

Somalia

August 2021


Growing steadily, UNHCR's operational footprint in Somalia dates back thirty years. Today, UNHCR is present in ten countrywide locations, with its Representation Office based in Mogadishu. Despite many gains, Somalia's operational context remains extremely challenging due to largescale insecurity and countrywide fragility.


Multiple crises including erratic climate shocks, reoccurring and persistent conflict, disease outbreaks and an unprecedented desert locust infestation contribute to protracted and new displacements impacting millions of Somalis. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the humanitarian crisis in the country.

UNHCR provides protection, assistance and durable solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers, IDPs, refugee returnees and vulnerable hosting communities. Repatriation of refugee returnees and humanitarian emergency response within Somalia are also central to UNHCR's mandate.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

 **2.95** million IDPs

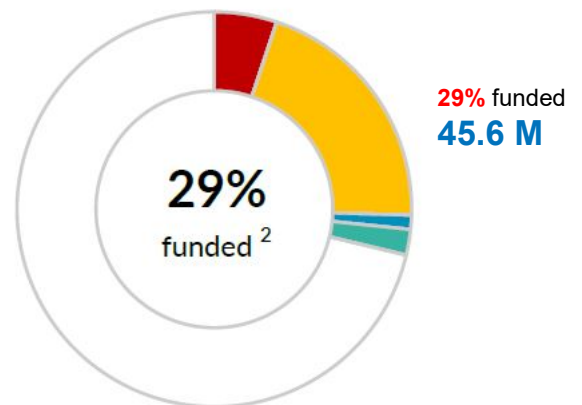
 **14,570** asylum-seekers
12,614 refugees

 **133,166** refugee returnees

FUNDING UPDATE (AS OF 31 AUG)

USD 157.1 M

Requested for the Somalia Operation



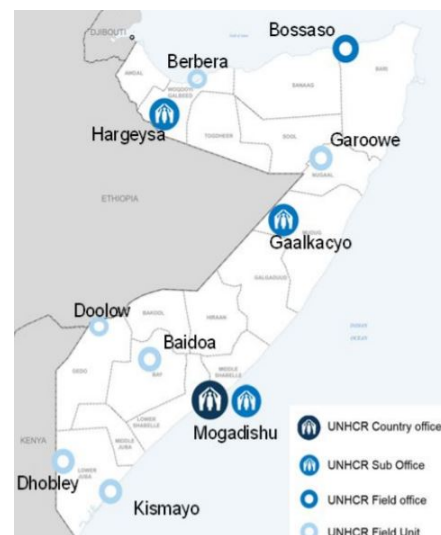
UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 117 National Staff
- 47 International Staff
- 27 Affiliated Workforce

Offices:

- 1 Representation Office in Mogadishu
- 3 Sub Offices in Galkayo, Hargeisa and Mogadishu



Working with Partners

In Somalia, UNHCR leads the Protection and Shelter Clusters and co-leads the CCCM Cluster.

Main Activities and Achievements

Refugees and asylum-seekers

- Under its core mandate, UNHCR **monitors** the situation of refugees and asylum-seekers in Somalia, to ensure their adequate protection and well-being.
- UNHCR provides access to **essential services**, including education and healthcare, as well as **material and financial assistance** to the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers.
- UNHCR assists refugees in Somalia to find **durable solutions**, such as local integration and resettlement to a third country.
- UNHCR supported the drafting of the Federal Republic of Somalia Refugee Act, a landmark tool in the protection of refugees in Somalia. The **Refugee Act** is currently with the Parliament of Federal Government of Somalia, with its endorsement expected in the course of 2021.
- UNHCR has also supported in the development of the Somaliland Refugee Act, which is currently in the final stages.
- In 2020, UNHCR completed the **biometric identity management system (BIMS)** registration exercise of refugees and asylum-seekers. The verification of the number of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country through biometric registration ensures that UNHCR's assistance reaches the most vulnerable individuals and households.

Somali refugee returnees

- Safe, dignified and **voluntary repatriation** of Somali refugees from Kenya is governed by the Strategy for Voluntary Repatriation of Somali Refugees from Kenya to Somalia and their Reintegration, 2020-2022, in conjunction with the IGAD Nairobi Declaration/ Plan of Action and the National Policy on Refugee-Returnees and IDPs given that the 2013 Tripartite Agreement expired.
- Since 2014, UNHCR has assisted in the repatriation of 85,318 Somali refugee returnees from Kenya. In addition, 5,416 individuals have returned from Yemen through the Assisted Spontaneous Returns (ASR) programme, while smaller numbers of Somalis have returned from other countries including Djibouti, Sudan, Libya and Eritrea.
- UNHCR carries out regular **post-return monitoring (PRM)** of refugee returnees. Through PRM, UNHCR and partners can assess the level of reintegration of returnees and address the causes of any challenges in reintegration.

- UNHCR provides refugees returnees with various support to ensure their **reintegration** in the community, including access to livelihoods (including vocational training and business start-up grants), land and education as well as financial and material assistance upon return.

IDPs

- The humanitarian response to the internal displacement in Somalia is a coordinated effort by various stakeholders including the authorities, international organizations, as well as national and international NGOs. UNHCR leads the **Protection Cluster** and the **Shelter Cluster** and co-leads the **CCCM Cluster**.
- By availing expert support in legislative drafting, UNHCR supported the drafting of the Federal Protection and Assistance for Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Act, which is currently with the Government following a validation workshop that took place on 18 November 2020. The **IDP Act**, once enacted, will provide the national legal framework for the rights of IDPs emanating from international treaties and standards.
- UNHCR will continue to lead the **Protection and Returns Monitoring Network** (PRMN), tracking displacement and rights violations among IDPs, and increasing efforts for the greater use of PRMN data in shaping response to internal displacement.
- UNHCR and partners provide **shelter and NFI assistance**, either in-kind or through cash grants, to IDPs and vulnerable host communities across the country. NFIs and emergency shelter are **lifesaving** interventions in the face of climate or conflict-based emergencies.
- Eviction and limited housing, land and property (HLP) rights remain a significant protection concern in Somalia. UNHCR continues to support and work closely with local authorities and IDPs to promote **land tenure** and **adequate documentation** for IDPs.
- Among other UNHCR's responses for IDPs are capacity-building of authorities, partners and community leaders, peaceful coexistence projects, as well as prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Somalia operation in 2021 amount to some **US\$ 45.6 million**. 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 unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

External / Donors Relations

Thanks to the donors of earmarked contributions to Somalia operation in 2021

United States of America (10.4 M) | **Japan** (4.5 M) | **Republic of Korea** (1.5 M) | **Germany** (1.2 M) | **European Union** (0.9 M) | **Sweden** (0.6 M) | **CERF** (0.5 M) | **Latter-Day Saints Charities** (0.3 M) | **France** (0.2 M)

Thanks to donors of softly earmarked contributions in 2021

United States of America (33 M) | **Private donors Australia** (6.1 M) | **Canada** (5.6 M) | **Private donors Germany** (3.2 M) | France | Japan | Luxembourg | Norway | Spain | Private donors

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2021

Norway (80 M) | Sweden (66.9 M) | Private Donors Spain (49.7 M) | Netherlands (36.1 M) | Denmark (34.6 M) | United Kingdom (28.4 M) | Germany (26 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (25 M) | Japan (23.4 M) | Private Donors Japan (20.7 M) | France (20.2 M) | Switzerland (16.4 M) | Ireland (12.5 M) | Private donors Italy (12.3 M) | Belgium (11.9 M) | Private donors Sweden (11.9 M) | Italy (10.7 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2021

Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Austria | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Holy See | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | South Africa | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

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