

SOMALIA

1-30 June 2020

The month of June has been marked by the impact of COVID-19 and infestation of desert locusts against new displacement resulting from the April-May *Gu* riverine and flash floods. The food security outlook for the remainder of the year is forecasted at IPC3, with next month's harvest projected to fall 30-40 per cent below the long-term average.

Around 2.8 million persons of concern, particularly 2.6 million IDPs remain the most vulnerable, many of whom have not recovered or restored their livelihood from the 2019 *Deyr* floods. UNHCR's persons of concern have appealed for enhanced cash-based support given the rise in commodity prices, including food, and loss of livelihood.

Devastating consequences of floods, possible outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in IDP settlements, and infestation of desert locusts further deteriorates the living conditions of persons of concern and causes risk of new internal displacements. In June alone, the UNHCR-led Protection Return Monitoring Network recorded 28,000 new displacements in Somalia.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

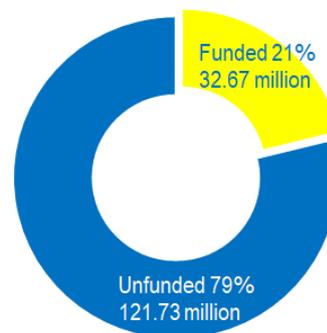
A total of **2.8 million** persons of concern

*Internally displaced persons	2,648,000
Returnees	130,500
Asylum-seekers	15,263
Refugees	14,732

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

FUNDING (AS AT 1 JULY)

USD 154.4 million
requested for the Somalia situation



UNHCR through ARC distributed 1100 core relief items (NFI kits) to drought and locust affected communities in Sool and Toadheer regions of Somaliland, targeting the most vulnerable/Somaliland/June

Update on Achievements

Against a backdrop of ongoing insecurity, climate-related emergencies and COVID-19, UNHCR observed 28,000 new displacements in the month of June. Further to Somalia's operational context, citing political differences, insecurity, flooding and COVID-19, the Chairperson of the National Independent Electoral Commission announced this month that upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections scheduled for November 2020 would be postponed. As at the end of the month, UNHCR, including through its lead role in the Protection and Shelter Clusters and as co-lead to the CCCM Cluster, has continued to provide protection, assistance and durable solutions to refugees/asylum seekers, refugee returnees, internally displacement persons, mixed migrants and hosting communities. This assistance includes cash and in-kind support to persons with specific needs, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and more as outlined below.



HEALTH

COVID-19

In June, UNHCR continued providing life-saving assistance to persons of concern and hosting communities by providing protection, strengthening the national health system to contain the spread of COVID-19 and supporting socio-economic recovery and resilience. Through social media, radio, television, loud-speakers, distribution of materials and other means, UNHCR and its partners reached a record 447,643 refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, returnees and/or members of the hosting community with information about COVID-19 (and in thousands of cases, about SGBV) in the month of June. In support of health and dignity needs, 21,798 hygiene and sanitary kits comprised of items such as soap, detergent, feminine hygiene products, as well as 4,582 PPEs, were distributed to persons of concern and hosting community. Handwashing facilities were availed to 8,910 individuals, while approximately 630 IDP leaders were mobilized and capacitated to provide awareness and support for COVID-19. Other support to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, including cash-based support, is included under the discussion on Protection.



PROTECTION

With the onset of COVID-19 and other natural disasters (the *Gu* floods, dessert locusts and drought), UNHCR has established 10 hotlines across the country to better enable persons of concern to request support or otherwise provide feedback. In June, approximately 975 persons of concern to UNHCR called into these hotlines citing protection challenges and, especially, requesting additional monetary support. The request for enhanced cash support most often stemmed from a loss of livelihood, as casual laborers barely scraping by had lost their only source of income, and the inability to keep up with rising commodity prices (including food). In June, UNHCR provided cash assistance (subsistence allowance, cash grants, re-installation grants) to over 11,000 vulnerable (including persons with specific needs) refugees/asylum seekers, returnees and IDPs. In addition to UNHCR's COVID-19 and flood response, protection activities for the month of June included psychosocial support, medical assistance, SGBV prevention and response, legal assistance and detention monitoring, education, livelihood, and more.

NEW DISPLACEMENTS

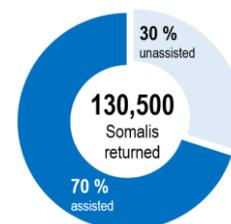
The UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) reports on displacements and protection risks and incidents underlying such movements. In June 2020, PRMN recorded 28,000 displacements in Somalia as follows: 17,000 persons were displaced due to conflict/insecurity in which 12,000 were due to armed conflict especially in Marka and Wanla Weyn districts of Lower Shabelle region and Clan conflicts (4,000), in Cabudwaaq district of Galgaduud region; 8,000 persons were displaced due to drought, lack of livelihood especially in Bay (2,000) and Bari (2,000) region; close to 2,000 persons were displaced mostly due to relocation after floods; 1,000 Flood displacement persons were reported by PRMN due to floods caused by riverine or heavy rainfall mostly in Baardheere district Hiraan region and the Jamaame district of Middle Shabelle region.

REGISTRATION

Refugees: As of 30 June, UNHCR recorded a total of 29,995 refugees and asylum-seekers, out of which 14,732 were refugees and 15,263 asylum-seekers. Most of the refugees and asylum-seekers arrived from Ethiopia (64 percent) and Yemen (34 percent). In June, there was no newly registered refugees and asylum-seekers.

Refugee Returnees: In June, there were no new refugee returnee arrivals due to Covid-19 movement restrictions. As of 30 June 2020, UNHCR received a total of 130,500 Somali returnees from 13 countries of asylum. Among these individuals, 91,821 have been repatriated with UNHCR support, as follows: 84,974 were from Kenya, 5,416 from Yemen, 773 from Djibouti, 469 from Libya, 143 from Sudan, 34 from Eritrea, three from Tunisia, three from Angola, two from the Gambia, one from Pakistan, one from Ukraine, one from Cambodia and one from China. Spontaneous/un-assisted returns are 38,679 Somalis, who returned on their own primarily from Yemen.

TYPE OF RETURN	BEFORE 2020	JUN	2020	TOTAL
ASSISTED RETURN	91,490	0	331	91,821
UNASSISTED RETURN	38,420	0	259	38,679
TOTAL	129,910	0	590	130,500



PROTECTION CLUSTER

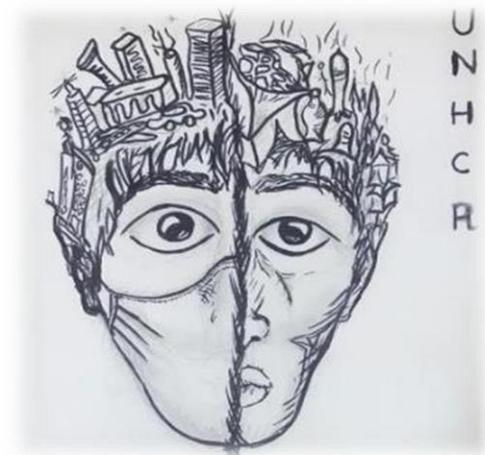
June Highlights:

- The UNCHR-led Protection Cluster's updated Centrality of Protection Strategy, now covering the period 2020-2021, was endorsed by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) on 16 June 2020. The strategy which places protection at the centre of all humanitarian intervention in Somalia has been strengthened and now includes actions with appropriate and identified leadership and capacity, and an annex to reaffirm the importance of protection principles in the COVID-19 response.
- A note on sexual assault was prepared based on finding from the Somalia Protection Monitoring Network (SPMN). The focus of the note was motivated by the sudden increase observed in the percentage of key informants (KIs) mentioning sexual assault incidents, which jumped from 7 percent in April to 25 percent in May.
- The Protection Cluster launched a survey to measure the impact of COVID-19 on the provision of protection assistance, with the results widely shared. The key findings include, inter alia, lack of access to health services and humanitarian assistance, ongoing reports of forced evictions, and women and girls being placed at greater risk of SGBV as they ventured beyond their settlements due to increased economic hardships

World Refugee Day – 20 June 2020

On 20 June, World Refugee Day was celebrated with the theme of “**Everyone can make a difference, Every Action Counts**”.

World Refugee Day honours the courage and determination of those forced to abandon their homes and flee persecution and conflict. In different locales of the UNHCR Somalia Operation, the event was commemorated, and awareness was raised through speeches and cultural dance, drama, song, and video, bringing refugees, IDPs, returnees and members of hosting communities together.



Portrait submission by a Yemeni refugee to the Youth with Refugees Art Contest in Somaliland, citing that his artwork explains the difference in faces between refugees and “other people” who can see, but may not feel, the lived experience of a refugee. Hargeisa/June



Refugees and Asylum Seekers participate in a World Refugee Day road show with the host community, “We are in this together and together we will find solutions and survive” Galkacyo/June

TELLING THE REAL STORIES

The Telling the Real Stories (TRS) campaign which seeks to raise awareness and dispel myths about irregular migration has begun to raise awareness about COVID-19. Cultural events, including song, theatre and videos, joined up with World Refugee Day to inform and educate the public about the coronavirus. Yurub Genyo, TRS local celebrity supporter, recorded a song “Dhamaal Caafimaad,” about spreading lifesaving information about the coronavirus pandemic, social distancing, spotting symptoms and, of course, washing hands. The link to the video can be found [online](#). The TRS volunteers even pitched in with the distribution of hygiene kits in Somaliland.



SHELTER AND NFIS



Distribution of NFI kits to 500 flood-affected households in Kismayo /MC/UNHCR /June 2020

From April to the end of June, more than 450,000 individuals have been displaced and more than one million affected by the “Gu” seasonal rains and floods. As lead-agency of the Shelter Cluster, UNHCR has led the response in NFI and Shelter assistance to the most vulnerable persons across the country.

In the month of June in Kismayo, Jubaland region, UNHCR through its partners distributed 2,151 NFI kits consisting of core relief items such as blankets, soap, jerry cans, kitchen sets, sleeping mats, solar lamp and plastic sheets to approximately 13,000 IDP and members of the hosting community

of highest need displaced by the *Gu*. This distribution brings the cumulative response to date to 5,520 NFI kits benefitting more than 33,000 individuals in the most affected areas, particularly BeletWeyne but also including Bardheere, Mogadishu, Baidoa, Kismayo and Qardho. In June, a post-distribution monitoring exercise was conducted to measure the effectiveness of the humanitarian intervention in Qardho and Bardheere, where distribution occurred during the preceding month. Distribution of NFI kits is ongoing, with plans to distribute a further 5,250 kits in Galakyo, Hoby, Afmadow, Afgooye, Welweyn and Merca.

Also in June, emergency shelter assistance in the form of cash transfers was distributed to 500 households (3,000 individuals) in Qardho, with the distribution of parallel shelter components in the form of plastic sheets in progress with plans to reach a total of 42,000 individuals (7,000 Emergency Shelter Kits) in Galkayo, Hoby, Afmadow, Beletweyn, Baidoa and Bardheere. Additionally, in response to desert locusts, conflict and drought in Hargeisa, UNHCR and partners distributed 1,100 NFI kits to over 6,000 individuals in the Sool and Tagdheer regions.

SHELTER CLUSTER

June Highlights:

- **The UNCHR-led Shelter and NFI Cluster reached 35,850 people with NFI kits and 8,550 people with emergency shelter kits bringing the cumulative number of persons assisted with NFI and Shelter to 20 per cent of 1.3 million targeted for 2020, and those with shelter to 15 per cent of the 1.4 million 2020 target.**
- **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps: According to the HNO 2020, 2.2 million people are in need of Shelter and NFI assistance in Somalia. A total of 237 IDP sites that host over 98,000 IDP households have been identified as high-risk sites for COVID-19 transmission. An estimated 2,600 households (some 15,600 people) have arrived from Toosweyne and its surrounding villages to Berdale District. About 100 households have also reached Baidoa. The newly arrived Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) have reported being forcibly evicted from their homes by Al Shabab militants and leaving their dwellings empty handed. They are being hosted by the other IDPs and the host communities while some are living in an open area without shelter, water and sanitation and are in dire need of emergency shelter and NFIs.**



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

June Highlight:

The UNHCR co-led CCCM Cluster partners have completed and/or have ongoing risk communication activities (awareness raising on COVID-19) in 881 IDP sites out of 2344 IDP sites nationally, covering 1,033,403 persons (40% out of total 2.6 million). Partners trained 220 CMCs who were 70% female to support special sessions targeting vulnerable groups such as marginalized communities, elderly persons and persons with underlying medical conditions for awareness messaging.



EDUCATION

In June, while many schools were closed across the country as the final term reached its end, many students had yet to complete their final year examinations prior to the closure of final term. In Puntland, UNHCR and partners undertook pro-active measure and alternative learning methods to ensure completion of uncovered syllabuses. In

Somaliland, Puntland and South-Central Somalia, UNHCR paid tuition fees for persons of concern for the three months of April, May and June, with the funds supporting teachers' salaries in private schools. At the tertiary level, 75 students already enrolled in the DAFI scholarship program continued to receive their monthly allowance. There were no new student enrolments in the month of June given the end-of-year school closures.



Construction of a science laboratory for Kabasa secondary school in Dollow/June

Also in the month of June, UNHCR and partners began construction of a laboratory classroom at Kabasa secondary school in Dollow, Gedo region. With the foundation laid this month, the community supported UNHCR in funding this project which has the goal of promoting sustainability and local ownership. The laboratory will benefit students in practical lessons, experimental learning methods and theoretical knowledge to equip them with enhanced scientific knowledge and improve the quality of their education. The laboratory will benefit 20 students supported by UNHCR in education programmes in Dollow among the others who will commence study next year.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

LIVELIHOOD

In June 2020, UNHCR provided 568 returnees, refugees/asylum seekers, IDPs and vulnerable members of hosting communities with livelihood support. In Baidoa, 50 persons were registered for both technical vocational training



A young IDP observing seed germination in household compound at Qansahley IDP camp/June

(TVET) and two groups of 10 members for cash grants for SMEs. In Mogadishu 50 persons received business startup grants after completion of two months' online business development training. In Kismayo 20 persons continued with advanced ICT training via virtual programmes. In Galkayo, 150 individuals received multi-purpose cash grants, 25 started TVET training in electrical installation and wiring, and 30 persons registered for small business enterprise (15 have already started the training).

In Dollow, 40 beneficiaries supported, 20 received cash grants and the others received farm inputs (tools and seeds). Practical training in perma-gardening, an agricultural approach meant to maximize production on small land through sustainable practise to enable persons of concern to harvest vegetables in spaces adjacent to their dwellings, concluded in the month of June. The trainees received pest management, perma-gardening procedures

and agricultural practices. In Bossaso, 108 persons were enrolled for both SMEs and skills training (59 for SMEs and 49 for TVET), while in Qardho and Garowe, 40 persons were registered for small business programmes.

While due to the COVID-19 pandemic some of UNHCR's livelihood programming has been suspended, there has also been new opportunities. In June, refugees, returnees, IDPs and a few members of the hosting community previously trained in tailoring by UNHCR made more than 7,100 non-clinical face masks to combat COVID-19. Nearly half of the masks were sold in June to government ministries, international NGOs, location organizations, schools and the general public in local markets of Hargeisa and Baidoa.



UNHCR supports a refugee to help the entire community fight the coronavirus in a tailoring program in Hargeisa /June

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

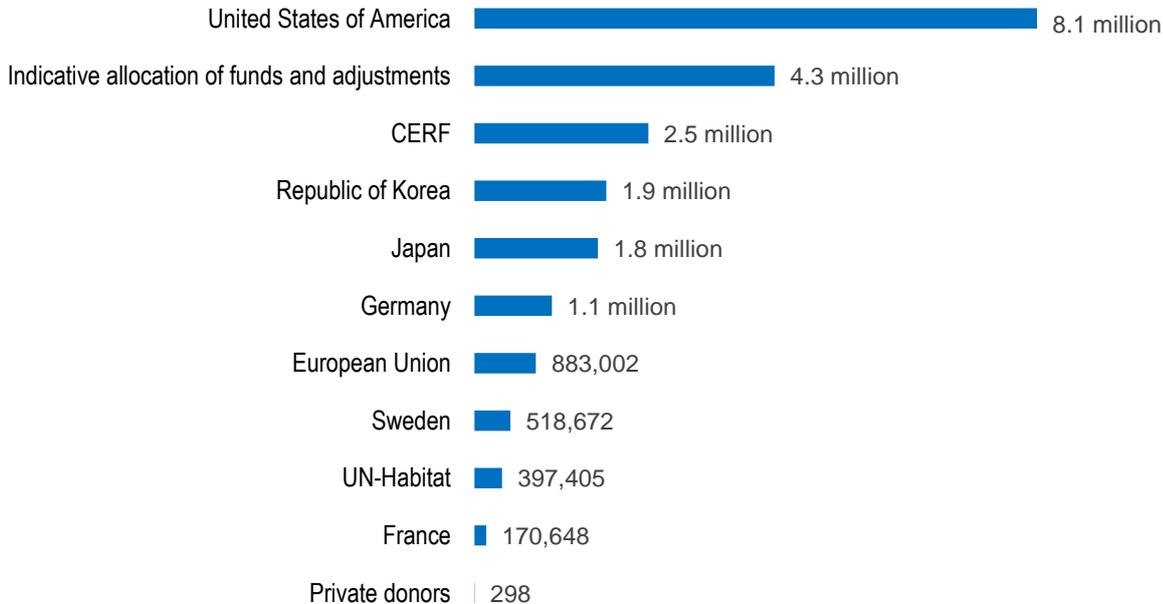
In June, UNHCR Somalia co-chaired with the Office of the Special Envoy for Migrants and Children's Rights the [government-led Mixed Migration Task Force](#). The MMTF serves as the main platform for addressing mixed movements of migrants and refugees in Somalia, ensuring a coordinated, comprehensive and protection-centered approach that addresses the needs, including assistance and solutions, of people on the move and the populations affected by these movements. Migrants and refugees cross the Gulf of Aden from Somalia, entering Yemen with the hope of reaching primarily the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, other Member States of the Cooperation Council of the Arab Countries of the Gulf or Europe (to Yemen, across the Red Sea into Sudan and onwards to Europe). As for movements into Somalia, asylum seekers and migrants enter from Ethiopia and Djibouti by land, and by sea from Yemen. Ethiopian migrants continue to transit through Somalia into Yemen in search of economic opportunities.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR is extremely grateful for the crucial support provided by donors contributing to the Somalia Operation or, more broadly, global UNHCR programmes.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE SOMALIA OPERATION | USD

Earmarked contributions for the Somalia Operation amount to some **US\$ 25,434,232 million**.



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special gratitude is extended to the following major donors for contributions that may potentially be used in the Somalia Operation given their earmarking to a related situation, theme, region, or sub-region:

Germany 44.9 million | United Kingdom 24.8 million | United States of America 21.8 million | Denmark 14.6 million | Canada 10.2 million | Private donors USA 7.4 million | Private donors Japan 3.9 million | Private donors Australia 3.7 million | Ireland 3.3 million | Sweden 3 million | France 2.8 million

Iceland | Jersey | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Morocco | Norway | Spain | UN COVID-19 MPTF | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special gratitude is also extended to the following major donors of unearmarked contributions to UNHCR:

Sweden 76.4 million | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | Private donors Spain 33.1 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 25.9 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 17.3 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | France 14 million | Private donors Japan 11.7 million

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LINKS

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