



**A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF  
LAS-ANOD CONFLICT (HUMANITARIAN,  
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC)**

---

# Table Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	3
<b>1 – Introduction</b> .....	3
1.1 Background .....	4
1.2 Study Objective .....	5
1.3 Methodology .....	5
<b>2. Key Findings</b> .....	5
2.1 Demographics analysis.....	5
Humanitarian Situation .....	8
2.2 Livelihood and Food Security Situation.....	9
Summary of livelihoods status .....	11
2.3 WASH Sector (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) .....	12
Types Of Water Sources and Challenges for Each Settlement:.....	13
2.4 Healthcare and Nutrition sector.....	14
The healthcare and Nutrition Conditions .....	16
2.5 Shelter Situation .....	17
2.6 Protection situation .....	18
Protection Status.....	19
2.7 Education Sector .....	20
Education sector assessment: .....	21
2.7 Assistance Provided as of 9 April 2023 .....	22
<b>Livelihood Responses from international organizations</b> .....	22
<b>WASH Responses from international organizations</b> .....	22
<b>Peace reconciliation efforts as of April 9, 2023:</b> .....	23
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	25
<b>Recommendations</b> .....	26
<b>Annexes</b> .....	27
Annex A: KII and FGD community leaders Questionnaires .....	27

## Executive Summary

The Las-Anod conflict disrupted the economic fabrics, social services, and livelihoods of the communities of Sool and Ayn regions. The indiscriminate shelling by the Somaliland forces on the town claimed the lives of innocent civilians and destroyed or damaged public infrastructure and buildings used for residence and business centers. Besides the residential buildings, the bombs destroyed public offices, schools, universities, hospitals, business centers, and mosques.

Trade and other economic activities halted due to the lockdown of open access to the markets in the northwest and Ethiopia, especially the transport business, as many transport companies that were based in Las-Anod and Garowe had to stop shuttling people and goods due to the conflict tension.

In addition to the physical toll, the armed conflict caused unprecedented humanitarian crisis and displacement of innocent people. The Las-Anod conflict forced 330,000 individuals (estimated at 55,000 households) to flee their homes and lose their livelihood base according to the 33-member committee deliberations. Most of the displaced people are housed in small rooms with their relatives or extended family in the town, hosting only women and children, while men spend the night at mosques or open spaces. Those who fled the town found refuge in the outskirts of the villages.

There is an acute shortage of safe drinking water. Most of the assessed locations have healthcare facilities but have run out of medical supplies. Lacking basic life essentials, the displaced population face humanitarian crisis, hopeless with no foreseeable solution to the tension anytime soon.

In April 2023, Puntland Development & Research Center (PDRC) sent a team of researchers to conduct an independent assessment on the impact of the war and the displaced population from a humanitarian perspective and propose an emergency intervention to assist the victims of the conflict. These are the findings that came out of the study.





# 1 - Introduction

## 1.1 Background

The Assessment coverage areas extends two different pastoral livelihoods, namely: Hawd livelihood zone and the Nugal valley livelihood zone. The latter is included in the northern inland pastoral zone. Six settlements were targeted for each geographic livelihood area as a sample of representation in the magnitude of the effect of the conflict on the people in Sool and Ayn region (Buhodle district) in order to have a comprehensive understanding of the Las-Anod war effect on the various aspects of Social (health and nutrition, education, water and sanitation etc.), demography of the targeted settlements, livelihoods and food security as well as the local economy.



**Description of Hawd Plateau:** – The Hawd livelihood zone is a bushy area characterized with scarce permanent water sources except few boreholes in five target areas that locate in Hawd plateau. These boreholes’ water yield is not enough to cover the needs of their communities and their quality is poor. Therefore, most of the settlements that locate in the assessed areas of Hawd depend on Berkeds (underground water reservoirs) as water sources, which usually dry up during the prolonged dry spells excluding Widhwidh town that enjoys few shallow wells in the wet season so the only option they have is water trucking from long distances.

However, the early Gu’ rainfall in these areas filled up most of the reservoirs, giving IDP families access to some water supplies shared by with their kinfolk. The main livelihood assets in the assessed areas are the livestock and product especially goat, Camel, and sheep.

**Description of Northern inland pastoral livelihood areas:** – The Nugal valley livelihood zone is one of the subzones of northern pastoral inland that extends from Las-Anod to Taleh, Huddun and Awrbogays areas in Sool region. It is mainly a denudated and burned land by continuous droughts but mainly it has permanent water sources from traditional hand dug wells and boreholes. Nevertheless, these water wells produce hard water or brackish, which cause diarrhea to those not used to its consumption, especially children.

The assessed areas in Nugal valley have not received rains at the time of the assessment

and were still in drought situation during the assessment period plus the conflict that is causing high influx of IDPs, including some who are coming from even beyond Las-Anod; mainly in the farther northwest specifically along the tarmac road that connects Las-Anod and Burao.

## 1.2 Study Objective

The main objective of the assessment was to conduct an independent field study on the social, humanitarian, and economic effects of the Las-Anod conflict.

## 1.3 Methodology

The assessment was conducted by a team of PDRC researchers between April and May 2023. The team visited 12 affected locations and applied the following methodology to gather data on the situation:

- ❖ Focus group Discussions (FGDs): FGDs were conducted across the 12 target areas during the assessment period. This was meant to verify the information and for carrying out thorough questioning on the effect of the Las-Anod conflict and to identify the number of households in emergencies.
- ❖ Key Informants interviews: The team met key informants from the traditional elders, IDP communities, intellectuals, professionals, politicians and social workers from local authorities and organizations who provided important information on the situation.
- ❖ Direct observation for identification of most affected sub-groups within the community.

This information combined also with secondary data on the ground, brainstorming and interviews with humanitarian committee taskforce as well as officials from Ministry of Education of Puntland and students in Garowe who fled the Las-Anod conflict.

## 2. Key Findings

### 2.1 Demographics analysis

The assessment focused on 10 locations in the Hawd plateau and Nugal Valley (Bocame, Saah-dheer, Dhumme, Widhwidh, Buhodle, Kalabayr, Tukaraq, Taleh, Huddun, and Awrbogays) and Las-anod (the epicenter of the conflict) and Garowe (the capital of Puntland). The war had varying toll across the regions, with human displacement as the common denominator. In the Hawd and Nugal Valley areas, the study found the number of displaced families to be 20,918, being more than 30% of the hosting community, excluding Garowe.

In the villages of Dhumme, Saah-dheer and Huddun, displaced people are settled in public buildings, such as primary schools, vocational training centers and adult Schools (Bocame), institutes and boarding schools (Buhodle). Those who can afford rented houses. According to the study respondents, however, most of the displaced people share small rooms with their relatives or extended family members at the proportion of 3 to 4 families per room/house. At such congestion, only women and children remain sheltered at night while the men go to sleep in the mosques or open spaces.



While Las-anod is the epicenter of the conflict, Garowe is the second most affected in terms of economic burden, social services, and security-wise. According to Anfac Initiatives organization (an umbrella of local women organizations) who assist the victims of Las-Anod war as well as reports from the situation room of the Puntland Humanitarian committee, Garowe town received the highest number of IDPs and injured persons during the conflict.

According to the taskforce of the humanitarian committee of Puntland, the families who fled Las-Anod conflict to Garowe kept changing continuously. At the time of this study, there were 3,000 (three thousand) displaced families in Garowe. Despite having many unattended needs, these displaced families depended on their relatives, aid agencies and the humanitarian support committees of Puntland. On the other side, they put a lot of burden medical in Garowe. The main hospitals in Garowe temporarily halted receiving patient other than those who were injured in the Las-Anod conflict.

In Garowe schools, 2,700 students were registered and received free education. According to officials from the Puntland Ministry of Education, 853 of grade eight students and 613 students of Form (IV) secondary school students were registered for free revisions of their Somaliland education syllabus at Gambol secondary school in Garowe and their teachers from Las-Anod are hired to deliver the revisions.

### Human Casualty of the War between as of April 2023

Type of Casualty	Las-anod	Garowe
Death	489	299
Injury	1,366	747
Displacement	120,000 (Including those who fled to Hargeisa, Burao and Borama)	

### Physical Casualty of the War on Las-anod as of April 2023

Type of Casualty	Number
Houses destroyed	1,750
Buildings damaged	30,000



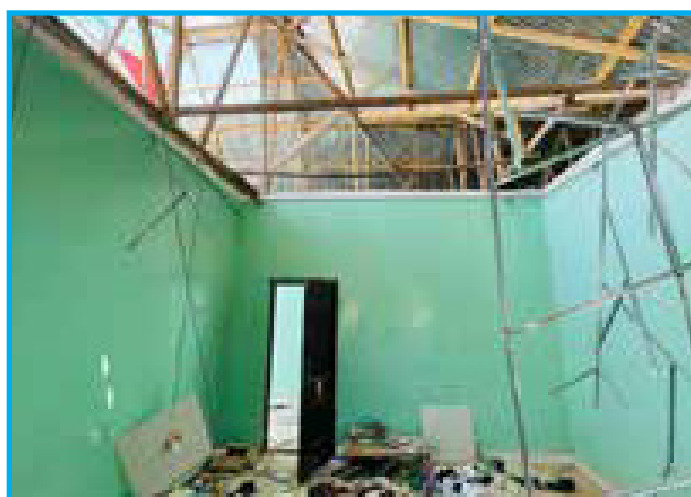
Health centers damaged or destroyed	88 (including the general hospital, the blood bank, MCHs, private clinics, and pharmacies)
Educational institutions closed or destroyed	50 (including primary schools, secondary schools, universities)
Teachers and students displaced	49,975 (48,623 students and 1,352 teachers)
Mosques closed	93
Mosques destroyed	1
Public services damaged	Electricity
Public service destroyed	Water supply system

### **Socio-Economic impact of the War as of April 9, 2023**

The war had a tremendous impact on the economy in both Las-anod, Garowe and other main towns of Puntland. On one hand, trade generally declined because of the closure of the access to the markets in the northwest and Ethiopia, especially the transport business which shuttled goods and people between Garowe and Las-anod. On the other hand, public transport that connected Puntland, Somaliland and Wajale (Ethiopian border) came to a sudden halt, forcing more than 10 transport companies out of business.

It is estimated that the transport industry sustained a decrease of around 80% of its business since the war erupted. Estimates indicate that 90% of the urban transport that used to work inside and outside of Las-anod relocated to Puntland, mainly Garowe, and are now working in the main towns such as Galkayo, Bossaso, Garowe, Qardho, and Burtinle. All vehicles bearing Somaliland plates are registered with the Ministry of Public Works of Puntland and the municipalities of the local governments of Puntland with tax-exemptions to continue their circulations there. These vehicles are currently working in Puntland as public transport. It is estimated that 500 vehicles and 600 three-wheelers from Las-Anod are currently circulating in Puntland with high traffic pressure.

In the town of Las-anod, the socio-economic toll was more severe. According to the estimates, 27,000 small, medium-sized and large-scale businesses closed due to the war. This included 16,200 licensed businesses. In addition, the main trade line, connecting Las-anod, Burao and Berbera, closed, preventing free flow of commerce and human movement.



## Humanitarian Situation

As registered by the taskforce of the humanitarian committee based in Garowe, a total number of 18,196 IDP families received humanitarian assistance. Compared to PDRC's assessment, however, there is a variance of 2,722 households (20,918 HH - 18196 HH = 2,722). The taskforce figures do not include those who have fled to Ethiopia and others who fled to distant parts of Puntland or Somalia.

The reported number of households in emergency by the study participants is 14,514, which includes both the poor hosting residents of the assessed areas and the new IDPs. This is equivalent to 21% of the hosting households of the assessed areas or 69% of the total households of the reported IDPs from the Las-Anod conflict in the assessed settlements. The detailed demographic divisions of the individual assessed settlements, excluding Las-Anod and Garowe, are stated in the below table.



### Estimated Resident populations, IDPs and Number of Households in Emergency

City	N. Resident Households	N. of IDPs HH from the conflict of Las-Anod	N. households in emergency
1. Bocame	1858	1795	1,077
2. Saah-dheer	1553	453	362
3. Dhummey	1250	1156	578
4. Widhwidh	4,000	5000	2,000
5. Buhodle	30,000	7000	6,500
6. Kalabayr	7500	1030	515
7. Tukaraq	1770	800	640
8. Taleh	18292	2284	1,142
9. Hudun	3000	1000	1500
10. Awrbogays	600	400	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,823</b>	<b>20,918</b>	<b>14,514</b>



## 2.2 Livelihood and Food Security Situation



The mainstay of the livelihoods of the assessed areas are livestock and livestock products, medium and small businesses, and employment (generally casual labor) in the big towns. Hence, the income from some of these types of livelihoods is not sustainable without a conducive environment, such as security and accessible markets for the exchange of goods or demand for employment.

The Las-Anod conflict disrupted the economic fabric of whole areas, social services, and the livelihoods that the inhabitants of Sool and Ayn regions used to have. Many buildings have been destroyed or damaged in Las-Anod town

during the conflict; some of the private buildings were not only used for housing but were also sources of income for their owners. The destroyed buildings by the Somaliland army are private and public houses, schools, universities, hospitals, business centers, and mosques.

The conflict affected the livelihood and food security of both the displaced and the hosting communities. Most of the displaced people left all their belongings when fleeing from the war in Las Anood, and now they are compelled to share whatever the hosting family of their kin has to offer because it is confirmed that they share resources with 3–4 families.



The affected people, to survive, resort to one meal per day because they do not have enough resources to pay for the essential food commodities, according to individuals interviewed in the IDP camps. Consequently, their food security is severely affected by the continuation of the conflict because it has dislocated the communities' livelihood systems by restricting their movement, the availability of essential commodities, and access to the usual markets.

According to the key informants interviewed in the assessed areas and in the IDP camps, as well as in host communities, people are at risk due to limited financial resources and the inadequate essential food commodities in the most assessed areas.

Conferring to the focus group discussions in all documented areas of the assessment, they reported that the provision of relief assistance for the displaced people from Las-Anod and poor hosting people is minimal, and the people are at a burden to the already poor drought-stricken local community.

In addition, people said that "we are fed up with INGOs that are collecting data for assessment purposes", while on the other hand, people were expecting both local and international INGOs as well as UN agencies to offer something tangible such as dry rations, medicine, shelter, etc.

## Summary of livelihoods status

City	Main livelihood sources	Main sources of income	Challenges community face with their source of livelihood
Bocame	Livestock and farming	Livestock product Cash crop farming Small and medium businesses	Recurrent droughts, lack of veterinary service access plus Burden of IDPs
Saah-dheer	Livestock	Livestock and livestock product Small businesses	Recurrent droughts, lack of veterinary service access plus Burden of IDP
Dhumme	Livestock	Livestock product	Abject poverty plus Burden of IDP
Widhwidh	Pastoralists, medium and small business owners	Livestock product Small and medium businesses	Droughts, charcoal burning and lack of veterinary services plus Burden of IDP
Buhodle	Livestock rearing, small & medium business owners and labor	Livestock product Small and medium businesses including livestock business and labor	Recurrent droughts, market disruption due to the conflict and burden of IDPs (new and old IDPs)
Kalabayr	Livestock and small business owners	Livestock products and small business	Lack of access to market due to the conflict and lack of Veterinary services plus heavy IDPs burden
Tukaraq	Livestock husbandry	Livestock product and small businesses	Recurrent droughts, lack of Veterinary services, burden IDPs
Telex	Livestock husbandry, small and medium businesses	Livestock product and small businesses	Current Drought and Burden of IDPs
Hudun	Livestock husbandry and small business	Livestock product and small businesses	recurrent Drought and Burden of IDPs
Awrbogays	Livestock husbandry and small business	Livestock product and small businesses	recurrent Drought and Burden of IDPs



## 2.3 WASH Sector (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)

Most of the settlements that locate in the assessed areas of Hawd depend on Berkeds as their main water sources, which usually dries up during the dry seasons, excluding Widhwidh town that enjoys few shallow wells used during the wet season, which minimizes the early consumption of water in the Berkeds or the natural ponds that are known locally as Ballis. Most of the assessed settlements have boreholes with brackish water that are not even enough to suffice the water demand for the people and livestock in the dry seasons because of the low yields.

According to participants in the focus groups and key informants, different from other settlements, Bocame and Buhodle have tap water. Thus, for the other settlements, the only option for acquiring safe drinking water is to truck the water from far distances, sometimes 70-120 kms.



However, the early Gu' rainfall received in these areas is helping temporarily the Las-Anod conflict IDPs to have access to water for the coming three months. But during the assessment, the PDRC team learnt that the prices of one drum of water trailed by donkeys to the IDP camps is US \$10 because they fetch the water from approximately 4kms, a distance most IDP families and host communities are unable to make.

In addition to this, many villagers in the assessed areas reported that there is a shortage of safe water for drinking even with the present Gu' rainfall and that the IDPs are the most affected by this water shortage.

## Types Of Water Sources and Challenges for Each Settlement:

City	Main water sources	Access clean and save water	Access to clean latrines	Challenges
Bocame	two Boreholes	Limited to Piped water (50%) and water trucking for drinkable water from 42km	Limited to (60%)	Shortage of clean water
Saah-dheer	One borehole with brackish water (inadequate)	Limited (they use Berkeds for drinking water)	Limited (20%)	
Dhummey	One Borehole that locate 8kms & rainwater catchments (Berkeds)	Extremely limited (they use Berkeds for drinking water)	Extremely limited	
Widhwidh	Three Shallow wells and Berkeds plus pond (Balli)	Limited (they use Berkeds for drinking water)	Limited to those who can afford	Lack of permanent water source
Buhodle	Four Boreholes, two dams and Berkeds	Limited (estimated 10% have house connections)	Coverage of latrines is enough for the town but limited in IDP camps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is hard to get clean drinkable water,</li> <li>• water shortage in IDP camps</li> </ul>
Kalabeyr	Rainwater catchments (Berkeds) plus unequipped borehole	Is not enough for both residents and IDPs (only Rainwater catchments (Berkeds))	The town has enough latrines but the IDPs access to latrines is Limited?	A borehole is drilled and cased but is not fully equipped
Tukaraq	Two boreholes	70 houses have pipe connection	Is very limited (only 20% have latrines)	Lack of Water tanks for the boreholes

Taleh	Two boreholes	Is not enough and water quality is brackish, they truck water from far away villages	Limited Coverage (70% have latrines)	Truck water from far away villages such as Higlo
Hudun	Shallow well equipped with pump	Is not enough and water quality is brackish, they truck water from private water well and most people cannot afford	Limited (coverage 25-30%)	Truck safe drinking water from privately owned sources at the price of 2.5 US dollar per drum
Awrbogays	2 boreholes number of Berkeds	Enough With good quality of water	20% have no access to latrines	Solar for the one of the water wells need repair

## 2.4 Healthcare and Nutrition sector

According to the deliberations of the FDGs and key informants, the assessed settlements did not have general or referral hospitals except Las-Anod, Kalabayr, Widhwidh, Buhodle, Awrbogays and Taleh. The remaining locations have MCHs as healthcare facilities, but the main challenge is that those healthcare facilities, which used to receive medical supplies from Hargeisa, are no longer functional due to the discontinuation of support from either the Somaliland government or the international Agencies based in Hargeisa.

The Buhodle health facilities consist of one general hospital, 8 MCHs and five private clinics. Since four of the 8 MCHs were supported by Somaliland authority through international healthcare organizations such as UNICEF office in Hargeisa, they are not functional anymore because of the withdrawal of the support by UNICEF Somaliland.

The Kalabayr general hospital, which is supported by Medicines Sans frontiers, is fully functional and is dealing with the outflow of conflict injuries from Las-Anod. MSF team was present during the assessment and the team leader informed the PDRC research team that they provide or pay skilled medical personnel including surgeons. MSF stated that it supports the Kalabaydh community hospital with staff salary or incentive support, essential drugs and two fully paid surgeons.

In addition to the above, they have established functional maternity ward, OPD, established operation theatre (OT), established basic laboratory facility, which are all fully functional. However, the nutritional programs are halted due to the conflict.

The Widhwidh Healthcare consists of one general hospital, private clinic that performs surgery and other 13 health centers. But those health centers were supported by



Somaliland, or the Somaliland based international and National organizations, and are not currently functional due to the discontinuations of aid assistance.

According to the local authority of the district and the key informants, the healthcare of Taleh town is fully functional and their healthcare services consists of only one district referral hospital and one MCH and both are supported mainly from Puntland. Bocame and Saah-dheer have only MCHs that function as outpatient healthcare services, but the Dhumme village has no healthcare service at all.

Commonly reported diseases are mainly malaria, whooping cough (reported in Saah-dheer only), Acute watery diarrhea, cough with fever and measles (reported only in Taleh).



## The healthcare and Nutrition Conditions

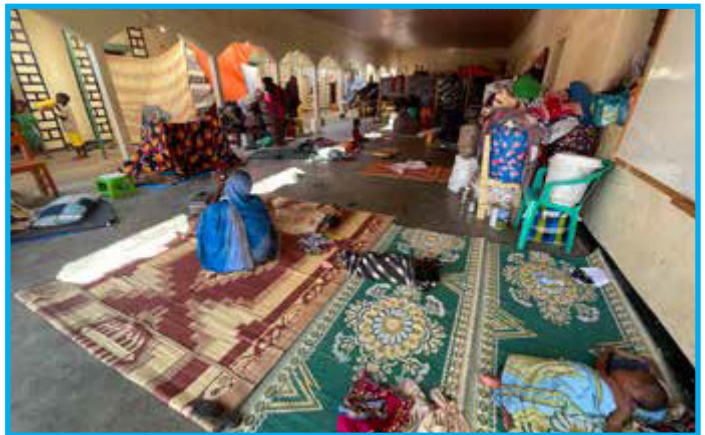
Location	Common forms of illness	Access to health functional facility	Access to reproductive health care	Access to nutrition center
Bocame	Diarrhea, cough with fever and malnutrition	Limited (one MCH)	Limited (awareness, and vitamins)	Limited (porridge, OTP biscuits, and ORS)
Saaxdheer	Malaria, typhoid, and whooping cough with fever	Limited (one MCH only)	approximately (20%)	Limited (Vaccination, delivery services, porridge, OTP biscuits, and ORS)
Dhummey	Cough with Fever, diarrhea	None	None	None
Widhwidh	Malnutrition	One general hospital, two MCH and two private health facilities	Full health services	Porridge, TSFP, OTP biscuits, and mobile health teams
Buhodle	flue and fever	One general hospital, 8 MCH, 6 PHU,	Limited	Limited
Kalabayr	Diarrhea, cough with fever	One fully functional general hospital	Limited	Inadequate OTP biscuits and porridge
Tukaraq	Diarrhea, cough with fever, Malaria	One MCH	Extremely limited	Extremely limited
Taleh	Measles, Malaria	General hospital and MCH	Limited	Extremely limited
Hudun	Cough and Diarrhea	TBC center and one MCH that functions as nutrition center and three private clinics	Provision of vitamins	Provide biscuits and porridge

Awrbogays	Brucellas, Diarrhea, Flu and dry cough	2 MCH functional, Private referral hospital that	Antenatal care, delivery advice and care of pregnant women	Malnutrition is usually referred to Las-Anod (before conflict) and Garowe
-----------	--	--	--	---

## 2.5 Shelter Situation

The community in the assessed districts of Sool and Ayn regions could no longer provide enough housing for the displaced families from Las-Anod, according to the focus groups, the key informants, and the humanitarian committee taskforce. Most of the displaced people live in small rooms with their relatives or their extended family members at the proportion of 3 to 4 families per room/house thus only women and children remain sheltered at night while the men go to sleep in the mosques or open spaces as the available shelter is inadequate for both the hosting families and the IDPs. Furthermore, there are no emergency shelters for displaced people in the assessed areas. Some IDP families who fled Las-Anod live under the shade of trees at the periphery of the villages that they fled to, while others are building makeshift houses with poles and using pieces of old cloth bound together for shelter coverage.

It is estimated that only less than 50% of hosting households have access to safe and clean latrines in average, while the remaining of the hosting households and IDPs do not have latrines. The main challenge identified was that the houses were overcrowded (3-4 families in one house of 2-3 rooms or two families for one room).





The following table summarizes the individual assessment location findings and the challenges:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Types of shelters</b>	<b>Challenges associated with shelter needs</b>	<b>Emergency shelter</b>
Bocame	Bricks houses and traditional hut	Overcrowded	No
Saaxdheer	Bricks houses and traditional hut	Overcrowded	No
Dhummey	Bricks houses and traditional hut	Overcrowded	No
Widhwidh	Bricks houses, traditional hut, and makeshift houses	Overcrowded	No
Buhodle	Brick houses	Overcrowded	No
Las-Anod	Stone buildings, stone mixed with bricks, iron sheets and traditional	Mostly empty	Vacated
Kalabayr	Bricks houses, traditional hut, and makeshift houses	Overcrowded	No
Tukaraq	Brick houses	Overcrowded	No
Taleh	Bricks houses, traditional hut, and makeshift houses	Overcrowded	No
Huddun	Stone buildings, Bricks Iron sheets and few Traditional Huts	Crowded	No
Awrbogays	Stone buildings, Bricks Iron sheets and few Traditional Huts	Crowded	No

## 2.6 Protection situation

Women and children are the most vulnerable populations in every country, suffering from conflict consequences, illness, diseases, malnutrition, and human abuses. In conflict zones, women face gender-based violence, such as rape and harassments. Likewise, the war that started on February 6, 2023, in the city of La-anod caused women and children to flee their homes, thus losing their normal protections and causing them to face human abuses. The PDRRC researchers found out that women in the displaced communities of Sool and Ayn regions are susceptible to sexual violence, especially those IDP camps. According to the FGDS and KII interviews, there was violence against women in the past, such as rape, but now it is rare to hear of violence in most of the areas. However, local people in Tukaraq village reported that there were five cases of rape in Tukaraq in the recent past, which were committed by members of Somaliland forces who were based there.



In addition, the IDP community living in the Shangalle camp of Buhodle town reported that: *“when women return from the town to the camp in the evenings, they encounter sexual violence and harassment”*.

The interviewed traditional elders and the KII informants reported that: *“in most cases, when rape occurs, it is dealt within the traditional norms and the Sharia bylaws to compensate the victim as well as imprisonment of the criminal. The culprit is fined with five camels in according to*

the traditional norms and sometimes there is an arranged marriage to safeguard the reputation of the abused young girl and circumvent the stigma associated with the rape. However, elders reported that no cases of sexual violence has been brought to their attention recently. The following table summarizes information from the targeted locations:

## Protection Status

City	Violence against women	Types of violence	Service help women in case of violence	Reports of physical or sexual violence
Bocame	No	No	Imprisonment and number of camels compensation for committed sexual offences	None
Saaxdheer	No	No	Imprisonment and camels' compensation for committed sexual offences	None
Dhummey	No	None	Imprisonment and camels' compensation for committed sexual offences	None
Widhwidh	No	Rape	Imprisonment and 5 camels' compensation for committed sexual offences	None
Buhodle	Yes	Rape	Imprisonment and 5 camel compensations for committed sexual offences	Yes
Kalabayr	No	No	Imprisonment and camel compensation for committed sexual offences	None
Tukaraq	Yes	Rape	compensation for committed sexual offences	5 cases

Taleh	Yes	Rape	Imprisonment and camel compensation for committed sexual offences	Yes
Hudun	No		No	None
Awrbogays	no	No	But if it happens 5 heads of camel for sexual offence	None

## 2.7 Education Sector

The Las-anod conflict has negatively affected the education facilities located in the assessed settlements in Sool and Ayn (ex-Buhodle District) regions. The schools in most of these regions were occupied by people who fled the Las-Anod conflict. This influx of displaced mass caused thousands of students to lose their education.

All the schools and other educations centers were used as IDP camps except schools in Bocame, Taleh and Buhodle. Schools in these three towns are functioning but they must accommodate a high number of displaced students especially the grade 8<sup>th</sup> of the primary and Form IV of the secondary to offer these students a chance to sit in the certificate exams of the academic year 2022 - 2023.



Moreover, 6,977 students and 201 teachers and other education staff were affected by the conflict because their facilities are taken over by IDPS, not mentioning 575 teachers and lecturers and 48,623 students from universities, secondary schools, primary schools, institutes, and Quranic schools who fled the Las-Anod town shelling (see details in the specific Las-Anod deliberations).

According to the education authorities and participants of the FGDs in the assessed settlements, the main challenges facing the education service include:

1. Majority of the School buildings are occupied by IDPs from Las-Anod
2. Difference in the teaching curriculum, since most of the assessed locations were using the syllabus of Somaliland education system, which is not used in other



places such as Saah-dheer, Awrbogays etc.

3. Frequent dropouts of the students due to inability to pay education fees.
4. The classrooms for Grade 8 in the primary and the form 4 of the secondary are overcrowded, reason being that most of the assessed schools had to accommodate a high number of students beyond the capacity of their classrooms to make room for students who fled the Las-Anod conflict. Less fortunate are their teachers who altogether lost their jobs.

### Education sector assessment:

Location	School or learning centers	N. students effected by the conflict	N. teachers affected by the conflict	Challenges
Bocame	Two primary schools, one secondary and three other education centers	0	0	Some vocational education centers are occupied by IDPs
Saah-dheer	Two primary schools and two institutes	350	6	All the learning facilities were occupied by IDPs
Dhummey	One primary school	200	7	All the learning facilities were occupied by IDPs
Widhwidh	Two primary schools, one secondary and two Qur'anic schools	1266	32	All the learning facilities were occupied by IDPs
Buhodle	Four secondary schools, six primary schools, and two universities	0	0	Conflict doesn't affect education.
Kalabayr	One secondary, two primary schools, and two institutes	2360	41	All the learning facilities were occupied by IDPs
Tukaraq	Two primary schools and one higher institute	813	14	All the learning facilities were occupied by IDPs
Taleh	One secondary, two primary schools, three institutes	0	0	All the learning facilities are functioning
Huddun	Three primary and one secondary	1,620	53 staff and 38 Management committees	All are occupied by IDPs

Awrbogays	One primary and one secondary schools	368	10	Not functioning due to the rejected Somaliland education syllabus and also teachers are fled because of fear from reprisals
-----------	---------------------------------------	-----	----	---

## 2.7 Assistance Provided as of 9 April 2023

According to the study findings, several international humanitarian organizations responded to the Las-Anod crisis created by the conflict mainly through the provision of cash assistance (US dollar 90 to 130) as livelihood support and water trucking (45 liters per family per day) for different durations but primarily two to three months period.

However, the humanitarian committee of Puntland reported that they have distributed additional assistance provided by Puntland community both inside and outside of Puntland through the committee taskforce, which reached different locations with different amounts people for a total of 21,000 people. All the received assistances reported by the assessed communities are summarized the following tables:

### Livelihood Responses from international organizations

City	Humanitarian Agencies	Number of Households assisted	Amount and type of assistance	Duration
Bocame	CARE	186	\$92	Three months
	OXFOM	200	\$90	Two months
Saaxdheer	CARE	350	\$92	Three months
	OXFOM	122	\$90	Two months
Dhummey	Red crescent	270	\$130	One month
Widhwidh	WFP	280	72kg of Maize, 7kg miser, 7 liters oil	One time
Buhodle	Taakulo NGO	110	\$110	3 months
	ICRC	200	\$130	2 months
Kalabayr	NRC	1687	\$110	2 months
	SRCS	2500	\$130	3 months
	OXFOM	266	\$90	2 months
	Save The Children	350	\$130	2 months
Taleh	Care	680	\$92	3 months
	DRC	500	\$130	3 months
	OXFOM	200	\$90	2 months

### WASH Responses from international organizations

City	Humanitarian Agencies	Number of Households	Water Supply	Duration
Bocame	UNICEF	890	800L	45 days
	OXFOM	500	3 plastic water tanks	30 days
Dhummey	UNICEF	Collectively shared	23 water tankers	30 days
Widhwidh	IOM	135	90 barrels	30 days
	IOM	500	Sleeping materials and home utensils	?
	DRC	Collectively shared	Sleeping materials and tents	?
Buhodle	IOM	5060	3375 barrels	30 days
	DRC	3300	Home utensils	
Kalabayr	NRC	1678	4050 barrels	45 days
	Save The Children	Collectively shared	3060 barrels of water	?
	USAID	Collectively shared	150 barrels of water	One time
	UNICEF	Collectively shared	3600 barrels of water	15 days
	IOM	Collectively shared	450 barrels of water	One time
Taleh	DRC	500	Home utensils	N/A
Huddun	0	0	0	0
Awrbogays	0	0	0	0

## Peace reconciliation efforts as of April 9, 2023:

According to one of Traditional leaders in Las-Anod: "Somaliland does not want peace, rather they want to level the town to the ground and the road to Hargeisa is open only for Ina Cambaashe (a former commanding officer in the Somaliland armed forces) and all villages along the tarmac road connecting Las-Anod and Burao and its surroundings are vacated for fear of reprisal from the Somaliland army, which uses the main road for transport.

At the time of this study, the mediation elders from the south were still in Mogadishu, waiting for clearance from the Somaliland authority. The traditional leaders of Las-Anod reported that they had been contacted by the EU and asked to abide by the ceasefire, as the EU was waiting for a response from Somaliland Authority to accept the mediation by the elders from the south.

During the assessment, the peace mediation elders from the south of Somalia received clearance from the Somaliland authority to come to Hargeisa and started to meet other elders in Somaliland.



## Conclusion

The conflict in Las-anod lingers on, with no foreseeable political solution soon. Every day, the war claims innocent lives and pushes back prospects for peace and social harmony among the brotherly communities in Sool and the rest of Somaliland. At the time of this study, the war in Las-anod directly affected 330,000 people (55,000 households) to flee their homes and become destitute.

The human casualty is tremendous and on the increase. Frantic efforts by victims' families to get emergency treatment are subdued by inadequate medical infrastructure. Of the casualties transferred to Garowe hospitals for emergency treatment, 299 were confirmed dead as of the time of this assessment.

The toll of the Las-anod war is comprehensive; social, economic, and political. At the current pace of events, the stability of the entire region is at stake. But the real threat looming on the horizon is for the conflict to expand to currently uninvolved administrative regions and communities. As a peace building institution, and a think-tank, PDRC acknowledges the urgency to cease the war and initiate a process of reconciliation, resettlement, and implementation of a long-term strategy for attaining lasting peace in Las-anod.



*PDRC Assessment team in Las-anod*

## Recommendations

Based on the information provided by direct participants of the assessment as well as observations made by the study team, the below recommendations are identified as being crucial to respond to the huge humanitarian crises that befell on the town of Las-Anod, its inhabitants and the entire Sool region:

- a. The international humanitarian agencies, the Somali federal government, the Puntland government, the civil society organizations as well as the Somali diaspora must coordinate efforts to deliver emergency food and to the displaced people. There is also a severe need for non-food items (NFIs) including shelter, blankets, bedding, towels, soap, buckets, mosquito nets, kitchen utensils, and courtesy kits.
- b. At this scale of emergency, it is vital to strengthen the capacity of the existing health facilities in the conflict area and provide them with much-needed medical supplies and equipment.
- c. The need for WASH assistance is indispensable throughout the conflict-affected zone. The assessment team recommend the humanitarian agencies to support the drilling of new boreholes and rehabilitation of the existing boreholes for the displaced people to have access to clean water. In addition, makeshift latrine facilities with running water can be a temporary solution for the displaced people in the camps to address the poor sanitation and hygiene conditions.
- d. The team recommends the humanitarian aid agencies, particularly UNICEF, to support the establishment of nutrition, feeding programs, and childcare centers at IDP camps to access medical care and nutrition supplies for mothers and children.
- e. The team also recommends the Puntland Ministry of Education and Higher Education, with support from the international community and civil society organizations, to establish new educational centers, expand schools in locations where displaced communities relocated and provide essential education supplies to meet the needs of the displaced families.

# Annexes

## Annex A: KII and FGD community leaders Questionnaires

Aspect	Questions
<b>Demographic</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the number of households living in this village/location?</li> <li>2. Approximately how many people have been displaced (to and from the village/location)?</li> <li>3. What is the estimated number of households affected by the emergency?</li> </ol>
<b>Shocks</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent has your community experienced conflict/shock in the last Month (30 days)?</li> <li>2. How has the conflict/shock affected your community (effect on lives, budlings, facilities)?</li> <li>3. How severe is the impact of the shock (displacement, HH affected, lives lost, facilities damaged)?</li> </ol>
<b>WASH</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is your community's main source of water (status, functionality)?</li> <li>2. What are the challenges your community faces in accessing safe water sources?</li> <li>3. Do people in your community have easy and safe access to clean latrines (type, coverage, condition)?</li> </ol>
<b>Food Security and Livelihoods</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the main source of livelihood of your community?</li> <li>2. What are major sources of income in your community?</li> <li>3. What challenges do your community face with their source of livelihood?</li> </ol>
<b>Health and nutrition</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the common forms of illness in your community?</li> <li>2. Does your community have access to functional health facility (type, services, staffing)?</li> <li>3. Do women and adolescent girls in your community have access to reproductive health care services (type, utility, people's reproductive health seeking behavior)?</li> <li>4. Does your community have access to nutrition centers or any facilities where people can get nutrition programs (nature of services, type of facility)?</li> </ol>
<b>Shelter</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the different types of existing housing/shelter in your community?</li> <li>2. What are the main challenges associated with meeting shelter needs in your community?</li> <li>3. What is the most common form of emergency shelter used by the displaced people in your village/location?</li> </ol>
<b>Protection</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have you heard about violence being perpetrated against women or adolescent girls in your community?</li> <li>2. What are the most common types of violence?</li> <li>3. Which services or people can safely help women or adolescent girls in your community in case of violence?</li> <li>4. Have there been any reports of physical or sexual violence in your community?</li> </ol>



<b>Education</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Is there a school or learning center in your village (functionality, availability of teachers, children enrolled)?</li><li>2. Do the school aged children in the village go to school (challenges, reason for dropping out)?</li><li>3. What kind of support for education is most essential in your community right now?</li></ol>
------------------	--

## **Annex B: Las-Anod Conflict Study tool**

### Outline of general effects of the conflict

#### **I) Humanitarian effects of the conflict**

- a) Human lives loss (number of deaths both fighter and civilians)
- b) Displacement of people and the number of households displaced and to where?
- c) Damage of assets (Public houses, private buildings etc.)

#### **II) Social effects of the conflict**

- a) Effects on Health sector
  - How many health facilities damaged or destroyed.
  - How many health posts/MCH are occupied by displaced people and closed.
- b) Effects on Education sector
- c) How many Primary/secondary schools and universities or institutes are damaged or destroyed.
- d) How many students and teachers are displaced.
- e) How many schools primary/secondary or other public buildings are occupied by the displaced people in the outskirts of Las-Anod

#### **III) Effects on economic sector**

- a) How many business centers are affected.
  - Big and medium size companies.
  - Small businesses
  - Effects on household livelihoods.

#### **IV) Effects of infrastructures**

- a) Communication services
- b) Electricity services
- c) Water supply
- d) Transportation/ movement of goods and people to and from of Las-Anod



**PDRC** | PUNTLAND  
DEVELOPMENT &  
RESEARCH CENTER

  @PDRCSomalia

 [www.pdrksomalia.com](http://www.pdrksomalia.com)