ABSTRACT

Until the beginning of 1991, Somalia had a reasonable health care system with a good number of major hospitals in Mogadishu and Hargeisa, some regional hospitals, district hospitals, clinics, mother and child health centres (MCH) and out-patient dispensaries. However, the conflict resulting from civil war has destroyed the public health care system which existed in the country.

Somalia was not alone in having conflicts. The total number of conflicts in the world in 2019 was 54, many of them have now entered post-conflict phases, where open warfare has come to an end. There is growing evidence that conflict has a devastating impact on health systems and the health status of the population.

In Somalia, the post conflict phase provides a unique window of opportunity for health sector development and reform. At this juncture, health systems in Somalia face the double burden of a flawed pre-conflict health system, characterised by deficiencies and inequities, and the long-term impact of conflict on the health status of the population and its resultant strain on the health system.

This review article analyses the framework for rehabilitation of health systems in post-conflict countries. Such knowledge can be applied in the rehabilitation and development of health systems in Somalia along the lines of the World Health Organization’s health system building blocks.

The impact of conflict on the health status of the population as well as the health system can be catastrophic and be felt for years after the State has entered the post-conflict phase, but also provides an opportunity for reforms of the affected State’s health sector.

BACKGROUND

Until the end of 1990 and prior to the collapse of its state in early 1991, Somalia had a good number of general hospitals (though they were mainly concentrated in big urban areas, like Mogadishu), some regional hospitals, clinics, mother and child health (MCH) centres, out-patient dispensaries and a public health system [1]. Starting from the early 1970s, for instance, the number of physicians increased significantly, the greater proportion of them being native Somalis. On the other hand, in the 1970s and 1980s, great efforts were made to increase the number and quality of other health professionals by establishing health educational programmes in the form of medical, nursing and other health professional training institutes [2,3].

Prolonged civil war and armed conflict led to the destruction of health infrastructure, resulting in poor access to essential health services, exposing an already vulnerable population to high disease burden and malnutrition. Although healthcare now has been largely concentrated in the private sector and international aid agencies, the end of the conflict has resulted in the Somali Federal Government alongside international and domestic partners beginning the process of rebuilding its national health system.

Armed conflict is defined as the “use of arms in order to promote the parties’ general position in the conflict, resulting in deaths” [4].
The two types of conflict can be defined as:

- Interstate: disputes between two different states.
- Intrastate: encompasses civil, ethnic, anti-colonial, territorial and governmental control struggles [4].

In 2019, there were 54 state-based conflicts recorded globally: two more than in 2018 and the same number as in 2016. This number is a record high since 1946. Thirty-five countries experienced civil conflicts and worldwide around 50,000 died in battle-related deaths [5].

In countries affected by conflict and crisis, particularly those with protracted crises such as Somalia, the functioning of the health system is significantly impaired. Often it has deteriorated to the point where public health care is no longer widely available [6].

The ‘post conflict’ phase is described as the situation in which open warfare has come to an end [7]. There is no clear cut beginning to this phase and sometimes can only be defined retrospectively [8].

There is growing evidence that conflict has a devastating impact on health systems and the health status of the population [9]. On the other hand, the post conflict phase provides a unique window of opportunity for health sector reform. At this juncture, health systems of these countries, including Somalia face the double burden of a flawed pre-conflict health system, characterised by deficiencies and inequities, and the long-term impact of conflict on the health status of the population and its resultant strain on the health system [8,10].

There is increasing literature on how to construct effective and sustainable health systems in post conflict states, which will be reviewed in this paper. The strengths and weaknesses of the strategies will be analysed and used to identify any gaps in the literature and draw lessons that can be applied in rebuilding, reforming and strengthening the health system in Somalia.

**Methodology**

**Theoretical framework**

The theoretical framework of this review article was based on the World Health Organization’s (WHO) building blocks required for an effective health system [11]. The effects of conflict on the health status of the population and health system, as well as pre-existing deficiencies, were explored in order to gain an insight into the challenges faced in rehabilitating the health system.

The World Health Organization’s health systems framework highlights several critical factors when it comes to rebuilding health systems in post conflict settings. The framework used in this review focuses on six building blocks - service delivery, health workforce, health information systems, access to essential medicines, financing and leadership/governance; as these are key to realising more equitable and sustained improvements across health services and health outcomes [12]. The framework is therefore used to analyse the challenges and successes of rebuilding these individual blocks of the health system in Somalia’s post conflict environment.

**Search strategy**

Published material regarding conflict and post-conflict situations was searched for using databases such as the ‘conflict barometer 2018’ [13] in order to gain a context of the number of people affected by war/conflict and its impact on the health system.

The search strategy encompassed the use of various databases such as Global health, PubMed, Popline and Medline. Database advanced search tools ‘and’ and ‘or’ were used in order to cover all the combinations and permutations of the potential titles that could be searched. Figure 1 below shows the list of terms and combinations in which they were used in order to find the literature.

**Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria**

The chosen databases yielded 312 results, of which 120 were removed because of duplication. The Titles of the remaining records were then reviewed and removed from the search results if none of the key words were present in the title, or it was deemed inappropriate for the review in question. The abstracts of the remaining 87 records were read and records were removed if they fell into a number of unsuitable criteria. A further manual de-duplication concluded in 58 papers being read in full, which then became the base in this review.

Contemporary literature was preferably used, but older papers were not discounted as they often reviewed conflicts that had occurred earlier in history providing important findings regarding strategies that had been employed.

When researching the individual building blocks, references from existing papers were used to broaden the sources, and more specific searches were employed.

**Key findings from the review**

**Effects of conflict on the health status of the population**

Armed conflicts can impact a population in direct and indirect ways. The direct impacts of war are those that have an immediate effect on the current health status of the population - this includes mortality, morbidity, stress and the destruction of health facilities. The population is
at risk of violence and torture, leading to long term mental health conditions as well as post-traumatic stress.

Damage to health facilities and looting reduces the availability of care to the population in need.

The indirect effects are those that are influenced by economic, political and social transitions that occur during conflicts. An increase in sexual violence can lead to the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections [14,15]. Social issues, such as drug abuse, alcoholism, and domestic violence may increase during and after the conflict [16].

The displacement of the population during war, and the lack of water, hygiene and sanitation can increase the subsequent risk of communicable diseases such as measles, cholera, TB and malaria [17,18].

The impacts of war can affect the population for many years following the conflict. A study by Ghobarah et al found that the burden of morbidity and mortality in 1999, as a result of conflicts occurring between 1991 and 1997, was nearly the same as the mortality and morbidity occurring during an armed conflict in 1999 [19]. Sufferers of chronic disease are also impacted, as the disruption to public services makes it harder for them to get medication and prevent the worsening of their condition [20].

There are challenges to obtain exact and accurate record in regard to changes of diseases burden in the country during a conflict due to inadequate or absent data systems, social breakdown, forced migration, reporting biases, and the fog of war. [21]. Among civilians, conflict promotes factors that lead to increased incidence of infectious diseases, including mass movement of populations, overcrowding, lack of access to clean water, poor sanitation, lack of shelter, and poor nutritional status [22].

Basically, war leads to epidemics because of poor sanitation and access to clean water, which leads to epidemics of cholera or tuberculosis. Conflicts can equally have devastating effects and can lead to mental health problems in people who are targeted and in others. Problems include post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, substance misuse, and (rarely) precipitation of psychosis [23].

Damage to agriculture can also prove to be an indirect problem, as it can lead to widespread famine making the population weaker at fighting illnesses, increasing pressure on the health system [24-26].

**Effects of conflict on the health system**

War can impact on public health systems both instantly and for years to come. As a by-product of war, and sometimes an intentional ploy, health infrastructure such as hospitals are attacked and damaged [27,28]. The loss of equipment, supplies and the means to procure them, can severely impede the everyday functioning of the health system. This coupled with the exodus of health ‘actors’ such as doctors and nurses trying to escape the conflict [29,30] can leave a health system with a greater workload, but with fewer health care workers and a reduced capacity from which to offer services. During wartime, the health budget is usually cut and diverted to the military budget impinging on the ability of the health system to function [31].

Evidences from countries affected by conflict show that healthcare facilities are often substantially affected, causing destruction of medicines and equipment, shortages of medicines and skyrocketing prices [32]. As the result of conflict, access to medicines that is important to millions of people becomes a problem. As the result, people are unable to obtain basic treatment and medicines for chronic illnesses such as cardiovascular illness, hypertension, and diabetes, or medicines for recurrent outbreaks of diseases such as cholera and dengue fever, resulting in high mortality and morbidity rates [33].

The negative impact on public health initiatives such as vaccination programs can leave the population at increased risk of disease, with the greatest impact on infants and mothers [18, 31, 34]

**Identifying the deficiencies that need to be addressed in post conflict health systems**

Health systems in post-conflict countries are described as fragile [9,35]. On the other hand, Newbrander et al identified the following characteristics of a fragile health system [36]:

- Lack of access to Health Services for the majority of the population especially those that exist outside the main urban areas.
- Non-functioning or poor referral systems in place for the critically ill.
- Inadequate infrastructure, including health facilities, equipment stores, medicines and human resources., that is unable to deliver health services to the population.
- Poor capacity building systems, such as training programs for health and management staff.
- Poor management of the health system at a national level (coordination, oversight and monitoring). This may be due to the new governance brought in post-conflict.
- Inequity in the availability of health services, especially towards the poor and those in rural areas.
- Absence of health information systems, needed for planning and surveillance of the health system.
- Poor management capacity, this includes budgeting, human resource management and accounting [37].

On the other hand, corruption, lack of transparency and misuse of resources are prevalent during and after conflicts situations [38]. Studies have shown that corruption may have long term consequences within a state, impacting the extent to which populations have shortened life expectancy on the top of mortality as the result of conflict [39,40]. Corrupt activities in the health sector in particular can have repercussions in three areas.
Discussion of Strategies to rebuild health systems in post conflict countries

**Strengthening of health services**

When rebuilding health services in a post conflict situation, the government and aid agencies need to decide whether to build on existing infrastructure or have a complete overhaul and start from scratch [10,46].

Macrae et al looked at the rehabilitation of health services in post-conflict Uganda. The Ugandan government had decided to restore the health services of the pre-conflict era, and implement a widespread expansion of primary health care to the underserved areas. They chose this method so that they did not have to reform the financing and provision of secondary care and tertiary care [10].

Macrae et al found that the successes of this approach were that there was a physical rehabilitation of the infrastructure, increased immunisation coverage and a better supply of essential drugs. The process involved community participation, which fostered reconciliation amongst the community. The challenges faced were that due to the prioritisation of the vertical health programmes there was limited capacity building. Like in Somalia today, there was also a proliferation of projects rather than a central national strategic policy. The increase in health services offered also increased the recurrent costs that were unsustainable, leading to high levels of donor dependency [47].

Lee et al looked at the strengthening of the Liberian health services. In 2010 the Liberian health sector increased the amount of health facilities in the country so that each facility was serving 5,500 people down from 8000 in 2006, with 80% of the facilities meeting the minimum standard for provision. But in doing so they had not properly planned the construction. They neglected to check the potential utilisation, population needs, access (geographical) and costs of the projects and went ahead with them. This resulted in large amounts of capacity and resources being funnelled into inefficient programs, with over 50% of government clinics either serving populations that were too small or too large [48].

There are other programs spearheaded by Somali diaspora which aimed at development, reconstruction and capacity building could provide valuable lessons. These include: Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) health Finland Somalia (FINNSOM), Transition Initiatives for Stabilization (TIS), Capacity Building for Somalia and Capacity injection program by International Organization for Migration (IOM) and World Bank. These programs, aim at tapping the diaspora skills gained from the countries of diaspora residence to their home country [49].

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**Table 1:** Corruption and its effects to the health sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspects of corruption</th>
<th>Effects of corruption on the health sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health and the health care system</td>
<td>Corrupt activities are likely to harm the health system's ability to deliver effective, high-quality care to the people. It is increasingly evident that high levels of corruption impoverish populations, increase inequality and cause deterioration in health, especially among the most vulnerable population groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business activity</td>
<td>The presence of a substantial quasi-private system operating corruptly within the public sector can be detrimental to the development of a strong private sector. It can often be more profitable for private providers to leverage public facilities, with their medical equipment and patient supplies, than to set up their own clinics and patient recruitment mechanisms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macro-economy</td>
<td>Corruption drastically hampers economic growth and private sector investment. Corruption in the healthcare sector has had repercussions on the macroeconomy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although corruption can be found in all countries and settings, its effects are particularly devastating in low- and middle-income countries, especially during and after conflicts, because of the breakdown of state institutions and governance systems [42].

If unchecked, health system corruption represents a significant drain on domestic health resources and is a major obstacle to efforts to reform the health systems as part of the universal health coverage agenda [43].

Post-conflict health systems in Somalia needs to be built with new foundations, due to the pre-existing issues that have evolved over time. For example, Gaber et al traced the challenges in post-conflict in Ivory Coast from 1893 to 2013 [44]. They analysed how history shaped the evolution of the health system and used this insight to study the macro level political, social and economic determinants of health over time. They believed that the identification of historical problems could be used to increase the effectiveness of new health policies in post-conflict countries. Examples of the problems identified included the colonial policies that contributed to the inequity in health development amongst the different tribal groups, depending on the strategic roles that were assigned to them during the French colonial rule (1893-1960) [44].

Following a conflict, the initial strategies to be prioritised are those that target communicable disease outbreaks or the other direct impacts of war on mortality rates. Although this is the most beneficial way on the use of resources in the short term, it is important to use this time to start planning for a transition to a longer-term solution of rebuilding and strengthening the national health system [36,45].

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M. Omar
Lessons for Somalia

- The benefits of building on an existing health system are that it makes use of existing infrastructure. This can be used as a base for any deficiencies to be addressed, in this case the expansion of primary care.
- When building new infrastructure it is important to do a situation analysis to assess the needs and requirements before building new facilities, avoiding the issue of under-used and over-subscribed health services.
- Capacity building is important among local staff so that the transition from donor-dependant to a government-lead system is smoother.
- To avoid funding gaps, the recurrent maintenance costs from the development of new facilities should be financially viable and not donor dependant. For example, the involvement of local and diaspora communities to participate in restoring, rehabilitating and developing the country’s overall health system.

Developing a functioning health workforce

The loss of health cadre during conflict through casualties of war and mass exodus leaves many post-conflict health systems with a lack of capacity to deliver healthcare both at a clinical and management level. It is therefore important to set up institutions to train staff in the skills that are required in the post-conflict environment.

Huichol et al suggested the development of a framework in which priority was given to training and staffing underserved areas and primary health services. The services should be delivered by multi-skilled personnel with a good skills mix at each respective level, and training programs supplied in a cost-effective manner based on identification of needs [50]. Funding and technical support is also needed from external sources to develop these frameworks, but with an endgame of slowly weaning international assistance. This is important to enable sustainability and ownership by the government of the country.

In order to achieve sustainability and ownership, Snell et al using the experience of East Timor, suggested creating a model for meaningful collaboration between external agencies and their local counterparts, helping to develop long-term professional relationships. They also suggested the consideration of a cross sectional approach encompassing public, private, NGOs and religious organisations [51].

Fujita et al analysed a framework for human resources in health systems of post conflict and fragile states. Their main recommendations echoed those of Snell et al, however, they emphasised the importance of a situation analysis of human resource development, taking into account the socio-cultural background and the characteristics of the conflict. They also found that a lot of governments, as suggested by Snell et al, concentrated on developing training systems for staff, but neglected other important components such as a legal framework. Innovations in recruitment were also seen as an advantage, an example given was the contracting of local students in Cambodia and Afghanistan [52].

Lessons for Somalia

- The setting up of training programmes for staff in underserved regions and districts of the country should target inequity in human resources and service delivery.
- Services must be delivered by adequately trained personnel with a good skills mix.
- There is an initial need for collaboration between development partners with capacity building which will eventually transfer to a locally run system in the regions.
- Situation analysis of human resources must be taken into account, while considering innovative methods of staff recruitment at local level.
- Need to strengthen issues such as the legal and regulatory framework for human resources for health.
- Clearly define and coordinate human resources development components, on one hand, the management-employment-retention functions and on the other hand, the policy and planning, finances and legal functions.

Implementing a health information system

A study by Mutale et al looked at strategies to implement health information systems in five Sub-Saharan African countries. They described the main challenges as complex and the roles of international donors implementing vertical programs. The complexity described the uneven development and distribution of health facilities and resources in urban and rural areas.

Issues regarding availability of electricity, computers, skilled operators and other forms of communication were a barrier in achieving an equitable system. Secondly the role of international donors implementing vertical programs, independent of the government, increased the complexity of the system by creating fragmentation in the system [53]. Similarly, Kimaro and Nhampossa looked at the problems associated with the unsustainable health information system in Tanzania and Mozambique.

One of the main problems identified was the fact that health information systems were built by different international donor projects. This was an issue as there was poor compatibility between the systems, making information exchange and system integration difficult. There was also a lack of capacity building whilst the donors were involved, which left the Ministry of Health (MoH) unable to maintain and accommodate any changes that had taken place, eventually leading to a failure in the health information system [54].
Lessons for Somalia
- There is a need for equitable infrastructure in order to implement a nationwide health information system.
- Health information needs to be centralised and run under a homogenous system, avoiding different donor-run systems that are incompatible.

Health financing strategies
Newbrander et al looked at financing mechanisms in South Sudan. South Sudan employed a Multi-donor Trust Fund, which funnelled US$252 million for development. The ministry of health were then given the chance to use this money to contract out to agencies to address specific health priorities. The challenges that they faced were the lack of financial and human resources management capacity and transparency to achieve these goals, leading to the failure of this strategy [36].

Witter also looked at health financing in post conflict and fragile states. She found that most studies had looked specifically at the role of donors, citing the influence and funding that the donors offer during the post conflict period. She identified developing government capacity and stewardship as increasingly important as states transition out of the post conflict era. Witter commented on a lack of literature about the impact of post conflict financial strategies on the long term health sector development [55]. Lee et al alluded to this, highlighting that in these situations, states become reliant on donor funding to sustain their health systems. They dissected the total health expenditure (THE) in post war Liberia, finding that donor funding accounted for 47% of THE. The problems arose when the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) left the country causing a funding gap [48].

Lessons for Somalia
- Donor funds could be pooled to provide a sum of money that can be delegated by the Ministry of Health in order to meet national health objectives.
- There is a need for adequate human resources, financing and transparency for the above goals to be successfully reached.
- Sustainable funding sources need to be developed, so that the funding gap is bridged when the donors either leave the country or curtail their assistance.

Ensuring equitable access to medical products, vaccines and technologies (MVT)
There is very little literature available regarding medicines, vaccines and technologies in the context of rebuilding health systems in the post conflict environment. The only study available by Huff-Rousselle looked at establishing a pharmaceutical and medical supplies system in post conflict East Timor. They found that during the immediate post conflict phase there was often funding beyond the absorptive capacity of the medical supplies system, leading to pressure to spend money on pilot projects and experimental initiatives that were often unsustainable. It was recommended that the strategies for development of the medical supplies system in the post conflict context should be straight forward and
uncomplicated due to human resource constraints and infancy of the organisations [57].

East Timor developed an operational essential drugs list (EDL). They had a central facility for storage of drugs and a functional distribution system. The next step will be the transition of ownership of the EDL, treatment and policy guidelines to the local institutions. Securing sustainable funds for future supply is one of the major factors left to address.

### Lessons for Somalia

- In the post conflict phase, it is important not to overcomplicate a system, but to keep strategies simple.
- Health systems require central well stocked drug stores, with good reliable distribution system
- The ownership of EDL, guidelines for treatment and policy guidelines needs to be handed over to local institutions.

### Conclusions

The impact of conflict on the health status of the population as well as the health system can be catastrophic and be felt for years after the State has entered the post-conflict phase, but also provides an opportunity for reforms of the affected State’s health sector. Those seeking to rebuild these health systems will face multiple challenges including the damaged health infrastructure and supply systems; the lack of health workers; fragmentation and lack of co-ordination between multiple formal and informal providers; and weak governance capacity to coordinate and develop the health system anew. There will also be opportunities to put in place elements that previously did not exist.

When assessing the needs of the health sector, it is important to look at historical impacts of previous policies on the equity of health services and try to address these with the new strategies, in order to strengthen the foundations of the new health system. An analysis of the strategies for rehabilitating the health system using the World Health Organization’s health system building blocks was chosen. The following conclusions were made from the above analysis:

- When building new infrastructure and training systems it is important to do a thorough situation analysis in all states, regions and districts of the country, so that existing assets, whether they are health facilities, human resources, or members of the community and other resources that can contribute to health are identified. The analysis should also include health needs and local priorities. These will form the basis to develop both short, medium and long term strategic plan for rebuilding and rehabilitation of the health system in the country. This is also important, as the new infrastructure needs to meet the needs of its intended population in an optimum manner.
- The impact and contribution of local business community is vital in the post conflict Somalia, but their contribution could scanty, occasional and fragmented. To avoid this, coordination mechanisms supervised by a joint body consisting of the government, business community and local community should be put in place in order to ensure they are all pulling in the same direction and towards the national health objectives. This not only ensures that there is no unregulated proliferation of health services but also builds managerial capacity amongst the local community and public sector institutions.
- Inequity that exists in the health service and infrastructure as the result of long conflict and underinvestment need to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Somalia’s needs to develop tailor made implementation strategies such as homogenous health information and viable and functioning drug distribution systems in addition to infrastructural development that will respond to the health needs of the population across the country.
- Human resources development efforts need to consider issues such as the legal and regulatory framework, coordination and monitoring. This calls for clear definition of roles and functions between the federal and state governments. While the federal government’s primary responsibility should be in terms of policy and planning, financing and legal, the state governments would retain the functions of human resources management, including production, deployment and retention.
- Capacity and ownership need to be encouraged from an early stage in order to ensure a smoother transition when external support either ceases or diminishes. This requires a strengthening of the professional relationship between development partners and their local counterparts to enable skills transfer and reduce donor dependency.
- When expanding health services or developing new initiatives will require strong partnership between the public and private sector. The role of the later has expanded during the period of conflict. Simple, practical and straightforward joint plans which are relevant and effective to address country’s health needs are a better option, as they are less donor dependant, more financially sustainable and it will be easier to transition control once development partners leave the country or their support is diminished.
- The potentials of Somali diaspora contributions to the health system and health care development in Somalia are promising. Short-term contributions in terms of funding certain health services were observed as the best option for the current country situation.
- Creation of a coordinating body from within the
healthcare sector in Somalia to advocate the positive role of the Somali diaspora, including medical diaspora in the development of the healthcare system, to document the knowledge and skill gaps that are needed to be filled in the health care development in Somalia, to liaise with the diaspora, and to effectively coordinate their contributions is the proposed mechanism through which to improve diaspora contributions to improve health system in the country.

Summary in Somali

CINWAAN
Istaraatijiyadaa Horumarinta Nidaamayda Caafimaadka Soomaaliya Colaadaha kaddib: Casharro laga soo Qaatay Wadamo xul ah

SOOKOOBID
Illa bilowgii 1991, Soomaaliya waxay lahayd nidaam daryeel caafimaad oo macquul ah, lehna tiro wanaagsan ee cusbitaalo agabkoodo u dhan yahay kuna kala yaalay Muqdisho iyo Harageysa, sidoo kale waxaa gobollada iyo degmoooyinku lahaaเยeeyn cusbitaalo, rugo caafimaad, xarumo bukaan socodyo iyo xarumo caafimaad ee hooyada iyo dhaallaanka(MCH). Si kastaba ha ahaatee, iska-horimaadka ka dhashay dagaaladi sokeeye,wuxuu sababay in ay baaba’amn nidaamku daryeelka caafimaadka builshada ee ka jiray dalka.

Soomaaliya kali kuma aysan aheyn isku-dhacyada. Tirada guud ee isku dhacyada adduunka ka dhacay sanadkii 2019 waxay ahaayeen 54, qaar badan oo ka mid ah ihi hadda waxay galeyn waji-colaado-kaddib (post-conflict), halkaas oo dagaal fool-ka-fool ahi (furan) uu ka-dhacmaaday. Waxa xira caddeymo isaa soo taraya oo sheegaya in khilaafku uu saameyn ba’an ku yeesho nidaamayda caafimaadka iyo xaaladda caafimaad ee dadka.

Soomaaliya gudaheeda, marxaladdii colaadeed kaddib waxay haysataa fursad gaar ah, oo abuuraysa rajada ah, in dib loo bilaabo horumarinta iyo dib-u-habaynta hawlaha caafimaadka. Xilligan la joogo, nidaamayda caafimaadka ee Soomaaliya waxay wajahayaan culeys ay ugu wacan tahay nidaamku caafimaad ee jiray oo burbur ku yimid, u-sinnaan la’aanta dhinaca daryeelka la bixinayo, iyo saameynta muddada dheer ee iska-horimaadku ku yeeshaysiisulayn yee ni Sinclairka caafimaadka.


Saameynta ay colaaduhu/iska-horimaadaydu ku yeeshaan caafimaadka guud ee bulshada, iyo sidoo kale nidaamayda iyo qaab dhismeedka caafimaadka, waxey noqon kartaa musibio aana laga soo kaban karin, taaso la dareemo sanoweyn kadiib marka dalka galoo xiliga ama wajjiga kabashada oo ay jogsadaan iska-horimaadaydu, hase yeeshee waxey sidoo kale fursad sineseyaa in dib-u-habeyn lagu sameeyo qeybaha caafimaad ee dalka ee waxyeeladu soo gaartay.

Until the beginning of 1991, Somalia had a reasonable health care system with a good number of major hospitals in Mogadishu and Hargeisa, regional hospitals, district hospitals, clinics, mother and child health centres (MCH) and out-patient dispensaries. However, the conflict resulting from civil war has destroyed the public health care system which existed in the country.

Somalia was not alone in having conflicts. The total number of conflicts in the world in 2019 was 54, many of them have now entered post-conflict phases, where open warfare has come to an end. There is growing evidence that conflict has a devastating impact on health systems and the health status of the population.

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Paper context
This paper considers the devastating effects of conflicts on Somalia’s overall health system. A framework for rehabilitation of health systems in other post-conflict settings was applied to draw lessons for Somalia using WHO’s six health systems building blocks. There is a need to use a historical perspective for the analysis of the impact of previous policies on the equity of health services before establishing new strategies for a robust, appropriate and sustainable health system in Somalia.

ORCID
Maye Omar  https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3459-2011
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