

Somalia

1-30 June 2021

Following the conclusion of the National Consultative Council meeting on 29 June, 2021, the international community congratulated Federal and Member State Government leaders for reaching agreements

on the national election timetable, the role of the Technical Election Support Team and its expansion to include Federal Member State representatives, and promoting the participation of women candidates in the upcoming

elections.

UNHCR continued to provide protection, assistance and solutions to persons of concern across the country, as well as to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

KEY INDICATORS

 **2.95** million IDPs

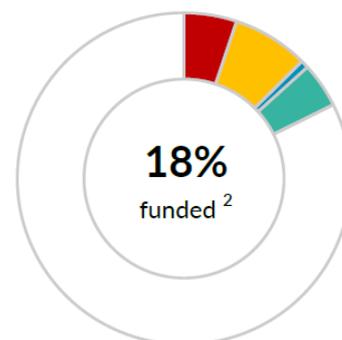
 **13,538** asylum-seekers
11,964 refugees

 **132,792** refugee returnees

FUNDING (AS OF 22 JUNE)

USD 157.1 M

requested for the Somalia operation



Funded
18%
27.7 M



Youth in Bossaso participate in World Refugee Day commemorative activities © UNHCR

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

Following a constructive three-day meeting of the National Consultative Council (NCC) attended by Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble and the Federal Member State leaders, important decisions were reached regarding the electoral timetable, the role of the Technical Election Support Team and its expansion to include Federal Member State representatives, and promoting the participation of women candidates in elections by reducing their registration fees in half. The progress reached at the NCC was commended by the International Community.

Also in June, the Government of Kenya (GoK) issued a statement announcing that it had reopened its airspace to all flights between Somalia and Kenya. According to the statement, the GoK expressed its commitment to remain a true partner for a peaceful and stable Somalia and indicated looking forward for the normalization of diplomatic and bilateral relations between the two countries. On 12 June, the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Somalia issued a statement announcing the restoration of diplomatic relations with Kenya and asked the GoK to reopen its Embassy in Mogadishu while undertaking to reciprocally reopen its Embassy in Nairobi. The FGS underlined that the resumption of full diplomatic relations between the two countries is a step in the right direction as well as a positive start to the commencement of bilateral discussions between the two countries. Diplomatic relations between the two countries had been suspended since December 2020 when the FGS alleged Kenyan interference in Somali's internal affairs.

The security situation in the country remained volatile with regular attacks against military bases, as well as civilians. Access in some parts of the country was further challenged by floods.

The UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), implemented in partnership with NRC, has reported 477,000 internal displacements in 2021 as of the end of June. Among these, 42,000 new internal displacements took place in the month of June, among which 29,000 were triggered by conflict or insecurity while 10,000 were related to drought and loss of livelihood.

Achievements



World Refugee Day

With the participation of government counterparts, refugees, and other displaced and hosting communities, World Refugee Day was commemorated on 20 June across all field locations and in Mogadishu. On this international day that honours and recognizes the world's refugees, UNHCR and partners organized activities that included solidarity walks, children's education and fun fair events, sports and art tournaments/competitions, film screenings and radio talk shows with refugee and health experts on COVID-19 and life challenges faced by refugees and asylum seekers. In Bossaso, an inter-cultural dance gala which brought together over 155 refugees, asylum seekers and others from various ethnic and cultural communities provided a joyous occasion for communities to celebrate their cultural dances. The event was organized under the theme "Together we Heal, Learn and Shine" which sought to highlight and promote the rights of refugees to health, education and sports.

Multipurpose cash assistance

- In June, 6,945 refugees and asylum-seekers received multipurpose cash grants to meet their basic needs.

Prevention and response to SGBV

- Across the country, 120 individuals were reached through awareness-raising campaigns on identification and prevention of SGBV.
- UNHCR, through partners, also continued regular activities on the identification, prevention and response to SGBV. In June, 345 SGBV survivors were provided with psychosocial counselling, 57 were provided with medical assistance, 349 with material assistance and 28 with legal assistance.
- UNHCR, through a partner, conducted a two-day Mentorship and Capacity Building Training on SGBV basics, prevention and response mechanisms for 42 youth in Bossaso drawn from the refugee and asylum-seeker community. Additionally, across numerous regions in Puntland and Galmadug, trainings on SGBV standard operating procedures, referral pathways, Psychosocial Counselling First Aid (PFA) and Trauma Healing reached 386 participants drawn from IDP, refugee, asylum-seeker and hosting communities.

Legal assistance and counselling

- In June, 562 individuals received legal assistance in Somaliland, Galkayo and Puntland, including legal representation before the court of law, advocacy for release from police custody or detention centres, mediation services and legal counselling.



UNHCR and partners receiving Somali refugee returnees at Sayyid Mohammed Abdulle Hassan Airport in Kismayo. © UNHCR

Somali refugee returnees

- Since 2014, and as of 30 June 2021, UNHCR has received a total of 132,792 Somali returnees from 14 countries of asylum. Out of the total 92,220 individuals who repatriated with UNHCR's support, 85,241 were from Kenya, 5,416 from Yemen, 773 from Djibouti, 542 from Libya, and the remainder from several other countries of asylum. Since 2015, a total of 40,572 Somalis have returned on their own.
- In June, under the voluntary repatriation programme from Kenya, a total of 21 individuals returned from Dadaab refugee camp to Mogadishu. All refugee returnees received return packages and temporary accommodation, if required. Additionally, in June, 197 Somalis returned spontaneously from Yemen.

Telling the Real Story project

- In Puntland, the Telling the Real Story (TRS) project successfully expanded its activities to reach Garowe and Qardo, with both locations hosting several activities in June. Six new members of the TRS team were identified and trained in conducting outreach campaigns.
- TRS community outreach teams distributed posters in strategic locations, including a centrally located youth center in Gardo, and spoke to youth about the dangers of Tahrib/irregular movements. The team also conducted assessments to understand and address gaps in information sharing.
- On World Refugee Day, TRS outreach volunteers together with other UNHCR partners raised awareness among youth sports groups about the dangers of irregular movements, conducting this awareness raising with the added aim of promoting integration between refugees and hosting communities.

- Additionally, through Government authorities in South West State, six new volunteers were trained about the TRS project in Baidoa.



UNHCR/TRS Community outreach volunteers conducting an information sharing session with youth during World Refugee Day Celebration in Garowe. © UNHCR

Protection Cluster

In June, the Protection Cluster, led by UNHCR, provided the following services:

A total of **45,478** individuals reached through protection monitoring and **358** individuals referred to specialized services.

A total of **3,457** individuals were provided with community based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services.

A total **52,445** people, inclusive of **30,392** children, were reached with various child protection service (i.e. child protection messaging, psychosocial support services, case management, Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR), alternative care and reintegration of children associated with armed forces and groups (CAAFAG)).

A total of **63,486** individuals received information on available GBV prevention and mitigation services; out of which **25,867** were children.

A total of **4,255** individuals were provided with legal aid including dispute resolution - formal and informal justice forums, legal counselling and advice, referrals,

accompaniment of extremely vulnerable individuals and representation of clients reporting Housing Land and Property specific cases.

A total of **10,916** individuals were provided with Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE), out of whom **6,115** were children.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Through partners, UNHCR conducted training to 31 teachers on alternative and positive disciplinary approaches and provision of psychosocial and psychological first aid support, Child Safeguarding and PSEA policies and Teachers' Code of Conduct and Ethics (TCCE) in Puntland.
- Additionally, in Puntland, community dialogue sessions focused on child protection and the importance of girl's education reaching 225 refugee/asylum seeker families, IDP communities, women's advocacy organization members, youth organization members, schoolteachers, religious leaders and traditional elders were conducted.
- In Somaliland, UNHCR engaged with the Ministry of Education in validating refugee data into the Education Management Information System (EMIS). This first-time incorporation of refugee data in the EMIS achieves a milestone in the integration of refugees in the government's development programs in the education sector.
- At the tertiary education level, applications for the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI Programme) were received across all UNHCR offices, and community engagement meetings with refugee leaders on the DAFI programme took place. In Mogadishu, a DAFI student association was formed with elected leaders to represent students.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- As part of UNHCR's regular healthcare activities in June, a total of 2,207 refugees asylum seekers, IDPs and hosting communities were provided with primary healthcare, 52 individuals with secondary healthcare, and 25 were referred to further care, including tertiary healthcare.

Prevention of and response to COVID-19

- An isolation unit and a quarantine center continued to be supported in the Berbera regional hospital.
- Medical care services were provided to 2,371 refugees and asylum seekers.
- Sexual and reproductive health services were provided to 22 SGBV refugees, asylum seekers and IDPs.
- Dissemination of COVID-19 related messaging (using pamphlets and direct messaging) was provided to over 6,200 refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, returnees, migrants and host communities across the entire Operation. As part of efforts to enhance communication with communities, UNHCR Hargeisa supported the airing of COVID-19 messaging on three TV stations and Radio Hargeisa with the aim of informing 70% of POCs in Somaliland about preventive measures and risks.
- A total of nineteen COVID-19-related feedback mechanisms/hotlines and referral pathways were in use across the Operation.



SHELTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NFIS

Shelter Cluster

The Somalia **Shelter Cluster**, led by UNHCR, is a coordination mechanism that supports people affected by conflicts and natural disasters.

In June, the Cluster Partners reached **24,303 people** with non-food items (NFI) kits and **4,776 people** with shelter assistance. Cumulatively in 2021, the Shelter Cluster partners have reached 172,055 individuals (6%) of 2.3 Million targeted with NFI assistance, and 116,905 individuals (5%) of the 2.4 million targeted with shelter assistance.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps: Around 3.2 million people are in need of Shelter and NFI assistance in Somalia. According to the latest PRMN report, conflict and drought displaced over 477,000 people between January and June 2021. Most of the displaced have arrived in Banadir, Baidoa, Jowhar, Beletweyne, Luuq and Xudur districts. According to partner assessments, the displaced are in urgent need of emergency shelter and NFI. Additional funding is urgently required to respond to the displacements and to pre-position the NFI and shelter items for potential displacements in the near future.

Achievements and Impact

- In Bossaso, UNHCR partners made cash payments for emergency shelter to 1,626 IDPs (271 households) affected by recent Al-Shabab (AS) related-conflict in Badhan district and 696 IDPs (116 households) in Burtinle district affected by heavy rains. Additionally, in Berdale, cash for emergency shelter was distributed to 4,500 IDPs (750 households) in response to AS conflict-induced displacement.
- In Bossaso, the construction of 82 temporary/transitional shelters and 82 latrines was completed and the beneficiaries moved into their shelters. This is a community-owned project whereby beneficiaries construct their own shelters upon receiving basic trainings about shelter constructions.
- UNHCR partners handed over 111 Refugee Housing Units (RHU) to IDP communities in Baidoa and constructed 22 RHUs in Madina settlement/village, Kismayo to decongest the living conditions of large families living in single rooms.
- UNHCR distributed 350 NFI kits to households displaced from Beletweyne to Marjicley, in Galmudug Abudwak District, benefitting 2,100 individuals.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

CCCM Cluster

The CCCM Cluster conducted site verification of all IDP sites in Kahda and Daynile districts in Banaadir region. This activity is expected to collect information about age, gender, specific needs (such as disabilities), eviction incidents and flood risks.

Under the Somalia Humanitarian Fund, three flood and drought-impacted locations of Jowhar, Beletweyn and Benadir have been prioritized for integrated projects with the CCCM Cluster, Protection Cluster, Shelter and WASH.

The CCCM Cluster conducted 88 focus group discussions in 14 IDP sites in the five districts of Bossaso, Wanlaweyn, Baidoa, Dollow, Kismayu with the aim of understanding committee influence, effectiveness and inclusion. The focus group assessments targeted IDP sites where committees have been established by CCCM partners or local authorities with the intention of having such committees support site management responsibilities.

The CCCM Cluster and IDP Working Group conducted presentations for the Somali National Bureau of Statistics to discuss and improve on information sharing on IDP estimates (flows or stocks).

Camp coordination and management activities

- UNHCR, through partner, conducted awareness raising campaigns to educate and sensitize the communities on Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights, rules and procedures in Bosaso, reaching 30 IDP families.
- UNHCR, through partner, started the distribution of solar lanterns to 400 IDP households IDP sites in Puntland. Improved lighting in IDP sites will help to mitigate further risks of GBV cases and enhance the safety of residents, in particular of women.
- Also in Puntland, site monitoring and updated service mapping of 39 IDP sites was conducted, the objective being to detect changes in the lives of IDPs and ascertain the gaps that require addressing. Verification of 31 sites was also conducted.
- In South Central (Dollow and Kismayo), UNHCR provided training for Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) to 60 participants, developing their knowledge in CCCM through the use of simulations and context-related scenarios. In Galkayo, a four-day training was provided to 60 community leaders, camp leaders, local authorities, and humanitarian partners on-site planning and security of tenure in Abudwaq and Adado districts Galmudug state.
- Through CCCM partner, UNHCR provided integrated messaging on COVID-19 mitigation measures to four IDP sites in Adado, Abudwak, Guriel, and South Galkacyo reaching 754 individuals.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Peaceful coexistence

- Activities in the partner-operated Peaceful Coexistence Center in Somaliland continued in June. Activities included psychosocial counseling, assistance to persons with specific needs, vulnerability assessment, general counselling, as well as vocational training and language classes.

Community Empowerment

- In Dollow, 40 women drawn from IDP and returnee communities participated in empowerment training conducted as part of comprehensive SGBV prevention and response activities.

Livelihoods

- In Mogadishu, through a partner, UNHCR began training 100 beneficiaries including refugees, returnees, IDPs and vulnerable host communities as part of phase II of a livelihood project that promotes self-reliance and livelihoods through

vocational and business training, and provision of start-up cash grants upon course (such as soap making and tie and dye) completion.

- In Baidoa, UNHCR partner completed the construction of a cattle crush and related training for 100 returnees, IDPs and vulnerable hosting communities, as well as the training of 85 returnees, IDPs and vulnerable hosting communities in how to be competitive in agricultural production market chains. An agricultural cooperative committee was formed during the training in order to manage the farmer's activities.
- In Hargeisa, vocational training of 113 refugees/asylum-seekers, returnees, IDPs and vulnerable hosting communities was ongoing, with the students pursuing various vocational skills including electricity, tailoring, catering/cooking and carpentry.
- In Puntland and Galmudug, 145 students from IDP, refugee and hosting communities were provided with vocational skills training in hairdressing and beauty, tailoring, electrical installation and wiring, catering and hospitality management.



Students at a tie-dye class in Mogadishu © UNHCR

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Somalia operation in 2021 amount to some **US\$ 27.728 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) | **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 (17.6 M) | **Canada** (8.5 M) | **Private donors Australia** (4.9 M)

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

Norway (80 M) | Sweden (66.9 M) | Netherlands (36.1 M) | Private Donors Spain (35.4 M) | Denmark (34.6 M) | Germany (26 M) | France (20 M) | Private Donors Republic of Korea (17.9 M) | Switzerland (16.4 M) | Ireland (12.5 M) | Belgium (11.9 M) | Private Donors Japan (10.9 M)

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CONTACTS

Terhas Berhe, Acting Representative, UNHCR Somalia
berhe@unhcr.org, Cell: +252 613 643 709 (Somalia)

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