

# Somalia

1-28 February 2019

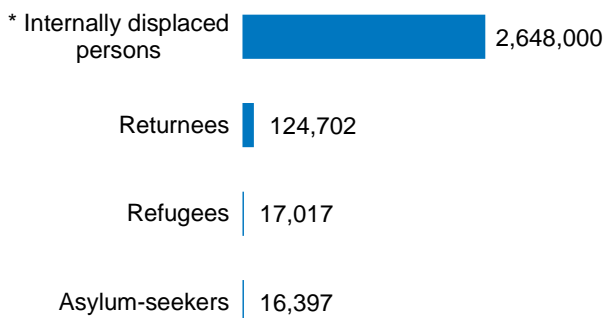
The operational context was characterized by **armed conflict** especially in south and central Somalia and by **food insecurity** in the central and northern part of the country.

Around **24,000 persons were newly displaced** during the month including 13,000 due to drought and related lack of livelihoods and 9,000 because of conflict or insecurity.

**Food security is expected to worsen** through June 2019, as reported by FSNAU and FEWS NET, which may lead to increased internal displacement.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

A total of **2.8 million** persons of concern

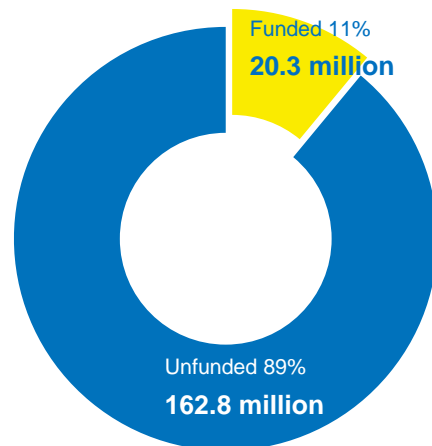


\* Estimated internally displaced persons as of 31 July 2018.  
(Source: Information Management Working Group)

## FUNDING (AS OF 20 MARCH)

**USD 183.1 million**

requested for the Somalia situation



The Minister of Education and Higher Education (left) and the UNHCR Representative, Ms. Caroline van Buren, during the handover of the rehabilitated Ahmed Farah Primary School. © UNHCR/2019

## Main Developments

### African Union Side Event on Debt Cancellation

On 9 February in Addis Ababa, UNHCR attended a high-level side event to the 32<sup>nd</sup> African Union summit entitled on Debt Cancellation.



The UNHCR Deputy Representative in Somalia, Mr Takeshi Moriyama, (middle) at the African Union Side-Event on Debt Cancellation.

UNHCR echoed the importance of [resource mobilization](#) and emphasized that in addition to increases in [financial resources](#), investment in human resources is also important. As part of its engagement in [community-based projects](#) based on the ‘whole-of-society approach’ of the [Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework](#) ([link](#)), UNHCR supports [education and vocational training programmes](#) to address the lack of adequate education facilities and limited livelihood opportunities in many parts of Somalia.

In addition, UNHCR reiterated that refugees, displaced and marginalized people need to be [included](#) and [empowered](#) in the [national system](#) so as to contribute to the [community](#) and ultimately to [state-building](#).

### Telling the Real Story

**Telling the Real Story aims to inform community about the dangers of irregular movements and create awareness on the perils of such journeys.** Through various activities UNHCR provided necessary information for people to make an [informed decision](#) about the journey. In 2018, [2,262 people lost their lives](#) attempting to reach Europe through the Mediterranean Sea.

In February, UNHCR addressed 3,251 people in Borama and Hargeysa, two of the major transit points for people on the move. In one of the schools in Borama, Khalif, a returnee from Libya shared his story with students.

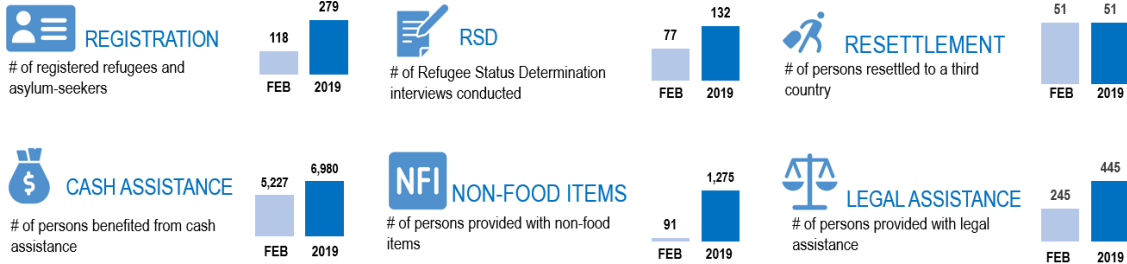
**“My friend told me about going to Libya. He said with the help of an experienced smuggler, we will be in Libya and Europe in no time,”** recalled Khalif. He knew nothing about the routes and trusted his friend.

His friend had said the journey would take not more than three days but Khalif spent 15 days with [little or no food and water](#), and paid US\$ 10,000 instead of US\$ 400 as promised by his friend. En route, he was [beaten](#) and [held captive](#) for days.

## Refugees and Asylum-seekers

UNHCR provides protection assistance and support to refugees and asylum-seekers through registration and documentation, education, health care, livelihood and self-reliance, cash-based interventions, provision of non-food items (NFIs), legal support, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention and response, peaceful coexistence and community-based protection.

### FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS



A UNHCR colleague welcomed Yemeni refugee at the port in Berbera and briefed him on assistance available in Somalia. © UNHCR/2019

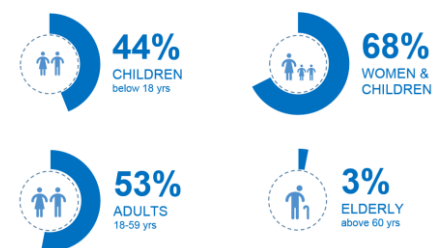
### Registration

As of 28 February, Somalia hosted 33,414 refugees and asylum-seekers, out of which 17,017 (51 per cent) were refugees and 16,397 (49 per cent) asylum-seekers. Most of the refugees and asylum-seekers arrived from Ethiopia (60 per cent) and Yemen (38 per cent).

- In February, UNHCR newly registered 118 refugees and asylum-seekers (including 16 newborn babies) representing a 27 per cent decrease compared to January.
- In Gaalkacyo, the Puntland State of Somalia registered 239 Ethiopians (54 households) who had fled the Oromo-Somali conflict in the Somali Regional State (Ethiopia) between July and November 2018 and sought international protection in Somalia. Asylum-seekers will be included in the UNHCR ProGres database in March.

**REGISTERED REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS**

POC	BEFORE 2019	FEB 2019	2019	TOTAL
Refugees	16,781	95	236	17,017
Asylum-seekers	16,354	23	43	16,397
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33,135</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>33,414</b>

**AGE AND GENDER COMPOSITION**

**Refugee Status Determination**

- In February, UNHCR conducted first instance Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews for 18 households (77 persons) from Ethiopia bringing the total to 40 households (132 persons) in 2019.

**Resettlement**

- In February, UNHCR submitted 13 additional cases (45 persons) from Ethiopia for resettlement to Sweden bringing the total to 20 cases (81 persons). Further, 16 households (51 persons) from Ethiopia departed to Sweden.

**Cash assistance**

- In February, UNHCR distributed monthly subsistence allowance to 740 households (5,227 persons) to meet their basic needs, bringing the total to 2,229 households (6,980 persons) during 2019.

**Non-food items**

- In February, UNHCR provided NFIs to 81 households (91 persons) who arrived from Yemen. So far, 382 households (1,275 persons) have benefited from NFIs.

**Legal assistance**

- In February, UNHCR provided legal assistance to 245 persons bringing the total to 445 persons assisted this year.

**Health**

- In February, UNHCR provided refugees and asylum-seekers access to health care services: 1,943 times to primary and 92 times to secondary and tertiary health care service.

**Education**

- In Hargeysa, UNHCR handed over to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education six newly constructed and 30 rehabilitated classrooms, 60 furnished school rooms, three play grounds and three child-friendly toilets. A total of 15,800 students, including 1,835 refugees and asylum-seekers, benefited from improved educational infrastructure.

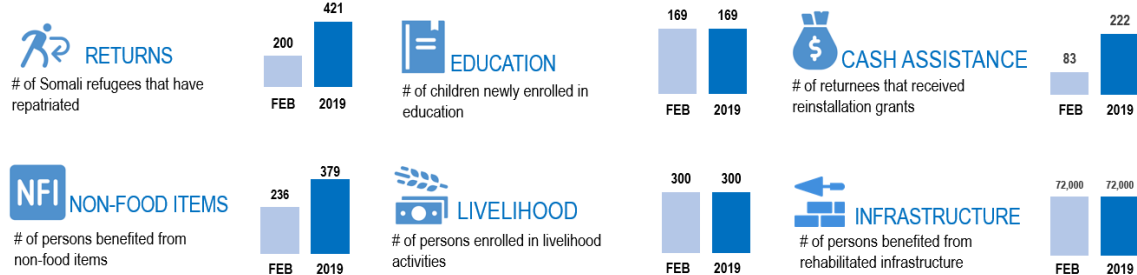


Handover of the rehabilitated Ahmed Farah Primary School. © UNHCR/2019

## Returned Refugees

In 2014, UNHCR started assisting Somali refugees to return home through the **Voluntary Repatriation Programme**. Each Somali refugee household, who made an informed and voluntary decision to repatriate, is provided with a **return package**<sup>1</sup> aimed to restore their life in Somalia.

### FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS



### Return figures

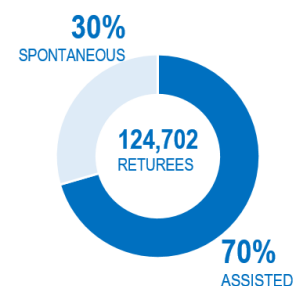
As of 28 February, a total of 87,911 Somalis have returned home supported under the **Voluntary Repatriation Programme**, while at least an additional 36,791 have returned spontaneously without assistance. Nevertheless, over 805,700 Somali refugees and asylum-seekers are still displaced in neighbouring countries.

- In February, UNHCR assisted return of 200 Somali refugees, 139 from Yemen and 61 from Kenya through the **Voluntary Repatriation Programme**. During the same period, UNHCR recorded 179 Somalis who returned from Yemen **spontaneously**.

### RETURN TRENDS

REASON	CoA	BEFORE 2019	FEB 2019	2019	TOTAL
Assisted	Kenya	82,840	61	138	82,978
	Yemen	3,405	139	279	3,684
	Other <sup>2</sup>	1,245	-	4	1,249
	Sub total	87,490	200	421	87,911
Spontaneous	Yemen	36,467	179	324	36,791
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>123,957</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>124,702</b>

### ASSISTED & SPONTANEOUS



### Cash assistance

- In February, UNHCR released **reinstallation grants** to 83 persons (32 households) from Yemen: 77 persons (29 households) from Kenya, four persons (one household) from Sudan and two persons (two households) from Yemen. In 2019, UNHCR has provided reinstallation grants to 222 persons (95 households).
- In February, UNHCR also distributed **subsistence allowances** to 86 households (209 persons): 56 households (128 persons) from Yemen, 29 households (77 persons) from Kenya and one household (four persons) from Sudan.

<sup>1</sup> Upon arrival in Somalia, returnees are provided with a return package, which consists of: a core relief items kit, an unconditional one-time reinstallation grant of US\$ 200 per person and an unconditional monthly subsistence allowance amounting to US\$ 200 per household for six months, an unconditional monthly grant for food rations for six months (provided by WFP), an education grant of up to US\$ 25 per school-going child per month for one school year, a conditional grant of up to US\$ 1,000 for shelter per household and conditional enrolment in self-reliance and livelihood projects based on a set of targeting criteria and availability of resources.

<sup>2</sup> Out of total 87,911 have repatriated with UNHCR support including 82,978 from Kenya, 3,684 from Yemen, 783 from Djibouti, 353 from Libya, 68 from Sudan, 34 from Eritrea, three from Tunisia, three from Angola, two from the Gambia, one from Cambodia, one from Pakistan and one from Ukraine.

### Education

- In February, 169 returnees resumed with the education after their return to Somalia: 150 with primary and 19 with secondary education.
- In Kismayo, UNHCR provided laboratory equipment to four schools: Ganane, Rugta, Juba and Khalid Bin Walid. The equipment will benefit to 4,576 students: 3,033 in primary and 1,543 in secondary education.



New laboratory equipment of the Rugta school in Kismayo. © UNHCR/2019

### Non-food items

- In February, UNHCR distributed 113 kits of NFIs to 107 households (236 persons), totalling 174 kits distributed to 171 households (379 persons) in 2019. Out of 113 kits distributed in February, 72 kits were provided to 67 households (131 persons) from Yemen and 41 kits to 40 household (105 persons) from Kenya.

### Community empowerment and self reliance

- In Dhobley, UNHCR continued with rehabilitation and construction of three public facilities, the Dhobley General Hospital, the SGBV Help Desk Room at the Police Post and a water borehole, which will improve health and security services and access to water for 72,000 people.
- In Mogadishu, UNHCR enrolled 300 people in vocational trainings, 200 on entrepreneurship and 100 on construction, childcare, electrical engineering, hospitality, catering, and solar power installation and repair.



Around 12,600 persons will benefit from a borehole. © UNHCR/2019

### Internally Displaced Somalis

**Years of complex conflicts, insecurity and drought have left around 2.6 million internally displaced.** Most of them rely on humanitarian assistance which is provided through the Cluster Approach including the UNHCR-led Protection and Shelter clusters as well as the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster co-led with the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

### New Displacements

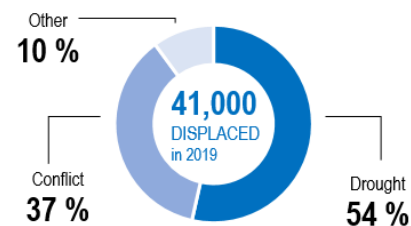
The Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) ([link](#)) is a UNHCR-led project, for [identifying and reporting on displacements](#) of populations in Somalia as well as protection incidents underlying such movements.

- In 2019, UNHCR recorded a total of 41,000 internal displacements: 22,000 (54 per cent) because of drought and related lack of livelihoods, 15,000 (37 per cent) because of conflict and 4,000 (10 per cent) because of other reasons.
- In February, 24,000 persons were monitored as newly displaced: 13,000 persons (54 per cent) because of drought, 9,000 (38 per cent) because of conflict and 2,000 (eight per cent) for other reasons. The February displacements figure represents a 41 per cent increase compared to January (17,000 displacements).<sup>3</sup>

#### DISPLACEMENT TRENDS

REASON	2018	February	2019
Flood	281,000	0	0
Drought	256,000	13,000	22,000
Conflict	320,000	9,000	15,000
Other	26,000	2,000	4,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>883,000</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>41,000</b>

#### REASON OF DISPLACEMENT



In Naasa-Hablood settlement (Hargeysa), UNHCR team visited 17 IDP households whose shelters have been damaged by fire. © UNHCR/February 2019

<sup>3</sup> Figures are provisional.

### Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster

**The CCCM Cluster, co-led by UNHCR, oversees the living conditions and protection of IDPs in sites and settlements.** In February, CCCM reached an additional 16,626 IDPs totalling 807,572 IDPs (45 per cent) of the targeted 1.8 million IDPs, established CCCM mechanisms in 27 more sites totalling 724 sites (38 per cent) out of targeted 1,926 sites and covered additional 16 districts totalling to 60 (67 per cent) out of targeted 89 districts.

- **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps:** Improvement of the protection environment and living conditions of IDPs was limited by restricted humanitarian access in many parts of south and central Somalia, lack of information at site level, lack of land tenure, forced evictions and low levels of community participation.

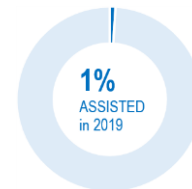
ASSISTANCE	# of IDP reached by CCCM partners	# of sites with established CCCM mechanisms	# of districts covered by the Detailed Site Assessment
Target	1,800,000	1,926	89
February	16,626	27	16
2019	24,045	27	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>807,572</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>60</b>

### Shelter and NFIs Cluster

**The Shelter and NFIs Cluster, led by UNHCR, is a coordination mechanism that supports people affected by natural disasters and conflicts with shelter and housing.** In February, the Cluster provided support to 8,400 persons bringing the total to 11,400 persons for the year. Out of 8,400 persons, 6,000 benefited from NFIs, 1,000 from transitional shelters, 800 from permanent shelter and 600 persons from emergency shelter kits.

- **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps:** There is another imminent drought crisis in Somalia. In the past, severe droughts have resulted in massive displacements of persons. There are currently no significant prepositioned shelter or NFI stocks in case of a high influx of IDPs.

ASSISTANCE	# of persons assisted	Per cent
Target	1,600,000	100
February	8,400	1
2019	11,400	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,400</b>	<b>100</b>

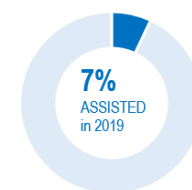


### Protection Cluster

**The Protection Cluster, led by UNHCR, covers a wide range of activities that are aimed at ensuring respect for the rights of all individuals in accordance with the relevant bodies of law.** In February, the Protection Cluster through all four sub-clusters: Gender-based Violence, Child Protection, Housing Land and Property and Mine Action provided support to a total of 49,300 persons bringing the total to 99,300 persons reached representing (seven per cent) out to total 1.4 million targeted persons.

- **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps:** Lack of funding to respond to protection challenges linked to the post-Deyr assessment, indicating a potential deterioration in food security. Protection of civilians in areas affected by armed operations and the planned closure of selected AMISOM bases in the South West State of Somalia remains a concern.

ASSISTANCE	# of persons assisted	Per cent
Target	1,400,000	100
February	49,300	3
2019	99,300	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>99,300</b>	<b>7</b>





### Community empowerment and self reliance

- In Galmudug State of Somalia, UNHCR continued with technical vocational education and trainings for 200 persons (140 IDPs, 33 members of the host community and seven returnees), 70 from Gaalkacyo, 50 from Caadado, and 80 from Dhuusamarreeb on hairdressing, beauty therapy, metalwork, carpentry, cooking, farming, hospitality, solar energy, masonry, mobile and radio repair, and tailoring.
- In Puntland State of Somalia, UNHCR provided office equipment to seven governmental bodies: the Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs, the Firefighting Centre, two Police Stations and the Seaport Security in Bossaso, and the Office of Governor in Kakar region and the Office of Mayor in Qhardo. UNHCR's contribution to the Puntland State of Somalia will improve the comprehensive protection and response of government to persons of concern.



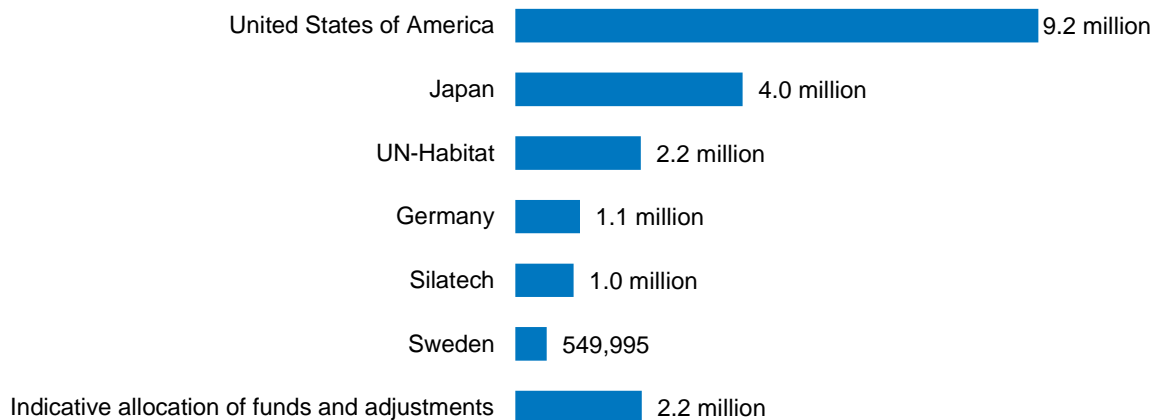
Handover of the office equipment to the Governor of Kakar region in the Puntland State of Somalia.  
© UNHCR/2019

## Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

### EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Earmarked contributions for the operation amount to some **USD 20.3 million**.



### BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region.

United States of America 10 million | Germany 7.1 million

### UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions.

Sweden 90.4 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 37.5 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 26.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Switzerland 15.1 million | Private donors Spain 12.8 million

Algeria | Argentina | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Belgium | Canada | Estonia | Indonesia | Kuwait | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

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### LINKS

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