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A woman wearing a blue hijab and a red patterned dress is sitting outdoors in front of a white building with a green roof. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. Her hands are clasped in her lap. A small tree is visible behind her.

# **Amplifying the voices of Displacement Affected Communities**

Perception survey on the relocation of displaced  
populations from Kismayo to Luglow



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report would not have been possible without the support of NRC Somalia. The technical team that supported the research process included: the Durable Solutions Manager in Somalia Shezane Kirubi, ICLA team leader Abdirahman Hirad Mohamed, Jubaland Area Manager Abdullahi Keinan, and the Regional Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) adviser for East Africa and Yemen Evelyn Aero. Brainpower consultants conducted research for this study. The team comprised Muktar Muhumed, Hussein Mohamed, Zablon Wagalla and Noor Mohamed.

Specific efforts were made to ensure a diverse cross-section of views with Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with government officials at the Jubaland State level, United Nations (UN) agencies, International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), academics, and community leaders. Lastly, NRC would like to thank the Displacement Affected Communities (DACs) in Kismayo and Luglow who provided extensive information and shared their experiences to inform this study.

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF). The contents of this document are solely the responsibility of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of SHF.



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2019, Jubaland State Authorities earmarked the Luglow site for the relocation of Displacement Affected Communities (DACs) that are currently dwelling in IDP sites at highest risk of evictions and flooding in Kismayo. This report presents findings from a perception survey seeking to understand the intentions and preferences of DACs living in 29 high-risk camps on their possible relocation to Luglow. Understanding the needs, concerns and expectations of DACs in Kismayo through the perception survey is a key part of the government-led durable solutions strategy in Somalia, and vital to ensuring that DACs can take an active role in shaping their futures.

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This study used a mixed methods research approach. Quantitative data was collected from 382 DAC households containing male and female IDPs and returnees. Additionally, 21 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted with community leaders, representatives from host communities in Luglow, male, female and youth IDP and returnee communities in Kismayo, minority groups, landowners, and People with Disabilities (PwDs). Nineteen Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were conducted with local and state government officials, representatives from UN agencies, International non-governmental organisations (INGOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and DAC community leaders.

### SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Through a robust analysis of the data that blends qualitative and quantitative methodologies, this survey delivered a range of insights and recommendations to inform the Luglow relocation initiative. The recommendations proposed are also formulated with the full understanding that their implementation must be a collective endeavour involving a broad range of stakeholders – from local authorities, local and international humanitarian and development actors to DACs themselves.

#### **Willingness to move and settle in Luglow**

Respondents were interviewed on their willingness to move and settle in Luglow if given the opportunity. Results from the household survey indicated that 85% of respondents were willing to relocate; 11% were undecided, and 4% were not willing to relocate. An analysis of the FGD responses strongly supports the survey data with most participants revealing that they strongly believe that the host community of Luglow will accept them. However, participants highlighted the need for more awareness on the relocation initiative through regular and inclusive consultations with communities to ensure that their views inform the planning and design of the site. Displaced women in particular, indicated that they do not fully participate in meetings and mainly rely on information from the camp leaders. They also highlighted several structural barriers in being able to speak up and voice their concerns at forums where men are present. Customary behaviour and societal gender

norms have hampered the ability for many women to freely speak on issues that affect them. Local authorities and durable solution partners need to ensure the inclusion and meaningful engagement of certain groups such as women, PwDs and minority groups within all the stages of the relocation process.

*“Tonight, when I go home, I will dream of Luglow.”*

Respondent at Taleh IDP site

*“The planned relocation to Luglow will bring back the beauty of Kismayo town.”*

Government official

*“The planned relocation offers us a golden opportunity to find lasting solutions to the perennial issue of evictions”*

IDP respondent at Gabow IDP site

*“We have been told that at Luglow we will get good housing, water, health facilities and opportunities to run businesses. I am willing to relocate at any time if the amenities are ready.”*

FGD with DAC women at IDP site

*“We have been told that at Luglow we will get good housing, water, health facilities and opportunities to run businesses. I am willing to relocate at any time if the amenities are ready.”*

FGD with DAC men at Mundul IDP site



**Caption:** Portrait of woman in IDP settlement in Somalia.

### Factors influencing willingness to relocate to Luglow

Respondents who indicated that they were willing to move to Luglow pointed out several factors influencing their decision. These include: to avoid forced evictions (37%); access to better housing (14%); livelihood opportunities (14%); to avoid flooding (10%); better access to services like water, health, etc. (8%); access to land to farm (6%), education for their children (6%); and better security (5%).

Additionally, respondents identified key amenities that should be in place before their relocation to Luglow. These include: basic services such as water, health centres, and schools (35%); better housing (27%); secure environment (11%); good roads and reliable transport network (11%); market centres (9%); and land to practice farming (7%). FGDs

with displaced communities reinforced the findings from the household survey with an emphasis on better housing, security, and access to basic services such as health, education and water. In particular, housing is seen as a key need as many DAC households live in makeshift shelters in overcrowded settlements. These makeshift shelters do not provide adequate privacy and protection against weather elements. Lack of tenure security and forced evictions further exacerbate the housing needs of DACs. Furthermore, the proposed housing typologies in Luglow will need to take into account that the area is prone to wind erosion, flooding and hot temperatures. Host communities in Luglow are concerned that cutting down trees for construction will encourage soil erosion and deplete animal feeds. Consequently, the Luglow site plan should accommodate reforestation strategies, water conservation, proper waste management, energy efficiency as well as incorporating the climatic conditions to enhance living conditions without depleting local resources.

Concerning particular needs of certain groups: the youth cited that it is important to ensure the availability of open spaces for sports, markets and access to training opportunities on life skills to empower them to be able to earn a living. For PwDs, the household survey revealed several important considerations such as: the construction of facilities that are easily accessible to persons with disability (62%); provision of equipment and medical support for PwDs (25%); opportunity to participate in decision-making processes (20%); and provision of livelihood support for PwDs (9%). During consultations with PwDs, they emphasised the need for unconditional cash transfers and safety nets for vulnerable households. These interventions remain effective in building, supporting and preserving food security and resilience of the most vulnerable groups. In addition, participants indicated that common places such as markets, schools, and community centres should put in place PwD-friendly amenities like ramps and construct latrines that are easily accessible to PwDs.

### IDP/returnee-host community relations

Findings from the household survey indicate that 68% of respondents believe that host communities in Luglow will be welcoming. However, 32% of respondents believe that they will not receive a good reception from host communities due to several reasons. These include: the majority clan in Luglow is a rival clan (16%); the host community in Luglow might think that they are going to take over their ancestral land and this could affect integration (9%); and discrimination due to belonging to a minority clan (7%). During community consultations, participants highlighted that local peacebuilding structures like the Local Peace Committees often play an important role in conflict management. They suggested that there is a need to fully engage these committees to promote peaceful co-existence in local communities.

FGDs with host communities in Luglow confirmed that the community is aware of the planned relocation of displaced populations from Kismayo to Luglow. Host communities noted that local authorities and operational agencies consulted them prior to the official allotment of the land. They do not have any objection to accommodate the displaced

*“The relocation to Luglow offers us a rare opportunity to try farming as a means to secure our livelihood.”*

Respondent at Saakuye IDP site

*“Right now we are living in a very crowded area which is not good for our health, safety and well-being. If the stories I am hearing are true, then I will be willing to be the first to reach Luglow.”*

FGD with DAC men at Bangeni IDP site

*“I hope our children will get opportunity to go school, and get proper medication. Clean water for drinking is also very important.”*

FGD with DAC women at Badar 2 IDP site

groups. Moreover, they expressed a strong sense of common identity with displaced populations, based on their shared Somali culture and Islam. Social cohesion interventions can and should leverage such narratives, in particular by working with community and religious leaders to promote tolerance and acceptance of displaced groups. Besides, host community elders mentioned that they see the planned relocation as an opportunity for their communities to access better amenities such as water, health, education, and housing. Support for host communities would alleviate the pressure on community resources and prevent any tensions inherent in sharing them. Interventions should target host communities even before the relocation takes place to build a strong foundation for integration.

*“Somalis used to migrate and are known for welcoming new comers. This will not be any different. We will receive them, intermarry with them and share with them our farmlands.”*

An elder from Luglow

*“When we were settled in Luglow by the Government, we coexisted well with our neighbours in QamQam village. They even gained from our relocation because we used to buy meat and milk from them and other services that helped develop QamQam village.”*

An elder from Luglow

*“Our children will get free education. Currently, our children are not enrolling in school simply because they are no schools available in this area. We also expect medical services will be brought closer. The nearest hospital is in Kismayo and we have huge difficulties accessing health.”*

FGD with elders from Luglow

*“The nearest water point is River Juba Valley and it is 4 kilometres from here. We therefore have difficulty accessing water and we expect the NGOs to provide water closer to our homes.”*

FGD with elders from Luglow

*“The government should establish peace committees to help in healing and conflict resolution even amongst families.”*

FGD with DAC men at Tariqane IDP site

*“I am not very familiar with the people living there but I believe they are our Somali brothers and they will welcome us. There should be more awareness to build social cohesion and we need to visit the area to engage the host community.”*

Respondent at Dayah IDP site

### Engagement and inclusion on planned relocation to Luglow

Analysis of responses from both the household survey and FGDs with camp leaders, host communities, DAC youth, women and men reveal that there had been early consultations on the Luglow relocation. When questioned on how they would like to be more involved in the relocation initiative, majority (76%) of the respondents indicated they would like for more site visits to Luglow to observe progress made. JUCRI emphasised that it facilitated site visits by community leaders to increase awareness on the proposed relocation and to avoid any false information, which may lead to conflict. Furthermore, 17% of respondents indicated that they would like the camp leaders to attend regular coordination meetings with local authorities and durable solutions actors on Luglow planning. Regular community dialogues sessions to receive updates on the relocation process was requested by 5% of respondents, while 2% want posters on the planned relocation developed and translated into Somali. During FGDs, communities emphasised the need for consistent and regular follow up and dialogue on Luglow. Some participants mentioned that the planned relocation had been delayed for some time and they had not received any update on the progress made so far. Youth participants identified the overall lack of adequate consultations and inclusion as the biggest barrier preventing youth populations in participating in key decision-making processes. Local authorities and durable solutions partners should develop a harmonised communications and engagement plan which outlines up-to-date information on Luglow and progress made so far, frequency of when information should be shared (at each stage of the planning and design phase), and what channels are best to be used. There should be equal and timely accessibility of information on the relocation to DACs.

Furthermore, respondents were questioned on the overall inclusion in decision-making processes and responsiveness from local authorities. 84% of respondents in the household survey revealed that they believed that decision-making on community affairs with local authorities is inclusive, while 11 % indicate it is somewhat inclusive and only 3% indicated that it is never inclusive. Only 2% of the respondents indicated that they did not know. On responsiveness from local authorities, 93% of the respondents felt that the local authorities were responsive to their needs and concerns (79% highly responsive and 14% somehow responsive). In contrast, 6% felt that there was no level of responsiveness from local authorities at all.

*“We have always walked door to door informing our people about the planned relocation. I do not think communities have received any miscommunication or misinformation”*

FGD with camp leaders

*“I have not seen any meeting involving the youth on the planning. I am hearing stories that Luglow will be a good place than the current camp. In the planning meetings, the camp leaders should consider inviting a few of us to make us give our views.”*

FGD with DAC youth at  
Waamo IDP site

*“Community awareness is key to the success of the relocation exercise. Posters should be developed and translated into Somali to inform all of us of what should be done, who are the beneficiaries and when the relocation will take place.”*

FGD with DAC women at  
Yemen IDP site

*“The process is smooth and well planned. We are always invited for the planning meetings and we help in identifying at risk populations within the camp. No government official or NGO can reach the camp without informing us.”*

FGD with DAC women at  
Badar 2 IDP site

On DAC perception on the Luglow beneficiary selection process, 87% of respondents trust that the selection will be done in an open, fair and transparent way. Furthermore, 88% of respondents trust that the Government of Jubaland has their best interest in regards to the planned relocation to Luglow. The beneficiary selection process should be done through a collective and participatory approach involving the affected communities, local authorities, durable solutions actors, protection partners, and community leaders. Joint selection criteria that are all-inclusive and need-based should be developed by a government –led multi-agency selection committee. The selection process ought to take place before any construction starts in Luglow to make sure that the needs of the various groups are well addressed in the final design of Luglow. Findings from this survey could help identify the key needs of the targeted beneficiaries and to further tailor the site plan and interventions. Moreover, it will be imperative that DACs are advised on how to use complaint feedback mechanisms to give their feedback and share their concerns in relation to the selection and targeting process.

### Protection risks and concerns

Respondents highlighted some of the forms of discrimination they currently face at the household level in their current location. Majority (44%) of respondents highlighted that they do not face any form of discrimination. 20% highlighted that they faced ethnic-based discrimination, while 13% were discriminated based on their displacement status, and 11% were discriminated as they were from minority clans. Gender discrimination was reported by 3% of respondents with a further 5% specifically mentioning that they were discriminated against as they were female-headed households. Only 4% of respondents declined to answer this question. During FGDs, participants stressed that the lack of tenure security and living under constant threat of evictions is a key concern for them. The Somalia Protection Monitoring System (SPMS) identifies landowners as dividers who increase the protection risks for DACs.<sup>1</sup> According to the NRC eviction information portal<sup>2</sup>, development-based land or property acquisitions are one of the leading causes of forced evictions in Somalia. Development-related causes are categorised into owner-driven, private investments, and government development. Somalia has an active land market and a pipeline of urban infrastructure projects by the government and development actors, which has led to increased land values.<sup>3</sup> Likewise, the improved security situation Jubaland has led to many landowners returning to claim back the land they lost during the civil war for development. Diaspora claims to property inheritance have become even more complex as they pit customary land rights, registered land titles, and forceful takeovers against each other.

Likewise, survey respondents were questioned on their fears and concerns about relocating to Luglow. 60% highlighted the fear of not getting enough services, while 24% mentioned that they were concerned about their safety and security. 17% of respondents indicated that they fear potential extortion of assistance by camp leaders; 13% pointed to the lack of access to complaint and feedback mechanisms; and 9% noted that the community structures would be affected. During discussions with minority groups they emphasised their concern on potential extortion

*“The government is doing a good job since we arrived here and we have faith that they will take care of us.”*

FGD with DAC men at  
Juba IDP site

*“The process will consider those that were already evicted and those whose houses flooded. I see this as a fair way and I have no problem with this.”*

FGD with DAC women at  
Gabow IDP site

*“We believe it will be done in a transparent and open manner since we are involved in planning meetings.”*

FGD with camp leaders

and abuse of assistance by camp leaders. When probed further, they indicated that various types of extortion/abuse of assistance that they fear including: paying money to be included in the beneficiaries list for Luglow, conducting free labour in exchange for assistance, exchange of sexual favours, and use of force to handover some of the assistance. According to analysis from the SPMS from January to August 2021, 64% of KIIs indicated that access to assistance was denied primarily due to social background (i.e. clan or ethnic affiliation) of an individual or group. Additionally, beneficiaries may be forced by community leaders and gatekeepers to share a portion of the assistance they receive or pay money to be included in the beneficiaries.<sup>4</sup> In most extreme circumstances, sexual favours will be traded for assistance.

PwDs highlighted that majority of feedback and complaints mechanisms are often designed in a manner excluding persons with disabilities from using them, e.g. only by hotline, Short Message Service (SMS) or writing. Local authorities and partners should ensure that a variety of options are available to access the feedback mechanisms (e.g. accept complaints in sign language with a trusted interpreter, or with the assistance of a support person; use voice messages; organise meetings or Stakeholder Group with representatives of persons with disabilities).<sup>5</sup> Respondents further revealed key concerns and risks that they had for their children once they relocate to Luglow. These include: potential school drop-outs (52%), early marriages (24%), child labour (17%), child recruitment by armed groups (13%), kidnappings (12%), and family separation (11%). The SPMS reports family separation as the fourth highest protection concern in Kismayo.<sup>6</sup> IDPs, adult women and adolescent girls (12-17 years) are the most affected groups when it comes to family separation. The lack of financial support to family members as well is a leading cause to family separation and family conflicts. Other causes of family separation include incidents of kidnappings, forced recruitment and forced evictions.<sup>7</sup>

During the FGDs with women, youth and minority groups, majority of the participants repeatedly raised their concerns on safety and security and the distance between Luglow and Kismayo. Women for instance, stressed the need for a police station in Luglow to be built prior to any relocation. During discussions with men, they highlighted that they feared they would be at risk of arbitrary arrest, harassment and extortion at checkpoints once they relocated to Luglow. Most participants during FGDs expressed that they currently felt safe in the camps and hoped that this would not change once they relocated to Luglow. During KIIs with numerous government officials, the importance of guaranteeing the security of DACs was emphasised. While there are no security incidents that have been reported in Luglow, there is only one police station in nearby Goobweyne. So far, the Ministry of Internal Security has undertaken a security assessment of Luglow and issued a security letter to this effect. The Ministry has deployed well-equipped security personnel to secure the site and put in place a mechanism where the local populations, peace committees and peace village chairs are working together with the security forces. The government also aims to set-up a fully-equipped police station prior to any relocation.

Drawing from learning from the implementation of Midnimo (Unity)

Majority of participants during the FGDs raised their concerns on safety and security and the distance between Luglow and Kismayo. So far, the Ministry of Internal Security has undertaken a security assessment of Luglow and issued a security letter to this effect.



Caption: Mother and her four children in Hashi IDP settlement in Kismayo.

project<sup>8</sup>, durable solutions interventions should adopt a human security approach. Premised on the notion that crises are complex and entail multiple threats to people's physical, mental and social wellbeing, a human security approach seeks to uncover the interrelated and often mutually exacerbating nature of the different forms and root causes of human insecurity. Human Security complements humanitarian efforts by recognising that long-term solutions that are cognisant of local capacities and resources are a precursor of sustainable results and prevention of recurrence of crises.<sup>9</sup>

*“Our lives depend on small jobs that we do every day inside Kismayo town. It might be difficult to walk the long distance. This is a key concern that needs to be addressed by good security and a reliable transport network. There is also no police station in Luglow and we urge the government to build one before we move.”*

FGD with DAC women at Badar 2 IDP site

*“I hope my children will not be snatched by a hyena in Luglow.”*

An elder from Luglow

*“I am told Luglow is very far, more than 18 kilometers away. I wonder how our government will provide security as in Kismayo town now there is in security.”*

FGD with DAC youth at Badar 1 IDP site

*“Our security is our concern since we are told Luglow is very far and we might be attacked by Al Shaabab very easily.”*

FGD with elders from Luglow

*“The Government should ensure security and safety of IDPs and returnees during and after the relocation by ensuring that a police post is constructed, solar street lights are installed, and proper community engagement is undertaken.”*

Respondent at Dayah IDP site

## SUMMARY OF LIVELIHOODS AND FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) conducted a livelihood and food security assessment targeting DACs (IDPs) living in high-risk sites identified in the perception survey and host community in Luglow. A total of 86 households from the host community and 268 IDP households participated in the household interviews. The survey used quantitative approach by re-contacting IDP respondents of the perception survey. The assessment was conducted with the following specific objectives:

- Profiling the households sampled illustrating their current sources of income.
- Assess the situation of food security and livelihoods for IDPs and host communities.
- Assess the hunger and severity of food insecurity for IDPs and host communities.
- Identify the shocks experienced by DAC households and coping mechanisms.

### Dependency ratio

The dependency ratio is identified as a factor that contributes to both the resilience and vulnerability of households. The dependency ratio is an indicator that describes the economically active and inactive people in a family and is the relationship of dependents (non-autonomous adults, children and the elderly) to non-dependents (able-bodied, working-age members). As such, a dependency ratio greater than 100 means that there are more dependents than working age household members. This indicates that there are 3.1 and 2.7 persons relying on one person under IDPs and host communities respectively.

### Agriculture

As per the survey findings, most of the households did not own land whereas female-headed households (FHHs) reported less land ownership and cultivation in all the areas. Cereals produced by households were not sufficient to meet household consumption, particularly for IDPs households and those headed by women. A significant number of households had no stock at the time of the survey. Most of the households reported ownership of small ruminants, particularly goats. Further, inadequate crop production and livestock losses are likely to have adverse impacts on livelihood and food security of the surveyed households.

### Household assets and livelihoods

Generally, ownership of domestic and productive assets was very low particularly among IDP households. The host community being mainly agriculturalists, 60% of them own livestock, 55% of them own land and 51% own agricultural equipment. For non-productive assets, similar trends were observed by IDPs and host communities. The commonly owned items included mobile phones, toilets, house, radio and furniture.



**Caption:** Female IDP businessowner in her shop in Kismayo.

### Income sources

Livelihood sources across the surveyed areas were more or less the same and the households were heavily relying on unsustainable strategies for earning income/livelihoods i.e. daily wage labor (agriculture and non-agriculture), followed by humanitarian assistance, self-employed small business ownership (shops etc.), or the raising and selling of livestock. According to the survey findings, the sources of income for host and IDP household was different. Most of the IDPs respondents (87%) rely on casual jobs as source of income while for the host community farming (73%) and casual labour (53%) were mentioned as sources of income. Furthermore, farm labour demand during the first quarter of 2021 was low in most rural areas as this period coincided with the lean season when agricultural activities were limited, with the exception of cash crop and off-season cereal harvests in riverine areas. Normally, agriculture labour demand would improve between April to July due to the Gu cropping season agricultural activities (land preparation, planting and replanting, weeding and harvesting). Although agricultural activities have created some employment opportunities for poor households in these regions, the scope of seasonal agricultural activities and casual labour demand in most agro pastoral and riverine livelihood zones are below normal due to the delayed, poor start of 2021 Gu season rainfall coupled with low river levels<sup>10</sup>.

Host community had more income than IDPs with most of the host community respondents earning more than 500 USD. Overall, 31% of the respondents were earning less than 100 USD per month. Across the respondent type, 36% of IDPs were earning less than 100 USD and 30% of host community were earning more than 100 USD.

### Women income participation

In the surveyed areas, women were very active and provide full support to their male members of household in earning of livelihood. As per the survey's findings, on average one female per household was engaged in livelihood earning activities. The main sources of women's livelihood included casual labour (71%) which mainly comprised agricultural activities followed by reliance on humanitarian assistance.

### Monthly income

Households were asked about their total monthly income earned during the last month - cash income from all sources and also income earned from the seasonal sales of agriculture/other produce prior to the survey. Host community had more income (784 USD) than IDPs (278 USD) with most of the host community respondents earning more than 500 USD. This has been supported by the opportunities the host population have such as employment, livestock and agricultural assets. Male-headed households (MHHs) had also significantly more income than FHHs. Overall, 31% of the respondents were earning less than 100 USD per month. Across the respondent type, 36% of IDPs were earning less than 100 USD and 30% of host community were earning more than 100 USD. By gender, 43% of the FHHs are earning less than 100 USD as compared to 25% of MHHs. Most of the IDPs in the settlements and the FHHs are currently facing food consumption gaps due to limited income-generating activities and rising staple food prices that have reduced household purchasing power. Given rising food prices and reduced income and employment opportunities, food security outcomes are likely to remain in crisis.

### Food Consumption

Based on the food consumption score, slightly less (46%) than half of the households had poor food consumption. The diet of the people in IDPs clusters was poorer in terms of quality and quantity than the host communities had the lowest dietary diversity. Most of the households were dependent on markets for acquisition of food on cash and credit basis. However, long distances to the markets from communities, particularly the IDPs, and cost of transportation and unavailability of transport were reported two main problems in accessing the markets.

### Food insecurity

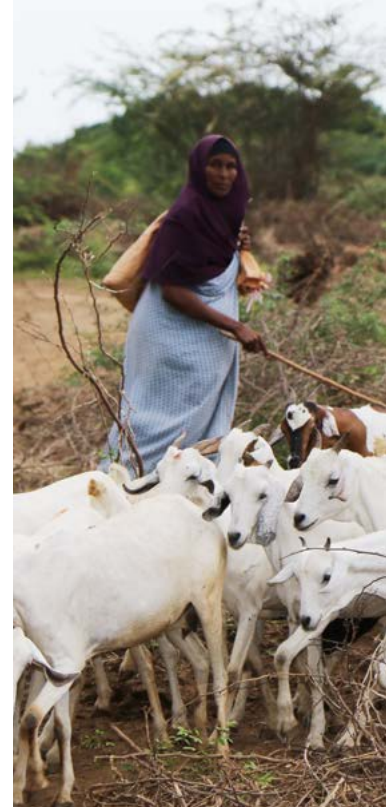
Prevalence of food insecurity, based on Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), was quite high in the surveyed areas as more than two-thirds of households had moderate and severe food insecurity, particularly around Central and Galbeed IDP clusters. Further, food insecurity was higher in IDP households that had unsustainable sources of livelihoods. Very high prevalence of food insecurity could be associated with high malnutrition among women and children in the surveyed districts. The analysis revealed that overall 70% households had moderate and severe food insecurity in the surveyed areas, whereas 35% had severe food insecurity. Analysis by other dimensions indicates that the estimated prevalence of moderate and severe food insecurity was slightly higher among IDPs (83%), whereas significantly higher among households that had unsustainable livelihood sources.

### Distance to markets, livestock and agriculture

Distance to markets, livestock and agricultural market were 126mins away from IDP homes and 75mins away from host communities. Distance to markets increases the cost of inputs, increases transportation costs, and reduces the effective price farmers receive for outputs. Transport therefore functions as a catalyst of economic and social development in rural areas. The principal benefit of improved rural transport infrastructure, and hence greater mobility, is that access to education, health care and agricultural advice services becomes possible or more affordable. Income-generating opportunities are opened up because of better access to markets where inputs such as fertilizer and seed can be purchased and home-grown products – especially perishable goods such as fresh vegetables, fruit and milk – can be sold.

### Water and Sanitation

Accessibility to the clean water sources was a major impediment, particularly for children and women who generally fetch water from long distances, which is likely to affect their health, education and care including breastfeeding of young children. Slightly near half of the respondents (45%) indicated that they have access to safe water in their households, 35.7% indicated they have access to improved sanitation and ways to separate human waste from contact with people for their households. Furthermore, sanitation is another problem in the IDP camps, they are hardly enough toilets and children or even adults defecate in the open. Mothers also dump the small children fences anyhow and when the rain comes this is washed down to catchments where they drink from. Since there is no bins or waste disposal areas, these people resort to dumping their domestic wastes anyhow, thus broken bottles, vegetables matters and plastic materials can be found in untidy heaps spread all over the place.



**Caption:** Woman herding goats in Somalia.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Community engagement and information sharing**

- Initiate community consultations including regular community dialogue sessions to discuss the planned relocation to Luglow. Furthermore, work with camp leaders, elders, community and religious leaders to raise awareness on the relocation initiative and share consistent and regular updates. Focus efforts on developing clear messaging in Somali to avoid risks and negative impacts on those who wish to remain in their current locations as the relocation process is voluntary.
- Launch and implement information campaigns on the relocation initiative through use of various forms of media such as radio, bulk SMS, television, drama performances and billboards to promote transparency and full participation of DACs in the relocation process. Messaging around the relocation should include formats suitable for the most vulnerable individuals and easy to update. Information must be shared in a manner that allows individuals and communities to receive information, ask questions and make informed decisions about the relocation.
- Local authorities and durable solutions partners should develop a harmonised communications and engagement plan. It should outline key messaging on the relocation initiative and progress made so far, frequency of when information will be shared (at each stage of the planning and design phase), and what channels are best to be used. There should be equal and timely accessibility of information on the relocation to DACs.
- Youth community members appear to be more marginalised in the IDP communities. Local authorities and durable solutions partners should scale up engagement activities with youth populations and tailor awareness campaigns towards youth participants to ensure their inclusion.
- Promote government-led community-based planning processes for Luglow. Community Action Plans have proven an important tool to ensure that DACs and their local leadership are being empowered to drive plans and strategies to address their own needs. By formally linking the Luglow community-based planning process to district level planning, such as the Jubaland Development Plan, communities will be better equipped to access resource envelopes of the district, state and federal government, donors, the private sector, the community and the diaspora.



**Caption:** Female enumerator explaining a concept to and older woman in IDP settlement in Kismayo.

## Community engagement and information sharing

- The beneficiary selection process should be done through a collective and participatory approach involving the DACs, local authorities and line ministries, durable solutions actors, protection partners, and community leaders. Joint selection criteria that are all-inclusive (representation with an age, gender and diversity) and needs-based should be developed by a government-led multi-agency selection committee.
- The selection process should take place before any construction starts to make sure that the needs are well addressed in the final design of Luglow. Feedback from DACs should be actively monitored and responded to through trusted communication channels. Misinformation can generate anxiety and fear among the population.
- Discussions with PwDs revealed that majority of feedback and complaints mechanisms are designed in a manner excluding persons with disabilities from using them, e.g. mostly by hotline, SMS or writing (physical barrier). Operational partners should ensure that a variety of options are available to access the feedback mechanisms (e.g. accept complaints in sign language with a trusted interpreter, or with the assistance of a support person; use voice messages; organise meetings or Stakeholder Group with representatives of persons with disabilities).
- Survey findings need to be shared with local partners as well as the communities themselves. It is important to share findings with those who contributed to this survey as they have a right to understand why we are seeking their participation and the longer-term impacts of survey results. Providing timely feedback will also enable to local authorities and partners to work through expectations.
- Develop contextualised relocation guidelines for Luglow to ensure DACs are protected by all actors involved in the relocation in the best possible manner, and that “Do No Harm” principles are respected. The relocation must adhere to the principles of being voluntary, safe, dignified, and informed, except if security and protection concerns are at-stake.

## Gender and Inclusion

- Gender is a cross-cutting factor of social and economic exclusion. It remains key to scale up investment in initiatives that empower women to exercise and claim their rights and aim to rectify gender imbalances by empowering women to be agents of change. Interventions should be carefully designed to see if they are distributing opportunities to men and women equitably, and guarantee they are not inadvertently favouring men due to customs and traditional practices. Where possible, interventions should be structured to ensure that women have, at a minimum, a choice to exercise their rights.
- Information about housing support and land programs is not easily accessible to most PwDs or their families. There are also forms of discrimination in the provision of knowledge and skills. Local authorities and operational partners should incorporate gender and inclusion in Luglow specific needs assessments and analyses.
- Comprehensive protection and conflict analyses should inform the Luglow relocation initiative to guarantee that the proposed interventions do not create or exacerbate existing societal cleavages. Furthermore, there is a need to identify and address the risk and occurrence of exclusion of persons with minority clan affiliations.
- Apply a human rights-based approach to strengthen and increase access to justice for DACs particularly women. It will be critical to work with the Justice Law and Order Sector actors to ensure that availability of legal remedies and mechanisms alone cannot adequately be used to measure DACs' access to justice. Interventions should be designed to consider the fact that access to justice is affected by several factors, not only inside the legal system, but also outside it. Furthermore, women's access to justice should not be confined to access to the formal justice system but ought to include access to multidisciplinary support services as well, taking into account women's active participation and empowerment in the overall process.



**Caption:** Female returnee that lives in Midnimo Village in Kismayo receives her title deed.

## Social cohesion and peaceful co-existence

- Strengthen support for local peacebuilding structures such as the peace committees, which play an important role in conflict management. Local peacebuilding committees should be well trained on de-escalation techniques including, but not limited to, conflict early warning and violence prevention, trauma healing, reconciliation and mediation. This equips these committees with additional knowledge and skills to handle predominant issues in their communities.
- Strengthen support for dispute resolution committees to improve land dispute resolution efforts. Luglow site is of public ownership and presumed to be free from land claims or disputes. However, the strategic location along a major infrastructural corridor, and the expected construction of the water supply system, coupled with the expected investment in services and public facilities are expected to raise the land value. The increased demand for land can be expected to intersect with the dynamics among clans/sub-clans, pastoralist/sedentary communities, IDPs, returnees and host community, and can easily trigger conflict. Other disputes that may also arise include encroachment, access to water points, waste management, land grazing and potential conflict with host community. Informal and customary mechanisms therefore remain critical in the management of community relations and disputes, especially so given the limited capacity of the justice sector.
- Investments should be made in host community areas prior to the relocation of displaced groups to Luglow. This would build a foundation for further social integration of communities.



Caption: Two young children playing in Manamofi IDP settlement in Kismayo.



Caption: Aerial view of Midnimo Village in Kismayo.

## Site planning considerations

- Given the range of institutions and line ministries involved in addressing displacement in Jubaland, it is necessary to improve coordination and information sharing within the government on the relocation process. Clear terms of references are critical to distinguish between the different working groups and taskforces set up to ensure a whole of government approach towards the development of site.
- Facilitating access to legal land tenure documents as a way of proving ownership or occupancy by DAC households will increase the sense of security for the communities. Formal land tenure documentation offers displaced people increased tenure security to reduce the risk of forced evictions. The anchoring established through secure tenure also yields several other advantages. Ideally, it provides predictability eliciting investments from displaced people themselves to improve housing, and stability to pursue livelihoods. Secure land tenure will minimise and mitigate the risk of forced evictions.
- Access to better housing and services was considered as a key factor influencing DAC intention to move. It will be essential to have basic services such as water, health centres, markets, schools set up prior to any relocation. Durable solutions actors should also consider integrating and layering housing and livelihood support. Having a plot and a house is not enough and there is a need to secure sustainable livelihoods. Further still adequate housing limits exposure to protection risks such as GBV et al and ensures DACs are safe and protected.
- Durable solutions interventions should adopt a human security approach that focusses on the multiple forms and root causes of human insecurity. Premised on the notion that crises are complex and entail multiple threats to people's physical, mental and social wellbeing, a human security approach seeks to uncover the interrelated and often mutually exacerbating nature of the different forms and root causes of human insecurity. Human Security complements humanitarian efforts by recognising that long-term solutions that are cognisant of local capacities and resources are a precursor of sustainable results and prevention of recurrence of crises.<sup>11</sup>



Caption: Aerial view of Luglow site in Jubaland.

## Environmental considerations

- The site plan should take into account the risks linked to flooding as the Luglow site is fairly close to the river. This is also due to the considerable increases in water levels triggered by climate change. One of the measures that can be taken to prevent flooding is the planting of indigenous trees that have fast growing roots. These can stabilise the soil and prevent eroding and flooding. The Luglow site plan will need to factor in forms of tree coverage where planting can occur.
- Energy needs of both the host and displaced populations must be factored into the detailed site plan. Over 90% of Somalis are using charcoal for cooking. Furthermore, there is a multitude of complex issues surrounding the production of charcoal, which leads to irreversible environmental degradation, perpetual conflicts and dependence on short-term income from an unsustainable livelihood option. Charcoal production also fuels land tenure disputes and inter-clan fighting. The tree species mainly used for charcoal production in Somalia (Acacia and Commiphora) are both on the Red List of Threatened Species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The detailed site plan Luglow should therefore factor in planning around renewable sources or sustainable charcoal models using aggressive species that can be turned into charcoal without chopping down local options.
- Finding effective and sustainable waste management systems for Luglow will be key to maintaining adequate and hygienic living standards for those relocated and ensuring the environmental and health impacts on the host community are minimal. Improper solid waste disposal can lead to public health risks, environmental degradation and socio-economic problems. A full and detailed assessment is needed at the outset to understand local dynamics relating to waste management and the potential for cost recovery through sale of recyclables and compost. Furthermore promoting environmental awareness and good waste management practices among the displaced population and host communities is vital from the onset of the relocation process.
- The marginalisation of ecosystems in water resources management, and the associated degradation or loss of ecosystem services, have resulted in economic costs. There is value in looking at water provision from an ecosystems approach. This would be integral to ensuring the good governance of water resources.



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