



ACADEMY
for Peace and Development

Socio-Economic Survey 2004 Somaliland

(Draft)

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Introduction

This socio-economic survey is intended to present selected socio-economic data compiled from a survey of households. It is the second in series of statistical reports that will appear under the Bank/UNDP Somalia and Somaliland watching Brief Programme.

The socio-economic survey was conducted in all six regions of Somaliland (Awdel, Northwest, Togdheer, Sahil and to a limited extent, in Sool and Sanaag). The field survey commenced on late April 2004. The compiled data is based on information provided by 960 households, which responded to the survey questionnaires.

The survey and the analysis of the responses to the survey were conducted under the auspicious of the Academy for Peace and Development, with the funding of World Bank and UNDP.

Objectives of the survey

The objective of the survey was to collect and compile household data on selected demographic and socio-economic indicators, to redress the lack thereof and to provide a platform for the establishment of a socio-economic database to support policy, planning, and monitoring of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development. The survey covered the following issues: availability of basic services, modes of communication, material wealth of selected households, perceptions of security and environmental concerns in order to gain a greater understanding of prevailing socio-economic conditions in Somaliland.

Survey Methodology

Formulation of a sampling framework¹, within which to conduct the survey proved extremely challenging and beyond the capability of APD. After extensively reviewing various materials on sampling and household surveys, notably the “socio-economic survey 2002, on Somalia” APD elected to poll a sample size of 960 households, or 80 clusters with 12 household per cluster. A two-step stratified random sampling method was utilized following regional allotment of the 80 clusters due to time, resource and logistics constraint, inaccessibility. All pre-1991 regional capitals and districts were classified as urban areas and the remaining settlements were considered rural or nomadic.

¹ Sampling size for the country, the proportion for urban, non-urban and selecting clusters.

Conducting the Survey

The main questionnaire was intended for household, and covered a wide range of socio-economic modules. The survey team consisted of one principle researcher, a technical assistant, a data-coding staffer, two field supervisors, and 14 enumerators, all locals. Elders and women's groups voluntarily helped the team complete the survey in their respective communities. The field team received a brief training, and field-testing was conducted in Hargeysa and Burao.

Owing to time constraints the survey was conducted concurrently in all Somaliland's regions with the exception of Sanaag.

Major challenges

The coincidence of the survey with the occurrence of severe drought in the country was a major obstacle. Consequently, people in certain areas, particularly the eastern regions, felt that the survey was ill-timed and unreasonable. Other challenges included:

- "Information-gathering fatigue" people were reluctant to provide information for several reasons. Some are tired of giving information without getting anything in return. Others failed to see the value of such a survey.
- The need for incentive to elicit the cooperation of some respondents
- Too-high expectations of international assistance agencies

Limitation of the Data

A major limitation of the data is the possibility that some respondents withhold information, have poor recollection or misreport. Often these issues depend on the perception and understanding of respondents, which is influenced by their environment.

Chapter 1

Demographic and Housing

Demographic data on Somaliland is very scarce. There is no reliable census on the total population of Somaliland. The government estimates the current population to be around three million². International agencies put the figure much lower³. However Somaliland's population as a proportion of Somalia's has been increasing due to the return and resettlement of refugees and the growing urbanization. According to the survey, roughly 44% of the sampled population can be classified as urban; rural and nomadic people account for 56% of the sample. This is an indication of ongoing rapid urbanization.

The average household size, according survey response is about 6.17, with urban households averaging slightly higher than rural and nomadic ones, and giving a total number of 418 thousand households if we use the government figures (51% in urban and 49% in rural and nomadic). The growth of household size both in urban and rural is another indication of rapid migration to urban centres and rural settlements, in which people are moving in with relatives.

Table 1-1 Sample Population

Settlement	Male	Female	Total
Urban	1319	1303	2622
Rural & Nomadic	1693	1604	3297
Somaliland	3012	2907	5919

Table 1-2 Estimated of number of households⁴

Settlement	Average Household size	Number of household
Urban	6.21	212,560
Rural & Nomadic	6.13	273,663
Somaliland	6.17	486,223

Age Distribution of Population

² Somaliland in figures

³ UNFPA

⁴ Using Somaliland government figures

In this survey respondents were asked to round their ages down to the completed year, therefore, the estimate of the population in different age brackets, is prone to error to digit *preference*. People who do not know their age have approximated. Table 1.3-1.5 convey the age breakdown of population proportionally. The data is consistent with typical demographic patterns of developing countries with high fertility and mortality rates.

Table 1-3 Distribution of population by age and sex (Somaliland) (%)

Age groups	Male	Female	Total
00-04	15.5	14.4	15.1
05-09	15.3	14.0	14.7
10-14	14.9	13.7	14.3
15-19	12.9	12.7	12.8
20-24	7.5	8.5	8.0
25-29	5.7	8.0	6.8
30-34	5.1	7.7	6.2
35-39	4.9	6.2	5.5
40-44	4.3	4.3	4.3
45-49	3.7	3.4	3.5
50-54	3.0	2.5	2.8
55-59	2.6	1.4	2.0
60-64	2.4	1.4	1.9
65-69	0.9	0.6	0.7
70-74	0.8	0.5	0.7
75-79	0.3	0.4	0.3
80+	0.2	0.3	0.27

Table 1-4 Distribution of population by age and sex (Urban) (%)

Age groups	Male	Female	Total
00-04	15.3	14.3	14.8
05-09	14.9	13.9	14.4
10-14	14.5	13.7	14.0
15-19	13.7	13.5	13.9
20-24	7.3	8.6	8.0
25-29	5.4	7.7	6.5
30-34	5.3	7.6	6.5
35-39	4.8	7.1	5.9
40-44	4.8	4.0	4.3
45-49	4.4	3.5	4.0
50-54	3.1	1.8	2.4
55-59	2.1	1.5	1.8
60-64	2	1.5	1.7

65-69	1.4	3.8	0.8
70-74	1.1	3.1	0.7
75-79	1.1	3.8	0.3
80+	0.2	3.8	0.3

Table 1-5 Distribution of population by age and sex (Rural & Nomadic) (%)

Age group	Male	Female	Total
All age groups	1693	1604	3297
00-04	16.1	14.5	15.3
05-09	15.6	14.2	14.9
10-14	15.2	13.8	14.5
15-19	12.3	11.8	12.1
20-24	7.8	8.5	8.0
25-29	6.2	8.5	8.0
30-34	4.7	7.4	5.8
35-39	4.6	5.5	5.2
40-44	4.1	4.6	4.4
45-49	3.2	3.2	3.2
50-54	3.0	3.2	3.1
55-59	2.7	1.4	2.1
60-64	2.6	1.4	2.0
65-69	0.6	0.7	0.65
70-74	0.5	0.6	0.6
75-79	0.4	0.3	0.35
80+	0.3	0.2	0.25

Marital Status

A high proportion of respondents failed to state their marital status on this survey, particularly urban women. Of those who answered that they were “currently unmarried” 59 percent were male and 59.3 percent were female; 13.3 percent of women and 7.8 of men declined to respond.

1.6 Distribution of population by marital status (%)

Marital Status	Urban		Rural/Nomadic		Somaliland		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Unmarried	26.3	57.5	57.8	60.1	59.7	59.00	59.3
Married	28.2	32.5	18.7	21.2	22.9	26.3	24.6
Divorced	8.4	1.3	9.7	1.1	9.2	1.1	5.1
Widowed	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4
No response	0.7	9.6	13.5	17.3	7.8	13.3	15.7

Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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The proportion of non-urban females who are unmarried is considerably higher than that of urban ones, which is quite unusual. Other studies have produced contrasting results. One explanation could be high levels of migration by young people to urban areas.

The figure for male divorcees among the sample is very high whereas that of female divorcees is quite low in comparison to previous survey on Somalia. The disparity between male and female divorcees is also very large. Possibly divorced males were more willing to admit their marital status than their female counterparts. A small portion of the population is widowed (0.4 percent).

Male and Female Headed Households

The share of female-headed households is estimated at 13.9 percent in urban and 13.6 percent in rural and nomadic. The figure for the urban households is slightly higher than the non-urban ones and yet lower than in previous surveys on Somalia, in which Somaliland was included. Migration of husbands to urban centres in search of livelihood might account for the high non-urban figure.

1.7 distribution of household by gender of head of household (%)

Items	Female	Male	Total
Urban	13.9	86.1	100
Rural and Nomadic	13.2	86.8	100
Somaliland	13.6	86.4	100

Stated Causes of Death

About 11 percent of the households polled reported one death occurring in last year, 3.5 percent reported two deaths and 0.8 percent reported three or more deaths.

1.8 Distribution of Household by the number of deaths occurred las year (%)

Settlement	No death	1 person	2 person	3 or more	Total
Urban	82.9	11.8	4.1	1.2	100
Rural	85.9	10.4	3.1	0.6	100
Somaliland	84.7	11	3.5	0.8	100

Table 1.9 indicates that about 69.7 percent of all deaths were attributable to sickness, following by old age and, surprisingly, war (both 10.1%), accidents excluding mines (7.9%) mines (2.2%). With the exception of war-related deaths, the other causes of death do not vary depending on location. The proportion of deaths caused by the war⁵ in Somaliland is high for a country that has been enjoying sustained peace, and which has not undergone any confrontation that can be characterized as a war.

1.9 Distribution of people who died during the last one year by stated cause of death (%)

Stated cause of death	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
Old age	12.3	7.7	10.1
Sickness	65.8	74.3	69.7
Accident (excluding mines)	9.6	6	7.9
War	10.9	9	10.1
Mines	1.4	3	2.2
Total	100	100	100

Housing characteristics

⁵ War in Somali is “Dagaal”, however, dagaal has two meanings in Somali: war and physical confrontation between two people. So, some respondents may understand it as physical confrontation.

As conveyed below, approximately 44 percent of dwelling were characterized by respondents as permanent structures. 37.5 percent were described as semi-permanent, i.e. they have walls or roofs constructed from sem-durable materials. The remaining 18.5 percent were categorized as temporary or makeshift dwelling. There is an urban/rural disparity in housing quality. 27.7 percent of the dwellings in non-urban settlements were classified as permanent---although this number is very high compared to the findings of a previous survey on Somalia---as compared with 64.7 percent of the dwellings in urban settlements, a ratio of more than two to one. There also similar contrasts in other categories of dwelling units.

1.10 Distribution of households by type of dwelling (%)

Type of house	Rural & Nomadic	Urban	Somaliland
Permanent	27.7	64.7	44
Semi-permanent	47.8	24.4	37.5
Temporary	24.5	10.9	18.5
Total	100	100	100

Survey respondents claimed that there are an average of 2.1 rooms per house in Somaliland: 2.6 rooms per house in urban areas and 1.7 in non-urban settlements. Slightly more than a quarter of urban houses and more than half of non-urban houses have only one room. A quarter of urban dwellings and nearly one-third of rural and nomadic homes have two rooms. Roughly 49 percent of the houses in urban areas consist of three or more rooms compared to 13 percent in non-urban areas.

1.11 Distribution of households by number of rooms per dwelling (%)

Number of rooms	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
One Room	26.1	59.9	43.3
Two Rooms	25.1	30.1	27.9
Three Rooms	21.9	7.8	13.9
Four Rooms	15.8	2.8	8.5
Five Rooms or More	11.1	2.8	6.4
Total	100	100	100

In Somaliland housing problems persist because of growing migration to urban centres. There has been considerable improvement due to the decline in numbers of displaced persons and refugees. About one fifth of urban households have one or more families staying in the same house. Slightly,

more than one fourth of these share single-roomed houses. About 10 percent of non-urban households comprise two or more families living in the same house, of which 15% occupy single-roomed houses.

1.12 Distribution of households by number of families and number of rooms in a single dwelling unit (%)

Type of settlement	No. of Families	Number of rooms per household			
		One Room	Two Rooms	Three Rooms or More	All Households
Urban	1	84	81.7	79.5	80.5
	2	16	17.3	13.6	17.2
	3	0	1	6.9	2.3
	Total	100	100	100	100
Rural & Nomadic	1	94.9	87.1	83.3	90.3
	2	4.4	11.6	16.7	8.1
	3 or more	0.7	1.3	0	1.6
	Total	100	100	100	100
Somaliland	1	92	85	80.3	86
	2	7.5	13.9	14.3	12.2
	3	0.5	1.1	5.4	1.8
	Total	100	100	100	100

The survey reveals that a high numbers of Somaliland households own their dwellings (77.5%); 18.4% rent. Less than five percent of families occupy either rent-free dwellings or public places. This is a positive development, and it may have contributed to the growth of the construction sector.

1.13 Distribution of households by type of ownership (%)

Ownership	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
Owned	71.6	82.1	77.5
Rented	24.9	13.3	18.4
Free-private	2.1	2	2.1
Free-public	0.9	0.9	0.9
Occupant of vacant House	0.5	1.7	1.1
Total	100	100	100

About ninety percent of the households surveyed reside in their hometowns and very of few of them categorized themselves as migrants (2.6%) or displaced (7.1%).

1.14 Distribution of households by type of settlers (%)

Type of settlers	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
Domicile	88.2	92	90.3
Migrated	2.6	2.6	2.6
Displaced	9.2	5.4	7.1
Total	100	100	100

Chapter 2

Employment and Income

Labour Force

Those in 15 to 64-age bracket who are employe or employable are considered the economically active population. This group constitutes 54 percent of the population. Using Somaliland government figures, this would mean an estimated labour force of 1.6 million, consisting of 880 thousand in urban and 720 thousand in rural and nomadic areas, an indication that the rural labour force is migrating to the cities and that children and older people are being left behind in rural areas.

2.1 Distribution of population by economic and employment status (%)

Population by labour force			
Economic Status	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Total
Economically Active	54.9	53.4	54
Not in the labour force	45.1	46.6	46
Total Population	100	100	100

Employment

Total employment among the economically active population is estimated at 28.5 percent for urban dwellers, 36.3 percent for non-urban and 32.8

percent for the entire country. Therefore, unemployment rates are 71.5 percent in urban areas, 63.7 percent in non-urban areas and 67.2 percent for the country as a whole. The high unemployment rate is an indication of the very hard economic conditions in the country.

2.2 Economically active population by employment status (%)

Employment status	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Total
Employed	28.5	36.3	32.6
Unemployed	71.5	63.7	67.2
Total labour force	100	100	100

Child Employment

2.3 Child employment (%)

Employment Status	Somaliland
Employed	18
Unemployed	82
Total	100

In this survey, child employment for Somaliland (i.e. without age, gender and settlement breakdown) is estimated as 18%. In terms of sectoral distribution, self-employment accounts for 51.7 percent of children, unpaid family work, 46 percent and casual labour 2.3 percent.

2.4 Child employment by sector (%)

Occupation	Somaliland
Self-employed	51.7
Unpaid family work	46.0
Causal labour	2.3
Total	100

Employment by major sectors

In terms of sectoral distribution of employment agriculture and livestock accounts for 38.5 percent, services 60 percent and industry (i.e. plants) one percent. In urban areas 81.9 percent are employed in the service sector, while 51.6 in non-urban areas are in the agriculture/livestock sector.

2.5 Employment by major sectors

Sector	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Total
Agriculture/livestock	17.2	51.6	38.5
Industry	0.9	1.00	1
Services	81.9	47.4	60.5
Total	100	100	100

Employment by Gender

Survey responses indicated that, employment, broken down by gender, stands at 25.8 percent for males and 38.8 percent for females. This illustrates the increasing role of women in supporting families during the post-conflict period in Somaliland.

2.6 Employment by Gender

Gender	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Average
Male	22.7	28.9	25.8
Female	34	43.5	38.8

Household income

The survey also asked respondents to report on monthly household income by selecting from a range of choices. The total estimated⁶ income per year of the country's household's amount to \$912 million, of which \$648 million was from urban areas and \$260 million from rural and nomadic areas. This amount to an overall per capita income of \$304; \$491 for urban and \$155 for non-urban areas. There is a marked disparity between urban and non-urban settlements. This is indicative of the dramatic impact the ongoing severe drought has on the income and livelihood of non-urban areas.

2.7 Estimated household income (US\$)⁷

Income	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Somaliland
Estimated household income in	648	260	912

⁶ Using Government figures

⁷ Using Government figures

millions \$			
Per capita household income in US \$	491	155	304

Source of Income

Income from self-employment constituted 28.6 percent, salaries and remittance accounted for 16.8 percent and 12.4 percent respectively. Others sources that have not been specified constituted 33.3 percent. There is considerable disparity in the amount of income derived from remittance between urban and non-urban areas.

Source	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Somaliland
Self-employed	29.6	27.2	28.2
Charity	4.7	8.7	7.0
Remittances	19.7	6.7	12.4
Salary	19.4	14.6	16.8
Others	23.9	40.5	33.3
Not mentioned	2.7	2.3	2.3
Total	100	100	100

Income Distribution and Poverty level

The annual income of about 63.3 percent of households surveyed is less than one thousand dollars; broken down by location, the proportions are 47.8% in urban areas and 75.4% in non-urban areas. In other words, 1.9⁸ million people (631 thousand people in urban areas and 1.3 million people in urban areas) live on less than half a dollar a day. Twenty-three-and-a-half percent of households make about \$1,200 and another 13.2 percent earn more than \$6,000 annually.

2.9 Distribution of Households by annual income (%)

Type of settlement	Household income (\$)					Total
	\$360	\$720	\$1,200	\$6,000	\$12,000	
Urban	23.9	23.9	31.8	0.5	19.9	100
Rural & Nomadic	52.8	22.6	17.2	5.9	1.5	100
Somaliland	40.1	23.2	23.5	3.5	9.7	100

⁸ Somaliland figures in population

Chapter 3

Basic Services

Somaliland's basic services have evolved haphazardly since 1991, with the assistance of such diverse actors as central and regional governments, private enterprise and international aid agencies. Though there has been considerable improvement in basic services delivery and there is rudimentary data on the quantity side⁹ for some of these basic services, there is neither reliable nor comprehensive data on the quality and effectiveness of basic services provision. This survey sought to, albeit to a lesser degree than previous surveys, assesses the availability and affordability of these basic services, (availability here refers to physical proximity to the service and affordability refers to citizens' economic ability).

Enrolment Rates

Somaliland has one of the lowest school enrolment rates in Africa. The primary school enrolment for Somaliland in 2002 according to the Somaliland Government was 84,774 students, or 67 percent of boys and 33 percent of girls. These enrolment figures were used to estimate the primary school enrolment rates for boys and the estimated population¹⁰ of the corresponding age group. The overall primary school enrolment rate is 10.9 percent for Somaliland, 13.96 percent for boys and 7.7 percent for girls.

3.1 Gross primary enrolment rate (%)	
Gender	Gross enrolment rate
Boys	13.96
Girls	7.7
Total	10.9

Educational Institutions

⁹ This is the number of schools, MCH, student enrolment, etc.

¹⁰ Using Somaliland population figures

Of all educational institutions, Koranic schools are the most available and affordable in Somaliland, followed by primary schools as indicated by table 3.2. This information however, does not convey regional disparities in access to primary education. Official statistics show that 42% of primary schools are in the Northwest region. Availability of secondary schools is limited to the urban centres or regional capitals. In 2002 about 15 secondary schools (both public and private) were operational in the country. Nine were located in Hargeisa and west of Hargeisa. Similarly, vocational training and universities are concentrated in Hargeisa and west of Hargeisa.

3.2 Distribution of Households by assessment of availability and affordability of educational institutions (%)

Type of institutions		Koranic	Primary	Secondary	Others
Urban	Availability	90.5	88.6	58.7	17.1
	Affordability	82.2	77.3	46.9	16.8
Rural & Nomadic	Availability	81.4	78.8	18.2	6.7
	Affordability	75.7	72.5	16.7	6.7
Somaliland	Availability	85.4	83.1	36.0	11.3
	Affordability	78.5	74.6	30	11.1

Health Services

More than 85 percent of urban households and 57 percent of non-urban households confirmed the availability of at least one health facility, notably MCH (Mother and Child Health centres)/Health Post. Further, about 80 percent of households in urban settlements and 67.55 percent in non-urban areas attested to the affordability of such facilities. The major health facilities, as indicated by table 3.3, are MCH (Mother and Child Health centres)/Health Post (71.4%) and hospitals (38.72%).

3.3 Distribution of Households by assessment of the availability and affordability of health institutions (%)

Types of facilities		MCH/HP ¹¹	Hospitals	Outpatient dispensary
Urban	Availability	85.55	65.17	30.33
	Affordability	79.15	58.53	29.15
Rural & Nomadic	Availability	57.25	12.27	35.40
	Affordability	67.55	6.69	18.01
Somaliland	Availability	71.40	38.72	17.01
	Affordability	73.35	46.97	23.58

¹¹ These terms are used interchangeably

Official statistics support claims that these are the major health facilities in the country. Currently, these are: 132 health posts in operation, which are evenly distributed within the regions; 48 MCH facilities and ten hospitals, or a minimum of one in every region.

Water

Over the past decade, considerable efforts have been invested in rehabilitating water and sanitation systems damaged during the war. Many urban water systems have been repaired. The current data indicate an overall improvement in water supply: roughly 46.6 percent of surveyed households have access to piped water; broken down by location, this is 69.6 percent for urban households and 28.5 percent for non-urban households. In rural and nomadic areas, as illustrated by table 3.2, wells/boreholes and *barkado* are the major sources of water.

3.4 Distribution of households by main source of drinking water (%)

Water source	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Somaliland
Tap	69.6	28.5	46.6
Well/borehole	17.3	23.2	20.6
Ponds/berkad	5.6	31.2	20.1
Stream	4.7	17.1	11.6
Others	2.8	0	1.1
Total	100	100	100

There has also been discernible improvement in access to treated water: 69.2 percent of urban households and 28.3 percent of non-urban households claimed that they are using or drinking treated water. However, there are no hard data to verify this.

3.5 Distribution of households by access to treated water (%)

Water treatment	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
Untreated	29.4	71.3	52.9
Treated	69.2	28.3	46.3
Filtered	0.5	0.2	0.3
No Response	0.9	0.2	0.5
Total	100	100	100

Sanitation

The lack of adequate sanitation infrastructure continues to pose a health risk to large segments of Somaliland's population. More than half of households do not have access to a proper toilet. This consists of 12.8 percent for urban households and 55 percent for rural and nomadic households. Lack of latrines was identified by 22.7 percent of households polled as a major environmental problem. Poor sanitation among large sections of the population could be a contributing factor to some of the health problems in the country.

3.6 Distribution of households by type of toilet used (%)

Type of toilet	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
Open Space	12.8	55	36.5
Pit latrine	77.5	41.4	57.3
Public latrine	1.4	1.3	1.4
Water closet	4.3	1.3	2.6
No response	4	1	2.2
Total	100	100	100

Chapter 4

Communication

Somalilanders, like other Somalis have a strong oral tradition and utilize verbal communication heavily. With the advent of globalization, people in Somaliland have been exposed to different modes of communication to varying degrees. As with the previous survey, this one attempts to shed some light on the sources and frequency of different communication media.

Modes of communication

Telephone (26.87%), high frequency radio (19.89%) and messenger (40.61%) are the main sources of regular and occasional communication in Somaliland as indicated by table 4.1. However, telephone use is on the increase, at the expense of high frequency radio, as more households (urban and non-urban) gain access to telephone services. Patterns are virtually identical in urban and non-urban areas, with a noticeable difference only in telephone use. This is because urban people have greater access to telephones, although their use is increasing in non-urban areas.

4.1 Distribution of households by mode of communication (%)

Type of settlement	Communication Mode/Facilities	Share of hold by frequency			Total Response
		Regularly	Occasionally	No	
Urban	Telephone	35.78	8.29	55.93	100
	Messenger	23.93	15.64	60.43	100
	HF Radio	4.74	16.82	78.44	100
	Fax	0.23	2.84	96.93	100
	Computer	0.71	1.66	97.63	100
	Private post	0.47	3.32	96.21	100
	Messenger	29.37	12.08	58.55	100
Rural & Nomadic	Telephone	10.60	2.78	86.62	100
	HF Radio	5.20	13.38	81.42	100
	Fax	0.18	1.10	98.72	100
	Computer	0.18	0.74	99.08	100
	Private post	0.0	1.30	98.7	100
	Messenger	26.97	13.64	59.39	100
	Telephone	21.66	5.21	73.13	100
Somaliland	HF Radio	5.00	14.89	80.11	100
	Fax	0.2	1.87	97.93	100

Computer	0.41	1.15	98.44	100
Private post	0.2	2.19	97.61	100

Domestic and International

As shown by table 4.2, about 68.3 percent of households confirmed the receipt of domestic mail, and 40 percent claimed to have received international mail during the one-year period prior to the survey. The proportion of recipients for inland mail is very high, given that literacy is very low and Somalis have a preference for verbal communication. The percentage of households that received international mail is almost twice as large in urban areas (54.6%) as it is in rural and nomadic areas (29.1%).

4.2 Distribution of households by receipt of mail

Type of settlement	Receipt of mail during the last year	Inland mail	International mail
Urban	Received mail	73.5	54.6
	Not received	26.5	45.4
	Total	100	100
Rural & Nomadic	Received mail	64.2	29.1
	Not received	35.8	70.9
	Total	100	100
Somaliland	Received	68.3	40.1
	Not received	31.7	59.9
	Total	100	100

The main sources of mail transfer (both international and domestic) are messenger and telephones. The transfer of mail through messenger ranges from 29.6 percent (urban international) to 82.8 percent (non-urban domestic mail). For telephone it ranges from 16.6 percent (non-urban inland) to 67.8 percent (urban international). Private posts, ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) and other modes (radio) do participate in mail delivery but in a modest way.

4.3 Distribution of households by mode of receiving mail

Mode of domestic mail delivery	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
Person/messenger	49.3	82.8	66.9
Telephone	49.5	16.6	32.2
ICRC	0.6	0.0	0.3
Others	0.6	0.6	0.6

Total	100	100	100
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4.4 Distribution of households by mode of receiving mail

Mode of international mail delivery	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
Person/messenger	29.6	66.6	44.7
Telephone	67.8	32	53.2
ICRC	1.3	0.0	0.8
Others	0.4	0.7	0.5
Private post	0.9	0.7	0.8
Total	100	100	100

Modes of Transportation

A significant number of employed people in urban and non-urban areas (68% and 70.6% respectively) walk to and from their place of work or activity. The use of motor transportation is twice as high in urban areas (31.8%) as in non-urban areas (15%). Donkeys (9.2%) and camels (5.2%) are modestly utilized in rural and nomadic settlements.

4.5 Distribution of households by regularly used mode of transportation

Mode of transportation	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Somaliland
Walk	68.00	70.60	69.1
Motor vehicles	31.8	15.00	23.4
Camel	0	5.2	2.6
Donkey	0.6	9.2	4.9
Total	100	100	100

Chapter 5

Environment Concern

The social and economic wellbeing of Somali society is intrinsically linked to the status of the country's natural environment. Many of the regulations for governing the use and protection natural resources have not been enforced effectively in post-conflict Somaliland. There has been no comprehensive study of environmental changes over the past decade; therefore, as with the previous survey on Somalia, this one seeks to assess local perception of the factors causing environmental change.

5.1 Distribution of households by perception of selected environmental trends (%)

Type of settlement	Trends	Environmental Problem	Not environmental problem	Total
Urban	Lack of grazing	21.5	78.5	100
	Charcoal production	29.1	70.9	100
	Deforestation	26	74	100
	Lack of latrine	11.1	88.9	100
	Fall in water table	44	66	100
	Decline in water quality	12.1	87.9	100
	Decline in fish yield	8	92	100
Rural and Nomadic	Lack of grazing	47.8	52.2	100
	Charcoal production	42	58	100
	Deforestation	51.7	48.3	100
	Lack of latrine	31.8	68.2	100
	Fall in water table	40.1	59.9	100
	Decline in water quality	18.6	81.4	100
	Decline in fish yield	2.6	97.4	100
Somaliland	Lack of grazing	36.2	63.8	100
	Charcoal production	36.4	63.6	100
	Deforestation	40.4	59.6	100
	Lack of latrine	22.7	77.3	100

Fall in water table	41.9	58.1	100
Decline in water quality	15.6	84.4	100
Decline in fish yield	5	95	100

In this survey, a significant number of households identified: deforestation (40.4%); a fall in the water table (42%); lack of grazing (36.2%); and charcoal production (36.4%) as the major environment problems, in concurrence with other environmental studies¹². There are considerable differences in the perception of urban and non-urban households of these factors, with the exception being the issue of drops in the water table; urban dwellers also rate this as a serious issue, likely because of water shortages in urban areas particularly Hargeisa. The high levels of concern for the environment expressed by non-urban respondents shows the severity of the prevailing environmental conditions in rural and nomadic areas. Neither urban nor no-urban households perceived a decline in fish yields as an environmental problem.

¹² The Academy for Peace and Development “Regulating the Livestock Economy of Somaliland” Hargeisa, Somaliland 2001.

Chapter 6

Miscellaneous

In Somaliland, charcoal is used by 78.2 percent of households as the main source of fuel for cooking. Firewood is the fuel of choice for 20.8 percent of households, an indication of the depletion of dry woods. Other sources of fuel are negligibly.

6.1 Distribution of households by source of cooking fuel (%)

Cooking fuel	Somaliland
Charcoal	78.2
Firewood	20.8
Others	1
Total	100

For lighting, 77.4 percent of households depend on kerosene and 22.7 percent use electricity.

6.2 Distribution of households by source of lighting (%)

Lighting fuel	Somaliland
Kerosene	77.4
Electricity	22.4
Others	0.0
Total	100

Awareness of HIV/AIDS

The potential for the spread of HIV should not be underestimated. Though there is no reliable data on the prevalence of HIV in Somaliland, partial data show a relatively low prevalence rate¹³. But once a certain threshold is reached, growth incidence can be dramatic. The current low prevalence of HIV among Somaliland's population suggests that epidemic is still in the early stages, providing an opportunity for early intervention. High levels of public

¹³ UNCIF "Effort to Prevent HIV/AIDS in Somaliland" 1999

awareness on HIV/AIDS can facilitate the task of AIDS prevention. In this survey respondents were asked a few questions in order to assess their level of awareness on HIV/AIDS.

6.3 Distribution of households by knowledge of the existence of HIV/AIDS (%)

Awareness of existence of HIV	Rural	Urban	Somaliland
Have heard of HIV	96.8	97.6	97.2
Have not heard of HIV	2.2	0.8	1.6
No response	1	1.7	1.2
Total	100	100	100

About 96.8 percent of households stated that they had heard of HIV/AIDS, concurring with other studies on Somaliland¹⁴; 2.2 percent had not, and 1 percent did not respond.

6.4 Distribution of households by basic level of awareness on HIV/AIDS (%)

Statement about HIV/AIDS	True	False	Do not know	Total
Is curable	1.3	98.3	0.4	100
Is transmittable	97.2	2.4	0.4	100
Affects only women	0.2	99.3	0.5	100

As indicated of the high level of public awareness on this issue is that over 97 percent of households knew that HIV/AIDS is not curable, that it is transmittable and that it affects both men and women.

6.5 Distribution of households by source of information on HIV/AIDS (%)

Source of HIV information	Rural	Urban	Somaliland
Don't remember	0.4	0.3	0.3
Family member	0.9	0.0	0.5
Friend	2.4	1.2	1.9
Newspaper	0.7	0.7	0.8
Radio	92.4	94.1	93.1
Workshop	0.2	0.9	0.5
No response	3	2.8	2.9

¹⁴ UNICEF 1999

Total	100	100	100
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Radio (93.1%) is the single most important source of information on HIV/AIDS; friends were very distant second. Other source are very insignificant.

The above analysis is based on the responses of respondents to the questionnaires and may not reflect the awareness of all members of the household.

Local Perceptions about Security

Perhaps Somaliland’s most remarkable accomplishment is the near-universal commitment of its inhabitant to peace and security. This is reflected by the results in table 6.6. Overall, about 95 percent of households rated their perception of local security highly, and a little over four percent rated it as satisfactory.

6.6 Distribution of households by assessment of local security (%)

Perception of security	Urban	Rural/Nomadic	Somaliland
Good	93.8	95.3	94.7
Satisfactory	4	4.5	4.3
Poor	0.5	0.0	0.2
No response	1.7	0.2	0.8
Total	100	100	100

Petty crime, quarrels between people and presence of wild animals, particularly in non-urban areas were identified as security problems. For the perceived relationship between other factors and human security see table 6.7.

6.7 Distribution of households by perception of selected factors’ relation to human security

Type of settlement	Incidents	Security problem	No security problem	No response	Total
	Petty crime	50	48.3	1.7	100
	Quarrels between	37.2	60.6	2.2	100

Urban	people	37.2	60.6	2.2	100
	Quarrels between clans	13.9	83.1	3	100
	Presence of displaced persons	29.8	67	3.2	100
	Presence of refugees	18.9	78.1	3	100
	Presence of wild animals	32.7	64.5	2.8	100
	Presence of armed groups	2.8	94	3.2	100
	Domestic violence others	12.3	84.8	2.9	100
	others	9.4	87.7	2.9	100
	Petty crime	34.5	65.4	0.1	100
	Quarrels between people	40.1	59.6	0.3	100
Rural and Nomadic	Quarrels between clans	10.8	88.8	0.4	100
	Presence of displaced persons	21.9	77.8	0.3	100
	Presence of refugees	11.7	88.1	0.2	100
	Presence of wild animals	60.9	38.6	0.5	100
	Presence of armed groups	3.9	95.7	0.4	100
	Domestic violence others	7.4	92.3	0.3	100
	others	3.7	95.9	0.4	100
	Petty crime	41.3	57.9	0.8	100
	Quarrels between people	38.8	60.1	1.1	100
	Quarrels between clans	12.2	86.3	1.5	100
Somaliland	Presence of displaced persons	25.4	73.1	1.5	100
	Presence of refugees	14.9	83.7	1.4	100
	Presence of wild animals	48.5	50	1.5	100
	Presence of armed groups	3.4	95	1.6	100
	Domestic violence others	9.6	89	1.4	100
	others	6.3	92.3	1.4	100

Accessibility to the Justice system

In Somaliland, since 1991, there has been steady progress in re-establishing the foundations of the judicial systems: legal codes, courts, jails and law enforcement. Overall 52 percent of households have access to some form of

the justice system¹⁵, or 83 percent in urban areas and 21 percent in rural and nomadic areas. The same proportions believe that the justice system functions.

6.8 Distribution of households by assessment of availability and functionality of the justice system

Item	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Total
Availability	83	21	52
Functional	83	21	52

Possession of Selected Durable and Semi-Durable Households Items

Table 6.9 shows the possession per thousand people of selected durable and semi-durable items. Households' possession of these items depends upon, among other things, level of income and type of settlement.

6.9 Possession of Selected durables/semi-durables (per 1000 Persons)

No	Item	Urban	Rural & Nomadic	Somaliland
1	Torch	134.3	130.7	132.3
2	Lantern Lamp	184.2	153.2	166.9
3	Radio	157.1	117.7	135.2
4	Mattress	367.7	262.1	308.8
5	Barrel	165.1	115.3	137.4
6	Bed	237.2	111.9	167.4
7	Watch	169.7	65.5	111.7
8	Traditional Iron	85.00	22.3	59.9
9	Wheel barrow	81.6	51.9	65.0
10	Seats	116.3	15.9	66.1
11	Water tank	39.7	5.2	20.4
12	Arab seats	12.2	0.6	5.7
13	Stereo System	3.1	0	1.4
14	Bicycle	1.9	0.3	1
15	Electrical iron	2.3	0.3	1.2
16	Television	1.5	0.3	1.2
17	Car	2.3	0	1
18	Gas stove	1.1	0	0.5

¹⁵ Customary, shari'a and conventional

19	Satellite dish	1.1	0.3	0.7
20	Paraffin stove	0.8	0.0	0.34
21	Generator	0.4	0.0	0.2
22	Fridge	0.4	0.0	0.2

Chapter 7

Conclusion

The findings of this household survey provide an overview of the prevailing socio-economic conditions in Somaliland. The poll offers a glimpse of how the government and the people of Somaliland, with very limited resources and outside assistance have been able to restore peace, rebuild government institutions and re-establish or rehabilitate basic services throughout the country. However, the information herein, with its acknowledgement limitations and shortcomings, is far from conclusive. It should be viewed as a snapshot of different sectors taken by an amateur photographer. Therefore, there is a need for a more rigorous and disaggregated survey as well as in-depth studies of the different sectors and sub-sectors so as to assist planning of reconstruction and development activities.

The trend in urbanisation and sedentarisation continues in Somaliland. And the disparities between the urban and the rural population is widening. The young are migrating to urban areas, seeking employment and a better life, thereby putting tremendous pressure on already overburdened and substandard urban infrastructure and services. Despite housing problems, there has been an increase, positively, in home ownership.

In Somaliland, diverse actors, including central and local governments, private enterprise, local NGOs, and the international aid agencies are involved in the provision of basic services. Though there has been an overall improvement in accessibility and affordability of basic services---health, education, water and sanitation---these are still rudimentary, below pre-war levels and characterized by poor quality and narrow coverage. Another key issue in the social-service sector is the disparity between the urban and rural populations and between the western and the eastern regions. Some sectors, particularly telecommunications, have surpassed pre-war levels. Despite the absence of public postal services large numbers of Somalilanders receive both domestic and international mail. Remittances from the Diaspora are major source of income for many households.

The people of Somaliland have been able to maintain and safeguard their greatest achievement: enduring peace. A significant number of Somalilanders surveyed expressed concern about the environment, particularly rural dwellers. An overwhelming majority of the population at the household level

have high levels of basic awareness about HIV/AIDS. Women still play a crucial role in supporting families economically.

Despite tremendous progress since 1991, Somaliland's socio-economic indicators still rank among the lowest in the world. However, the modest gains made on the socio-economic front by the people of Somaliland is itself a remarkable achievement considering the prevailing economic conditions (due, in part, to the livestock export ban) and how levels of international assistance.

Finally, APD hopes this survey on Somaliland's socio-economic trends will spur further exhaustive studies and analyses that will bring to light greater understanding of the prevailing socio-economic and macro-economic conditions in Somaliland.