 children under the age of 5 with no related deaths, had been attended to between 1-29 March 2010. Data was collected from COOPI Baidoa Hospital, WV Baidoa MCH/OPD, SRCS Holwadag MCH/OPD, DMO MCH, SOS MCH/OPD and SRCS Isha MCH/OPD (see Chart1).



World Vision stock	Quantity (pcs)	Expiry date
ORS	3,000	
Ringer Lactate, 500ml	240	8/2010
Doxycyclin 100mg, caps	30,000	3/2011
Erythromycine 500mg, tabs	5,000	
IV Canule 20G	50	3/2012
Baidoa Hospital stock	Quantity (pcs)	Expiry date
ORS	31,000	10/2010, 2011, 2013
Ringer Lactate, 1000ml	700	2/2011
Ringer Lactate, 500ml	400	9/ 2012
Doxycyclin 100mg, caps	3,000	8/2010
Erythromycine 500mg, tabs	1,500	8/2013
Aqua tabs	300	8/2012
Aqua tabs	11,000	8/2013
Water Tank 50-80 litres	10	
Water tank 11 litres	20	

**Maternal health situation:** Retrospective data for deliveries indicated that in the months of January and February, 64 and 50 deliveries respectively had been conducted at Baidoa Hospital. A major concern is that among deliveries conducted at the hospital 16% (10) and 20% (10) of the deliveries respectively were still births (see graphs below). Details of maternal of foetal status on admission were not gathered during this visit.



During the same reporting period WV Baidoa MCH reported 12 and 16 deliveries respectively with no related still-births. However, WV trained traditional births attendants (TBA) reported 56 and 74 deliveries respectively. There was no reported neo-natal or maternal death. This indicates the strong preference for home delivery as compared to health facility based deliveries. During the field visit, data on antenatal vaccination status of mothers was not collected.