

Highlights

- UNHCR gears up to deliver shelter aid in anticipation of upcoming rains in Mogadishu.
- Backlog of new arrivals awaiting registration in Kenya's Dadaab camps cleared.
- UNHCR relocates nearly 55,000 Somali refugees from Dadaab's outskirts to camp extensions.

Somali refugees in the region as at 01 Jan 2011 (by country of asylum)

Country of Asylum	Total
Kenya	351,773
Ethiopia	81,247
Djibouti	14,216
Yemen	180,341
Others	17,306
Total	644,883

Total number of registered Somali refugees in neighbouring countries as of 19 Sept 2011:

Country of Asylum	Total
Kenya	497,187
Ethiopia	183,373
Djibouti	17,908
Yemen	193,698
Others	17,306
Total	909,472

UNHCR revised emergency financial requirements, including Somalia (in million USD)

Country Operation	Emergency requirements *	Revised total budget (2011)
Kenya	68.8	172.1
Ethiopia	62.7	128.1
Djibouti	4.8	25.5
Somalia	8.6	75.5
Total	144.9	401.2

Percentage funded against revised total budget as at 06 September: 52 %

* included in revised total budget (2011)

New Somali arrivals by country of asylum - 01 January to 18 September 2011

Country of Asylum	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Total
Kenya	9,958	10,176	11,334	10,636	9,214	32,383	41,334	37,934	20,578	183,547
Ethiopia	6,792	2,016	4,072	6,749	12,045	24,042	19,610	14,846	2,542	92,714
Djibouti	384	293	359	246	398	425	833	879	376	4,193
Yemen	1,735	2,136	2,130	1,571	1,655	1,189	1,118	4,564	* ¹	16,098
Total	18,869	14,621	17,895	19,202	23,312	58,039	62,895	58,223	23,496	296,552

Current situation

- The humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa, prompted by insecurity, drought and hunger at famine levels in southern Somalia, is causing massive displacement within the country and refugee movements across borders into Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia, and Djibouti. Nearly half of Somalia's 7.5 million people have been affected by drought. Nearly a third of Somalia's population is presently

¹ Yet to be compiled

either a refugee or internally displaced. The United Nations has declared famine in six regions of southern Somalia, amid growing concern that the famine could quickly spread across the country and may affect other areas of the Horn of Africa if not addressed through rapid action.

- Currently, there are some 910,000 registered Somali refugees and asylum seekers in neighbouring countries, with Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia and Djibouti hosting more than 90 percent of them (Kenya some 500,000; Yemen 196,000; Ethiopia 183,000 Djibouti 18,000.) Some 1.5 million Somalis are internally displaced, mostly in the south-central part of the country.
- Somali arrivals in Kenya continue at an average of 1,100 per day, bringing the total population in Dadaab, the world's largest refugee camp to some 444,149.
- The Dollo Ado complex of camps in Ethiopia has received some 83,000 Somali arrivals already this year, at a current average of 300 new arrivals daily.

Latest developments

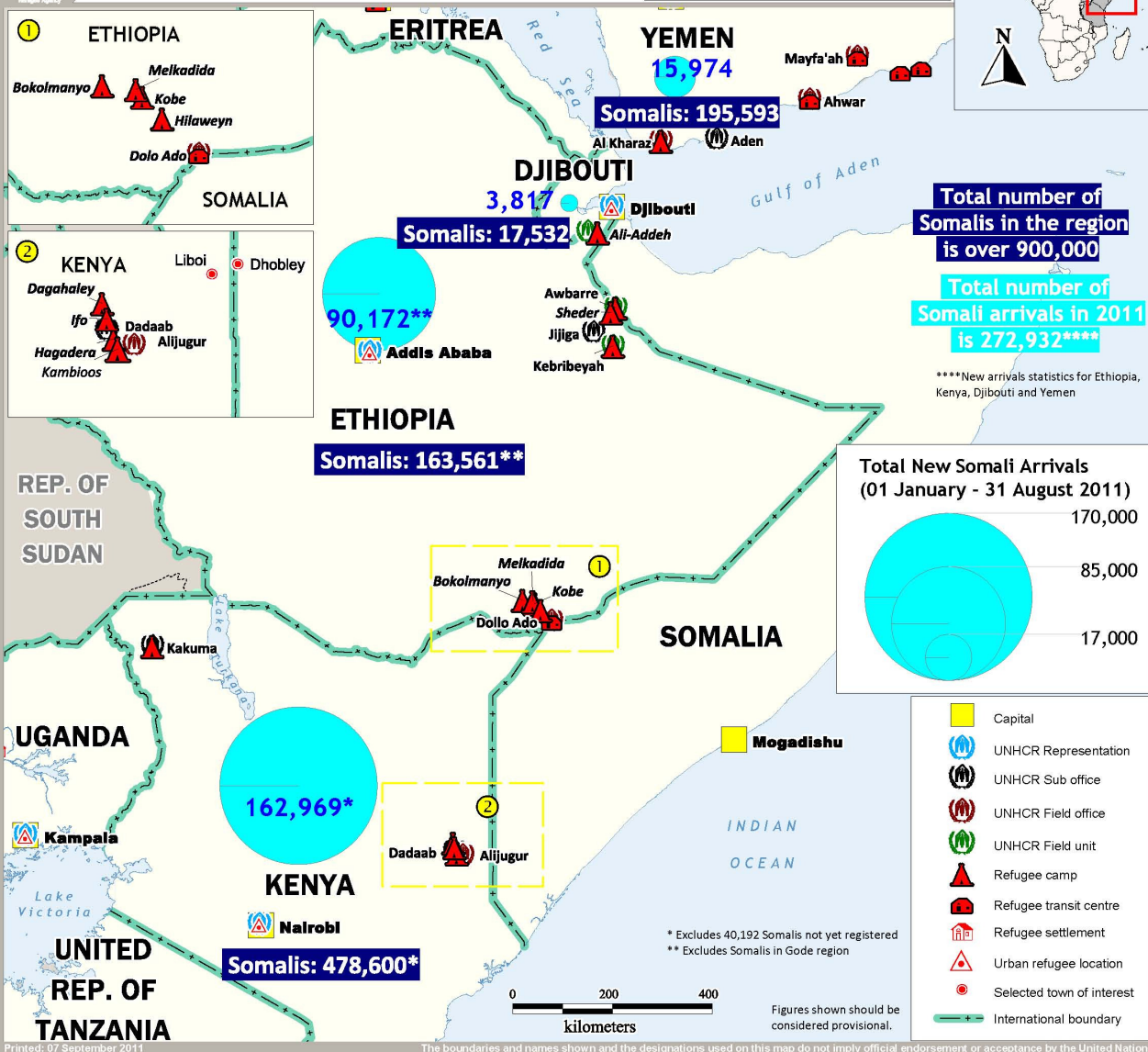
- In Kenya, following an intensive information campaign, a comprehensive verification exercise of unregistered arrivals was conducted in Dadaab from 9 to 11 September to address the backlog. Subsequently, the number of Somali refugees awaiting registration was significantly reduced from over 40,000 individuals to 1,909 individuals. Registration for this group is ongoing simultaneously with continuing daily arrivals. The current waiting period from arrival to registration is now less than 48 hours, during which a range of time-consuming reception formalities are accomplished. On arrival, asylum seekers are interviewed, wrist-banded, medically screened and provided with initial assistance which includes ready-to-eat high energy biscuits. After that, they are transferred to Kenyan Government offices for registration, issued with ration cards, given an emergency aid package including a food ration gauged to last till the next general food distribution and then relocated to one of the established camp extensions.
- In Dollo Ado, Ethiopia, UNHCR and partner agencies have made considerable progress in delivering health and nutrition services to Somali refugees. The recently completed measles vaccination campaign has resulted in a sharp decrease in the number of new cases and deaths attributed to measles. Families who previously had no access to medical services are now accessing mobile health teams. A steady improvement in the crude mortality rate has been observed in Kobe camp – from 4 to 5 deaths per 10,000 to 2.1 deaths per 10,000 daily. Malnutrition in Hilaweyn, the newest camp in Dollo Ado, has improved from 66 percent to 47 percent among children younger than 18 years. Supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes are reaching the most vulnerable, resulting in a decline in malnutrition across all camps in Dollo Ado to an average rate of 35 percent. This is an improvement from early July when more than 50 percent of children arriving in Ethiopia were seriously malnourished. However, this is still well below the UNHCR established emergency standard of below 15 percent. Malnutrition among children under the age of two remains a concern.
- In Somalia, diarrhoea and measles among the internally displaced in Mogadishu remain a concern. Estimated mortality rates among children under age five continue to be alarmingly high with an average of 15.43 deaths per 10,000 individuals daily. Malnutrition rates have also worsened during the same period. UNHCR has conducted fact-finding missions to some of the over 180 spontaneous IDP settlements in the Somali capital where aid has been distributed. Ten such missions are planned weekly to the settlements. Access to many parts of Mogadishu however remains difficult in spite of improved security. Outside the protected compound of the Mogadishu International Airport, UNHCR staff moves with secured convoys.
- UNHCR is moving towards transitional shelter solutions in Somalia before the rainy season begins. Shelter materials including extra-large (4m by 7m) plastic sheeting have been procured with 20,000 already in Mogadishu to be distributed in coming days. These can completely cover the traditional huts will provide additional protection for IDPs who are mostly in Mogadishu and Lower Shabelle. With the drop in temperature that accompanies the rains, some 60,000 additional blankets are being procured and should arrive in Mogadishu for distribution to the most vulnerable, particularly children who tend to face the risk of hypothermia.

Registered Somalis in the East and Horn of Africa region

As of 31 August 2011

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Sources:
UNHCR, Global Insight digital mapping © 1998
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Working with partners

UNHCR is coordinating humanitarian assistance in the affected countries and works with sister UN Agencies and other governmental and non-governmental partners.

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