

Somalia

1-31 March 2022

The operational environment in Somalia remained fluid in March. The House of People elections were again rescheduled for completion by 31 March. High political tensions further affected the security situation.

The worsening drought conditions continued to displace civilians and at the end of March presented a risk of famine. UNHCR continued to assess and respond to the needs of drought-affected households.

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

KEY INDICATORS

 **2.97** million IDPs

 **14,771** refugees
17,368 asylum-seekers

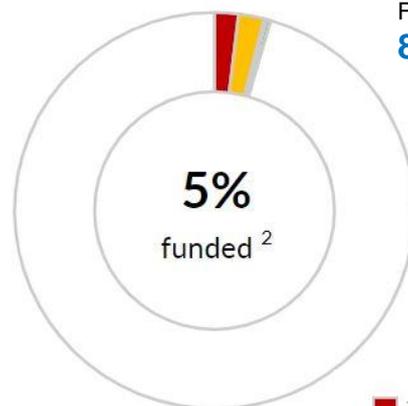
 **134,710** refugee returnees

FUNDING (AS OF 29 MARCH)

USD 157.5 M

requested for the Somalia operation

Funded 5%
8.2 M



 Tightly earmarked
 Earmarked



Commemoration of international women day in Galkayo, under the theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow"- BREAK THE BIAS. © UNHCR

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

In March, the operational context in Somalia remained complex, characterized by a risk of famine, insecurity, and political turmoil due to the ongoing elections. Millions of Somalis are at risk of famine as the prolonged drought continues to displace people and destroy lives and livelihoods. According to the UNHCR-led [Protection and Return Monitoring Network \(PRMN\)](#), implemented in partnership with NRC, some 539,000 individuals have been internally displaced in the first quarter of 2022. In March, 84,000 new internal displacements were recorded, among which 74,000 were triggered by drought and 7,000 from conflict and insecurity. Displaced families continued to be in dire need of food, livelihood support, WASH, shelter, and NFIs, and faced multiple protection risks. Many drought-affected families arrived in overcrowded internally displaced person (IDP) settlements, where services are already stretched. Directly, and through the UNHCR-led Clusters, UNHCR and partners continued to respond to the immediate needs of displaced families.

The electoral calendar was revised by the National Consultative Council (NCC), a forum chaired by Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble and consisting of representatives from the Somali federal government and its member states. The NCC called for the completion of the House of People (lower-house) elections by end of March, which although not attained by the end of the month, progress was made with 249 out of 275 House of People (lower house) seats contested. The swearing-in of members of parliament of both the Senate and House of People is scheduled to take place on 14 April, paving the way for contentious the Presidential election. The International Community continued to call for swift completion of the electoral process.

The overall security situation in the country remained tense, volatile, and unpredictable in March. Al-Shabab continued its armed attacks against African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) (reconfigured to the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia, or ATMIS, in March), Somali security forces, local authorities, and other population. On 23 March, twin suicide attacks by Al-Shabaab in Beledweyne killed 48 people and injured over a hundred individuals. The same day, an attack inside ATMIS protected Aden Adde International Airport (AAIA) in Mogadishu was carried out, resulting in several fatalities.

Somalia also hosts more than 32,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, among which 70 percent are women and children. The majority of refugees and asylum-seekers (68 percent) are from Ethiopia, followed by Yemen (28 percent) and Syria (4 percent). Most refugees and asylum-seekers reside in urban or peri-urban settings across Woqooyi Galbeed and Bari regions, in the northern parts of the country. Furthermore, 134,710 former

refugees have returned to Somalia from their country of asylum, mostly from Kenya followed by Yemen.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV)

- On 8 March, under the theme of “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow” - BREAK THE BIAS,” International Women’s Day was commemorated across the country. One of the events to mark the day was a radio talk-show featuring women leaders. The broadcast was transmitted on three radio stations in Galmudug State, and it covered discussions on the role of women in Somali politics, harmful gendered practices, the effects of climate change on livelihoods, and the role of women in combating climate change. The topics were selected based on their relevance to the prevailing circumstances, i.e., protection risks, elections and drought.
- UNHCR supported 60 GBV cases in March across the country. Services to the survivors included the availing of safe house, psychosocial counselling, provision of dignity kits, and medical assistance among others.
- To prevent and respond to GBV, UNHCR conducted trainings and capacity building initiatives, reaching 138 IDPs, duty bearers, partners, IDPs and community representatives in Baidoa, Dollow, Dhobley, and Mogadishu.
- UNHCR through partners conducted GBV prevention and response awareness raising activities reaching 287 IDPs, returnees, and partners in Baidoa, Dhobley, and Kismayo.

Legal assistance and capacity development

- In Somaliland and Puntland, 569 individuals from refugee, asylum seeker, IDP, and host community members received different types of legal assistance that included legal counselling, referrals to courts and other service providers, legal advocacy, legal mediation and representation, as well as issuance of birth certificates to name a few.
- UNHCR’s legal partner organized three government capacity-building trainings in Hargeisa, Somaliland, with the goal of improving knowledge of newly recruited police and immigration staff on protection of refugees, refugee law, and international protection. The participants also learned about asylum procedures, fostering further respect about the rights of refugees in trainee’s daily work.
- In Galkayo, eight social workers from the refugee and asylum seekers community and Ministry of Interior Federal Affairs and Democratization (MoIFAD) received protection case management, reporting, and referral mechanism training that aimed to strengthen protection-related incident reporting and to raise awareness on Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

Telling the Real Story

- In an effort to increase public awareness of the dangers of irregular movements, *Tahriib*, more than 8,759 individuals, mostly youth, were reached through community dialogues, sports interaction, debates, and awareness raising activities in IDP camps, schools, universities, and community at large across the country. Somaliland. Furthermore, 1,775 stories, booklets and posters to discourage irregular movement were distributed and/or posted across Somaliland.

Assessments

- In March, 97 vulnerability assessments were carried out in Somaliland. Information on available services and UNHCR and its partner's Hotline numbers were also shared during the assessment.
- UNHCR conducted participatory assessments to identify protection risks and causes through 170 focus group discussions and 59 key informant interviews in Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Puntland, and South-West states, reaching 1,166 individuals from IDP, refugee, asylum seeker, and returnee communities.

Reception and registration

- The Berbera Reception Centre in Somaliland received a total of 78 individuals, including 53 returnee refugees and 25 refugees from Yemen. They received tokens to collect their subsistence allowance and one-time emergency cash assistance.
- Three returnees from Libya were received through the Hargeisa Airport and UNHCR provided them the phones, SIM cards, and NFIs upon arrival.
- In Mogadishu, 48 refugees and asylum seeker households received proof of registration, which will help them access UNHCR assistance; 13 individuals were enrolled in the Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS); and 8 refugee cases were re-activated.



New arrivals and returnees from Yemen received by UNHCR and partners in Berbera. ©

- UNHCR, in collaboration with partners, received 28 Somali refugee returnee families (34 individuals) from Dadaab, Kenya, in Kismayo. They were provided with the standard return assistance package, which includes one night accommodation arrangement, sim card, and reinstallation cash assistance among others.

Cash assistance

- In Somaliland, a total of 1,105 households (4,473 individuals) refugees and 85 returnee households received monthly subsistence allowance. 495 refugee and asylum seeker households (916 individuals) received one-time emergency cash assistance.
- In Kismayo, UNHCR distributed subsistence allowances to 26 returnee households.
- 10,108 women and girls of reproductive age from refugee, asylum seeker, IDP, and host communities in Galmudug and Puntland states received USD 20 mobile money transfer to purchase a year's supply of sanitary items. With the assistance received, the recipients will be able to buy two pairs of pants, six packs of pads, three bars of soap, and a six-piece pack of razors.

Refugee Status Determination (RSD) and Resettlement

- 40 RSD interviews were conducted for 40 cases with 99 individuals.
- A family comprised of five individuals was resettled to Canada.



EDUCATION



School attending girls from Galkayo receiving hygiene promotion awareness talk prior to the distribution of menstrual hygiene package. © UNHCR

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR supported 3,593 refugee and asylum seeker children enrolled in primary schools and 579 children in secondary schools in Puntland and Mogadishu.
- In Puntland, to ensure the safety and well-being of learners, 43 refugee and asylum seeker students were provided with transportation services. Moreover, catch-up classes were organized for 100 students.
- UNHCR supported 788 refugee and asylum seeker students with monthly meals through cash allowance of USD 15 in Mogadishu.
- 8,872 girls from refugees, asylum seekers and host community received sanitary kits in Galkayo. School principals, female teachers, and the gender focal point were sensitized to create a welcoming environment for girls to receive their sanitary kit.


HEALTH


Doctor checking blood pressure of a patient visiting UNHCR supported health center in Galkayo. © UNHCR

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR’s partners delivered primary and secondary health care services, including referrals to specialized services, to 3,324 IDPs, refugees, and asylum seekers, among which more than 50 percent were females.
- In Galkayo, 34 under five-year old children received routine vaccination in Ministry of Health (MoH) health facilities.

- Hanano Hospital in Mogadishu distributed three cartons of COVID- 19 personal protective equipment (PPE), which included face masks, hand sanitizers and gloves to 1,228 refugee and asylum seekers.

COVID-19 prevention and response

DROUGHT (RISK OF FAMINE) RESPONSE


Drought-affected population in Adado district in Galmudug State receive NFI. © UNHCR

- The UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) data continues to provide up-to-date information on internal displacement caused by drought, which informs the humanitarian response of the UN and partners.
- In Baidoa, South-West state, UNHCR through its partner conducted a comprehensive needs assessment and beneficiary selection for the provision of NFI and multipurpose cash

assistance to drought affected IDPs. 1,000 households were registered for NFI, and 500 households were identified to receive USD 150 as one-time cash assistance. In March, 250

households received NFI packages, and an additional 250 households benefited from cash assistance.

- In Galmudug, UNHCR distributed 800 in-kind NFIs to drought-affected populations. In addition, 1,100 families received emergency shelter kits.
- UNHCR in Dollow registered 600 vulnerable IDP households, who are affected by the drought, to receive USD 150 as one-time cash assistance. They are expected to receive the cash support in April.



SHELTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NFIS

Shelter/NFI Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR in Somaliland, through partner, provided 3,000 dignity kits to 3,000 vulnerable refugee and asylum seeker women and girls.
- In response to the needs identified during rapid needs assessments, UNHCR, through its partner, distributed 1,500 NFI kits to 1,500 vulnerable IDP households in Somaliland.
- One-time shelter emergency support was provided to 13 refugees and asylum seeker households residing in Berbera Reception Centre, Somaliland.



Handover of transitional shelter in South-West State. © UNHCR

households residing in Berbera Reception Centre, Somaliland.

- Construction of 160 hybrid shelters in Jeehdin settlements in Puntland has been completed. The remaining 40 shelters will be completed soon. Once completed, the shelters will support 200 IDP families.

- UNHCR through its partner completed the construction of 80 transitional shelters for IDPs, vulnerable host community members, and returnees in South-West State.

UNHCR supported 15 IDPs with special needs (PSN) with assistive devices (wheelchairs).



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Community empowerment

- A total of 596 refugees and asylum seekers received counselling on protection and assistance-related issues in Somaliland. Most of the advice sought was for financial concerns followed by refugee status determination concerns, medical problems, and

legal issues. Furthermore, POC received information about the services provided by UNHCR other partners.

Livelihoods and self-reliance

- UNHCR's partner in Hargeisa registered 50 refugees and refugee returnees, who are interested to benefit from the Small-Scale Business (SSB) cash grants, which support new and ongoing enterprises. Under the SSB scheme, if eligible, new businesses will receive USD 1,000 while existing ones will be supported with USD 500.
- In March 2022, UNHCR disbursed business grants to 100 targeted beneficiaries in Guriel and Adado towns in Galmudug State to support different income generating activities such as selling dry food, clothing, animals, and groceries. Each beneficiary received USD 1,000.
- 260 young students, including 90 females and 170 males, completed a total of 2,021 technical and vocational skills training (TVET) programmes and passed their final



Graduates raise their hats after completing TVET course on beauty salon. © UNHCR

exams, which were conducted by Somaliland Ministry of Education Department. TVET courses helped the beneficiaries gain skill and certification in different courses that included plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, and beauty salon among others. The graduates also received their start-up tool kits to help them engage in local markets.

refugees, returnees, IDPs, and host community members in information and communication technology (ICT), mobile repairing, tie and dye, beauty salon, and camera and video editing.

- In Mogadishu, UNHCR through its partner conducted vocational training for 60


CLUSTER COORDINATION AND LEADERSHIP

913K
 # of beneficiaries reached by Protection Cluster

■ Reached ■ Gap

30%
70%
4 M


People in need

3 M


People targeted

127 M


Funding required

■ Funding ■ Gap

0.5%
99.5%

87K
 # of beneficiaries reached by Shelter Cluster

■ Reached ■ Gap

7%
93%
3.6 M


People in need

1.2 M


People targeted

57 M


Funding required

■ Funding ■ Gap

2%
98%

1.32M
 # of beneficiaries reached by CCCM

■ Reached ■ Gap

72%
28%
2.2 M


People in need

1.8 M


People targeted

28.4 M


Funding required

■ Funding ■ Gap

8%
92%
Protection Cluster

The Protection Cluster, led by UNHCR, developed the 2022 drought response protection mainstreaming guidance and disseminated to all the Clusters to ensure mainstreaming of protection in the drought response.

A total of **89,378** individuals were reached through protection monitoring.

A total of **4,059** individuals were provided with community based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services.

A total of **1,586 individuals** were reached with capacity-building training for duty bearers and community members with a particular focus on minority communities on protection and awareness of rights initiatives.

To ensure the access to complaint and feedback mechanisms, the Protection Cluster partners on the ground received and responded to feedback and complaint mechanisms from **40** individuals.

A total of **413 individuals** (118 children, 239 adults and 56 older persons) were reached with specialized protection assistance, including victim assistance services.

Shelter Cluster

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

In March 2022, the Shelter Cluster partners reached 8,303 people with **NFI kits**; and 7,100 people with **shelter assistance**. Cumulatively in 2022, the Shelter Cluster partners reached 49,900 individuals (6%) of 803,000 targeted with NFI assistance, and 37,443 individuals (9%) of the 430,000 targeted with shelter assistance.

CCCM Cluster

Approximately **72,000 new arrivals** affected by the ongoing drought were received in CCCM- managed sites in March.

Five **site verification assessments** were conducted in five districts. 104 IDP sites hosting a total of 20,786 households (117,889 individuals) were verified.

CCCM partners conducted site level community workshops aimed at **building capacities** of IDP communities to self-manage and prepare for possible disasters within their settlements in Hargeisa, Galkayo, and Garowe and to improve their knowledge on gender equality. Similar workshops were also organized for 363 NGOs partners and local authorities.

Partners organized **coordination meetings** across multiple IDP sites, where local authorities, partners, camp management committees, and community members discussed enhancing service delivery and allocation of additional space to accommodate drought-induced new arrivals and conduct malnutrition screening for newly displaced children.

In March, more than 847 IDP sites in 21 districts were covered by **service monitoring** activities. During the reporting period, 243 IDP sites in Afogye, Berdale, Baidoa, Kahda and Daynile reported gaps in shelter and NFIs, education, GBV and child protection

services. In Beletweyne and Jowhar IDP sites, 90 percent of assessed sites mentioned gaps in shelter, food, livelihoods, and as well WASH services.

CCCM partners conducted door-to-door sessions and awareness raising campaigns in IDP sites coupled with distribution of posters, erecting billboards in several sites to provide reliable information on prevention of COVID-19. More than 10,560 participants attended these sessions. Moreover, partners also held over 200 community level discussions with IDP members and leaders on accepting drought displaced populations in their sites and peaceful co-existence with host communities.

Partners reached more than 450 individuals, including minorities and people with disability, who engaged in site level activities with **cash assistance**.

A total of 5,161 complains were received in March, which was 1 percent higher than that of February. 48 percent of all complaints requested food security and livelihoods support.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Somalia Operation in 2022 amount to some **US\$ 8.2 million**. 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.

External / Donors Relations

Thanks to the donors of earmarked contributions to the Somalia Operation in 2022

CERF (1.5 M) | **Japan** (1.1 M) | **Sheikh Eid Bin Mohammad Al Thani Charitable Foundation** (1 M) | **Republic of Korea** (0.2 M) | **Denmark** (0.2 M) | **Norway** | Other private donors

Thanks to donors of softly earmarked contributions in 2022

Norway | **Private donors**

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted funds in 2022

Sweden 92.5 million | Norway 72.5 million | Netherlands 37.2 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Germany 27.6 million | Switzerland 18.4 million | Private donors Spain 12.3 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.8 million
Algeria | Armenia | Bulgaria | Canada | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | Peru | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

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