

Community Safety & Security Analysis Galkayo District

The Observatory of Conflict and Violence Prevention (OCVP) is nonpolitical, neutral Somali institution, which is independent of governments and civil society; it has been set up in June 2009.

The main goal of the Observatory is to **improve the effectiveness of community safety interventions by advancing learning and evidence-based programming**. It mandates include:

I. Training and peace education

Gather or develop – based on latest findings and lessons learned – context-specific formal training modules for actors at district and national level responsible for implementing responses to insecurity.

II. Research and analysis

Professionalize and institutionalize data collection and analysis on safety and security, and distil findings in a format appropriate for various target audiences.

III. Knowledge management

Review and standardize lessons learned and knowledge management products and methodologies, and actively disseminate findings.

IV. Institutional development

Establish national and international partnerships with universities, academic and research institutions, internships and exchange programs developed with the ultimate aim of knowledge sharing and capacity building within community safety and security.

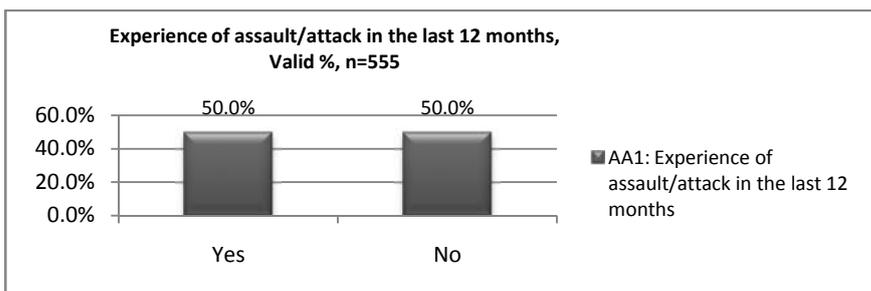
For more information please contact info@ocvp.org



Members of Galkayo District Safety Committee

Highlight – highest priority type of violence in Galkayo

Assault is the major challenge for residents of Galkayo. Fifty percent of the population experienced some form of physical assault. Most assault happens in the market and shop areas in the morning hours. However assault at home is also significant during the afternoons. This can be related to Khat chewing in the afternoon.



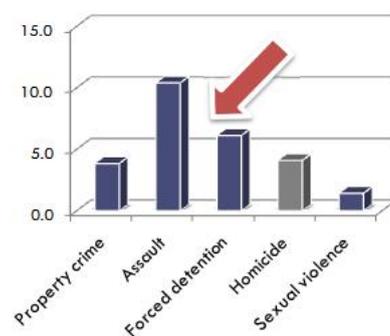
Targeted assassination by al-Shabaab has been also increasing in the past year targeting political and economical leaders according to both Puntland and Galmudug administrations.

Other characteristics of violence

Forced detention occurs frequently. Nearly fifty percent of those who have been detained spent 8 to 30 days in prison. The excessive use of force by state security forces has also contributes to forced detention.

Property crime mainly manifests in **burglaries**. Intrusions into the home were noted, particularly for IDP populations whose lack of protective shelter leaves them vulnerable to attack. The rural population is further exposed to burglaries due to the lack of presence of the security forces. More than half of the property crimes resulted in violence where someone got injured.

Sexual violence against women occurs frequently in the streets and homes mainly in the evening hours and at night. Only one third of the victims seek any form of assistance.



Galkayo at glance

Located on the border between Puntland and South-Central Somalia, Galkayo District, and specifically Galkayo Town, is a key trading centre linking Bosasso (Puntland) to the north, Mogadishu (South-Central) to the south, and Ethiopia to the west. Its geo-strategic role as commercial centre linking South-Central Somalia, Puntland, Somaliland and eastern Ethiopia has led to a dynamic and bustling city which accommodates travelers from all over, but also to a level of mutual suspicion based on the potential and actual threats to peace of the district.

Population

25293 HH (151758 persons)

Major clans

North Galkayo Omer Mohamud (Majerten-Darood), South Galkayo Sa'ad (Habar-Gidir, Hawiye)

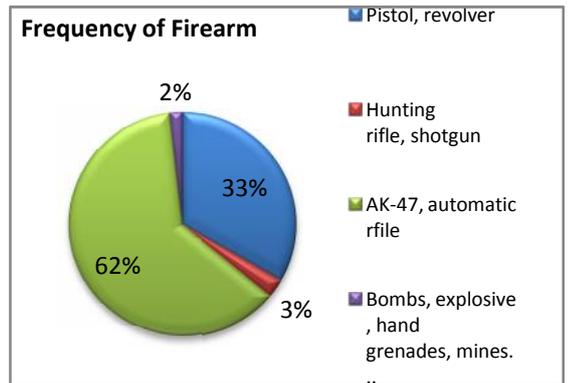
Main perpetrators and victims

Young men and adult aged between (15 and 40 years¹) are at major risk of becoming perpetrators and victims, aggravated by lack of employment and socio cultural out let, consumption of (khat) and drugs. Involved in street gangs, gang rapes and drug dealing the increasing prevalence of modern criminality and organized crime is a major threat, significantly increasing and shapes the profile of perpetrators. Women, children, street children, minorities and IDPs are the most vulnerable to violence.

Instruments of insecurity

The **presence of firearms** in public spaces is widespread and clearly contributes to the intensity and lethality of violence: civilians are free to carry weapons in markets and along main roads. AK47s and pistols are used most frequently while committing crimes.

However traditional weapons are such as swords and knives used at killings over resources and familial disputes.



Local capacities for peace

In cases of conflict within the domestic sphere, local committees established throughout the area mediate and, if needed, seek support from the structure which follows, whether it be a larger community-based committee or representatives of the local administration. Elders are generally considered to be a capacity for peace. When conflicts occur at the sub-communal level, local committees seek to resolve them, usually using elders as mediators.

Overall the local committees, traditional actors, local governor or mayor, women groups, local civil society, youth organizations, business people were named as potential capacities for peace.

About this Info Sheet

Conflict assessment was conducted in Gakayo with the ultimate aim of gaining a comprehensive picture and understanding about issues regarding community safety and security in the district. The assessment was based on twelve focus group discussions and interviews conducted in Galkayo North (Puntland) with IDPs, youth, Elders, women, religious leaders, local authorities and residents from the rural areas. The Conflict Assessment gives an overview about the levels of changes in security, the major types of violence, causes, locations, times and seasons, victims, perpetrators, means or weapons and levels of organization for each priority type of violence, individuals and institutions that are possible capacities for peace. This was complemented with a comprehensive Crime and Victimization Survey conducted in both North and South Galkayo by partners.



¹ Interview with Galmudug Police, 28 August 2010.

