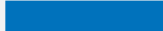


## POPULATION

**4.0M**

# of people with and for whom UNHCR works

IDPs  3,864,000

Refugee Returnees (Dec 2014 - Nov 2024) | 140,840

Refugees and Asylum-Seekers | 41,765

## PARTNERS

**16**

# of partners implementing key UNHCR activities in 2025

Government  10

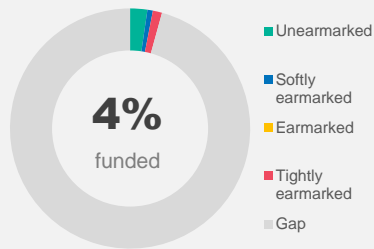
L/N NGO  4

INGO  2

## FUNDING

**157M**

Funding required for 2025 (as of 31 January)



## IMPACT STATEMENTS

### 1. PROTECT

Forcibly displaced, stateless and other affected persons enjoy living in a safe and secure environment in line with national and international protection frameworks.

### 2. RESPOND

Affected populations and most vulnerable persons strengthen their resilience, proactively mitigate the effects of climate change and their essential needs are met.

### 3. EMPOWER

Forcibly displaced, stateless and other affected persons improve their self-reliance with better access to socio-economic opportunities and engagement with development partners.

### 4. SOLVE

Refugees, IDPs and returnees have improved access to alternative pathways and a range of durable solutions.

## OPERATIONAL UPDATE

January 2025



Handover ceremony of the Luglow market at the Luglow Integrated Settlement, Kismayo District. © UNHCR

## OVERVIEW

The humanitarian situation in Somalia continued to be precarious in January, with **six million** Somalis reported needing humanitarian assistance. This is because of continued armed conflict, insecurity, climate change, outbreaks of diseases, and economic disruption.

The overall political and security situation in Somalia was characterized by uncertainty. Political antagonism between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), Jubaland and Puntland continued following disagreements on election modality (i.e. one-man-one-vote). The key factors contributing to insecurity across Somalia were armed conflict between the Somali Security Forces and Al-Shabaab, hereafter referred to as the non-state armed group (NSAG), clan conflicts, and indiscriminate attacks by the NSAG.

Amid a challenging operating context, UNHCR, in collaboration with authorities and partners, continued to provide vital protection assistance to vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities affected by conflict, insecurity, and climate change. Finding durable solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers, refugee returnees, and IDPs in collaboration with the FGS, Federal Member States (FMS), and development and humanitarian partners remains one of the top priorities for UNHCR in Somalia. For the IDP response, UNHCR leads/co-leads the Protection, Shelter, and CCCM clusters in Somalia.

## KEY UPDATES

- **Durable solutions:** In January 2025, the Dholeb District municipality, in collaboration with UNHCR, handed over 120 title deeds to beneficiaries of transitional shelter at the Midnimo site. Additionally, the Ministers of Public Works and Humanitarian Affairs handed over market infrastructures to communities in Luglow (Kismayo) and Kaharey site (Dollow). The facilities will stimulate small-business start-ups for IDPs and the host population.
- **Shelter:** Through the CERF contribution, UNHCR and shelter partners supported non-food items (NFI) to 27,322 individuals (3,998 households) in January for conflict-displaced populations in Afmadow, Dholeb, and Kismayo, using both in-kind (18,095 individuals) and cash modalities (9,227 individuals).
- **Education Policy Review:** Somaliland's Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) invited UNHCR and other key stakeholders to review and validate the National Education Policy in Hargeisa. UNHCR Somalia advocated for including refugee children in the national education system as a key pathway to socio-economic empowerment for self-reliance and finding lasting solutions.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



### Protection

- In January 2025, UNHCR and the Ministry of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs in Somaliland, registered 374 individuals in Somaliland, including 200 asylum-seekers, 120 refugees, and 54 Somali returnees. They also issued 546 documents, consisting of 205 refugee identity cards and 341 asylum-seeker certificates.
- UNHCR Baidoa organized two community engagement sessions on Housing, Land, and Property rights, and eviction awareness. These sessions, conducted with NRC, SWSCRI, and AVORD, aimed to identify sites with proper land ownership documents for shelter interventions in Catchment 13. Community leaders from 29 sites participated, showing strong understanding of land processes and commitment to collaboration.
- Free legal aid was provided to 53 individuals (23 refugees and 30 asylum-seekers), including 41 males and 12 females in Bosasso, Gardho and Garowe. Assistance included legal counseling (19 cases), advocacy for the release of 30 detainees, legal representation in court (2 cases), and mediation services (2 cases). Detention monitoring involved 26 visits, identifying 30 detainees and securing the release of 18 individuals.



### Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR staff in Beledweyne held a community consultation forum for 2025 livelihood projects. Beneficiaries from 2024 shared insights and recommendations, expressing gratitude for the support from UNHCR and COOPI. They requested continued impactful livelihood activities and farm inputs tailored to local agricultural practices and conditions.
- In Kismayo and Dollow, UNHCR and COOPI handed over newly constructed markets in the Luglow Integrated Settlement and Kaharey IDP site. The markets will stimulate small and micro-enterprise as well as support the existing ones.



### Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR and shelter partners, through the CERF contribution, supported non-food item (NFI) to 27,322 individuals (3,998 households) in Afmadow, Dhobley, and Kismayo. This support was delivered using both in-kind (2,750 households) and cash modalities (1,248 households).
- Dhobley Field Unit received 350 portable solar lanterns. These will be distributed to vulnerable IDP households across Dhobley. The solar lights enhance safety and security particularly for women and children in IDP camps, reduce accidents, deter crime, and allow essential activities after dark such cooking, improving overall quality of life.
- 500 households were registered for upcoming NFI kit distribution across Fiqifuliye, Badhan, Xingalool, and Dhahar.



### Climate and Other Emergency Responses

- In January, Dhobley Field Unit and the immigration department monitored cross-border movements, recording 132 Somalis (82 females, 50 males) crossing the border. There were 74 outgoing movements to Kenya and 58 incoming to Somalia, driven primarily by climate shocks like drought and insecurity.
- Following attacks by Liyu Police in Harshin, Ethiopia, leading to cross-border displacement to Balaygubadle in Somaliland, UNHCR distributed 20 family tents and core relief items to 601 households (5,054 individuals). Items included sleeping mats, mosquito nets, blankets, jerry cans, and solar lamps. This interim intervention addressed immediate needs while UNHCR continued to monitor the situation for potential longer-term protection interventions.



### Durable Solutions

- UNHCR and NRC conducted joint monitoring of durable solutions sites in Bosasso, Gardho, and Adado. In Bosasso and Girible, 44 two-roomed shelters planned through an owner-driven approach, were constructed to standards, and households made improvements like installing ceramic floor tiles and constructing water reservoirs. Settlements were well-planned with solar streetlights enhancing security, additionally, sites had an education facility, health post, marketplace, and recreational playground.
- The Dhobley District municipality handed over 120 title deeds to households benefiting from transitional shelters at the Midnimo relocation site, constructed by UNHCR and AVORD, the shelter partner.



### Health

- Hanano Hospital in Mogadishu provided primary healthcare services to 233 patients (110 males and 123 females), including refugees and asylum-seekers from Yemen, Tanzania, Syria, Ethiopia, and Somalia. Services included consultations, medical screenings, laboratory investigations, treatments, and referrals. 26 patients received ambulance services.
- In Hargeisa and Berbera, UNHCR and its health partner provided healthcare services to 810 individuals (462 females, 348 males). Treatments included referrals to tertiary care, maternity and delivery, child vaccinations, chronic illnesses, obstetric difficulties, and malnutrition.



### Education

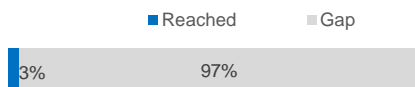
- On 12 January, UNHCR attended a meeting in Hargeisa, joined by the Somaliland's Ministry of Education and Science and other stakeholders to review the National Education Policy. UNHCR emphasized the integration of refugee children into the national education system and highlighted education's role in socio-economic development. Additionally, UNHCR participated in a two-day inception meeting for the UNICEF-funded Education Cannot Wait and advocated for the inclusion of refugee children.

## CLUSTER RESPONSE



**61,734**

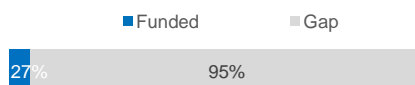
 # of beneficiaries reached by the Protection Cluster and the AoRs




**3.3 M**  People in need

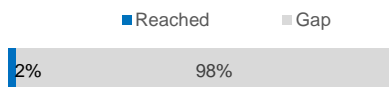
**2.4 M**  People targeted

**166 M**  Funding required



**27,322**

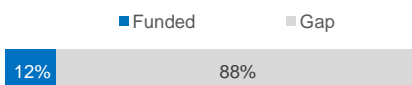
 # of beneficiaries reached by the Shelter Cluster




**4.1 M**  People in need

**1.3 M**  People targeted

**60.8 M**  Funding required



**1.1M**

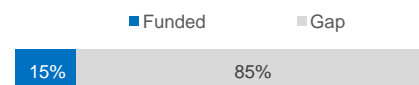
 # of beneficiaries reached by the CCCM Cluster



**2.4 M**  People in need

**1.9 M**  People targeted

**44.6 M**  Funding required



### Protection Cluster

- UNHCR Somalia Visibility Strategy - a draft strategy has been developed to enhance awareness and communication on protection including PSEA, GBV, Child Protection, and Community-Based Protection.
- Audit Recommendations - the Protection Unit embarked on finalizing audit recommendations, focusing on GBV programming, and developing a comprehensive monitoring plan for effective implementation and oversight.

### Shelter Cluster

- The Shelter Cluster discussed 2025 resources with ShelterBox, which mobilized 2,000 NFI kits, toolkits, and plastic sheets, and aiming to support 1,050 households in Baidoa with transitional shelters.
- The Shelter Cluster initiated a performance monitoring exercise with partners to evaluate coordination effectiveness, with a final report due by 31 March 2025. The findings will help identify strengths, gaps, and areas for improvement.

### CCCM Cluster

- Under UNHCR/CCCM's leadership, the CCCM Cluster finalized its drought response strategy, focusing on resource mapping and partner capacity identification. Meetings in Beletweyne were held to plan for the anticipated drought in Hirshabelle, ensuring vulnerable populations are supported.
- UNHCR/CCCM conducted onboarding meetings with NRC/CCCM and MOIFAD/CCCM to implement activities in Somaliland and Puntland. An extensive training programme was planned to enhance the capacity of partner organizations in CCCM reporting tools.
- UNHCR/CCCM continues to strengthen all Commissions for Refugee and IDPs across Somalia to strengthen government capacity in CCCM activities through systematic engagement and joint field missions to hard-to-reach areas like Bilicsan Village and Bula Burde. This collaboration enables UNHCR to operate in areas that remain inaccessible to other organizations due to security constraints and complex local dynamics.

## STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Abdiqani, with his family and their humble living environment, underscores his journey of hope and perseverance. © UNHCR

Despite the hardships, Abdiqani embodies resilience and optimism. His story is a testament to the power of assistance programs in transforming lives and the enduring human spirit in the face of adversity.

### Finding Hope Amid Displacement: The Story of Abdiqani Mohamed Barre

At 58, Abdiqani Mohamed Barre sits quietly in his modest shelter, surrounded by his family of six, reflecting on the journey that brought him here. Originally from the Bari region, he lived a content life as an animal herder in the rural areas. However, seven years ago, his world turned upside down when drought swept through his homeland, claiming his livestock, and shattering his livelihood. “The effects of the drought forced us to leave everything behind,” Abdiqani shares, his voice heavy with emotion. “Our animals were not just our source of income but our way of life. When they died, we had no choice but to move in search of survival.”

The move to displacement brought its own set of challenges. “Starting from scratch was one of the hardest things I’ve ever had to do,” he explains. “We had no home, no shelter, and no income. My only skill was animal herding, which didn’t help in this new environment.” Life began to change when Abdiqani’s family was identified by UNHCR for support. After a thorough assessment of vulnerable displaced families, his household received cash assistance via mobile transfer. This lifeline, though modest, brought hope during a desperate time.

“The assistance was incredibly helpful,” he recounts. “It allowed us to meet our immediate needs. I bought food for my family, paid overdue school fees for my children, and purchased warm clothes to keep them comfortable during the colder months.” The multipurpose cash assistance provided more than financial relief; it offered stability amid uncertainty. Abdiqani speaks warmly of its impact, “It helped us cope with the challenges of displacement by covering essentials. We felt a sense of dignity in being able to decide how to meet our needs.”

While the cash assistance addressed urgent needs, Abdiqani remains focused on the future. His dream is to rebuild a stable life for his family. “I want a secure home and for my children to continue their education,” he says with hope. “Education will open doors for them that I never had.” Reflecting on the experience, Abdiqani is both grateful and thoughtful. “I deeply appreciate the support we’ve received,” he says. “But I also hope that programs can prioritize restocking livestock for rural families and offering training to help displaced people adapt to new circumstances. This would empower us to build sustainable lives and move beyond dependency.”

## DONORS

Total recorded contributions for the Somalia Operation in 2025 amount to **USD 6.7 million** as of 31 January 2025. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have already contributed to the Somalia Operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### Thanks to the donors of earmarked contributions to Somalia Operation in 2025 | USD

**Germany** 561,709 | **Canada** 168,274

### Thanks to softly earmarked contributions to UNHCR in 2025 | USD

**Norway** 2.8 million

### Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked funds to UNHCR in 2025 | USD

**Sweden** 74.1 million | **Norway** 56.9 million | **Denmark** 37.8 million | **Netherlands (Kingdom of the)** 36.3 million | **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** 28.5 million | **Switzerland** 20.4 million | **Republic of Korea** 16.8 million | **Australia** 14.3 million | **Ireland** 13.6 million | **Belgium** 10.7 million

Algeria | Armenia | Bulgaria | Canada | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Philippines | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Thailand | United Arab Emirates | Private donors

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- [UNHCR Somalia](#)
- UNHCR Somalia: [Global Focus](#)
- UNHCR Somalia: [Operational Data Portal](#)
- Protection and Solutions Monitoring Network dashboard ([PSMN](#))
- [Protection Cluster](#)
- [Shelter Cluster](#)
- [CCCM Cluster](#)

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