Somalia
1-31 July 2022

The operational environment for Somalia remained fluid in July. Tensions were high, primarily due to an increase in armed conflict and insecurity, causing an upsurge in displacement. The overall political scenario remained complex and unpredictable due to deep rooted political differences. The current drought has affected over seven million people and displaced almost a million, mostly women, children, and elderly. UNHCR continued to work with the authorities and partners through the inter-agency cluster system to deliver protection and lifesaving assistance to the most vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDPs).

KEY INDICATORS

- 2.97 million IDPs
- 15,170 registered refugees
- 18,217 registered asylum-seekers
- 135,634 refugee returnees

FUNDING

USD 157.5 M requested for the Somalia operation

Funded 24%

37.39 M

Women carrying water as they try to confront the extreme drought in a deserted part of Dhobley, Jubaland, © UNHCR/Joel Gallardo
Update on Achievements

Operational Context

In July, the operational context in Somalia remained complex and characterized by the risk of famine, insecurity due to the increased frequency of armed conflict and other security threats, and fragile political situation.

The drought in Somalia worsened in July, with nearly half of the country’s population needing humanitarian and protection assistance. If crop and livestock production fail extensively, commodity prices continue to rise, and the scale-up of humanitarian assistance is not sustained and increased, there is a reasonable chance that Somalis in 17 districts will face famine by September.\(^1\) Majority of those affected by the drought are women, children, and elderly. Compared to the same period last year, the prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) and presence of unaccompanied and separated children have spiked in IDP sites across the country.

Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre reiterated his commitment to work towards political stability by strengthening cooperation between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Federal Member States (FMS). Yet political differences remain acute. Due to lack of political consensus, the Prime Minister was unable to form the new cabinet in July.

The overall security situation in the country remained tense, particularly in Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, and Banadir regions. Al-Shabab for the first time crossed the Somali-Ethiopian border from Bakool region. The incursion into Ethiopia’s Somali region resulted in armed conflict, unknown number of civilian fatalities, and displacement of thousands of people to Somalia. The armed group also increased its attacks against the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS), Somali security forces, and government officials.

According to the UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), some 933,000 individuals have been displaced internally within Somalia in 2022. In July, 124,000 new displacements were recorded, among which 84,000 were triggered by the drought and 39,000 by conflict. The displaced families face multiple protection risks and have identified food, livelihood, shelter, health, water, and basic need items as priority needs.

Somalia also hosts some 33,387 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 (3 percent). Most refugees and asylum-seekers reside in urban or peri-urban settings across Woqooyi Galbeed and Bari regions, in the northern part of the country. Furthermore, 135,634 former refugees have returned to Somalia from their country of asylum, mostly from Kenya followed by Yemen.

\(^1\) Somalia: The Cost of Inaction, July 2022 - Somalia | ReliefWeb
Achievements

PROTECTION

Prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV)
- UNHCR through its partner supported 74 new and existing GBV cases in July across the country. Services to the survivors included safe house support, psychosocial counselling, relocation support, medical and legal referrals, and provision of dignity kits, among others.
- UNHCR through its partner conducted legal aid awareness campaign for GBV survivors, reaching 70 IDPs in Daynile district in Mogadishu.

Capacity Building
- In July, UNHCR trained 60 authorities in Puntland and Galmudug states on International Refugee Protection to strengthen the capacity of federal and state authorities to effectively operationalize domestic and international refugee legal instruments. During the meeting, the participants recommended to improve access to secondary medical services and mental health and psychosocial services (MHPSS) as well as strengthen timely registration of new-born babies.

Community engagement and awareness raising
- UNHCR through its partner conducted awareness campaign on child protection issues, including child rights, child abuse, child neglect, and child exploitation as well as GBV prevention and response, reaching 50 IDPs and host community members in Daynile district, Mogadishu.
- In three IDP settlements in Bossaso, Puntland, UNHCR through its partner conducted awareness and protection monitoring, reaching mostly refugees and asylum seekers. Discussions were held with 105 community members, including women, girls, boys, and community leaders, who informed that the majority of the people were unable to meet their basics needs due to reduced casual labour opportunities.
- At the Peaceful Coexistence Center in Hargeisa, a total of 158 refugees, asylum seekers, and refugee-returnees received counselling and case referrals. Most of the advice sought was for legal issues followed by medical problems, refugee status determination queries, and financial concerns. Cases were referred to appropriate partner for further
assistance. In addition, beneficiaries received information about the services provided by UNHCR and partners.

**Legal assistance**

- UNHCR through its partner provided legal assistance to 386 refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, and host community members in Puntland and Hargeisa. Assistance included counselling, mediation, police reporting, issuance of birth certificates, legal advocacy to release from custody, and court related services including legal representation to name a few.

- In Baidoa, UNHCR through its partner identified and peacefully resolved 38 housing, land, and property (HLP) disputes, using a collaborative dispute resolution approach or CDR. The resolved cases included disputes over land ownership between spouses and regarding land encroachment allegations in IDP sites.

**Registration and reception**

- In July, 105 refugees, including new arrivals, new-born, and in-situ, were registered in Puntland and Hargeisa.

- UNHCR in coordination with partners received 65 refugee-returnees in Kismayo and Baidoa from Dadaab, Kenya. The returnees were given one-night accommodation with hot meals, a sim card, and a standard NFI kit. They were informed of the services available and hotline number to direct their complaints and feedback. Their re-installation grants were processed and are ready for disbursement.

- In Berbera, UNHCR and partners received two boats from Yemen, carrying 18 refugees and spontaneous refugee-returnees, who received registration, food, accommodation, and health support among others at the reception center.

- In Bossaso, Puntland, UNHCR and partners received four boats carrying 125 spontaneous refugee-returnees from Yemen. Out of the total arrivals, 95 opted to avail accommodation and other services available at the reception center.

**Refugee Status Determination (RSD) and Resettlement**

- In July, 8 interviews for 12 individuals were conducted; 5 RSD assessments for 10 individuals were submitted, and 48 cases consisting of 208 individuals were reviewed or finalized.
HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR’s partners delivered primary and secondary health care services in Mogadishu and Puntland State, including maternal and child health care, to 1,275 refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, and host communities. Furthermore, 63 referrals were made to specialized hospitals.

- In Puntland State, 12 under five-year old children received routine vaccination in Ministry of Health (MoH) health facilities.

- In Puntland, doctors shared information and helped raise awareness on COVID-19 prevention, breastfeeding, immunization of young children, hygiene promotion, and dietary advice for patients with chronic diseases, reaching 140 individuals, mostly refugees and asylum seekers.

COVID-19 prevention and response

- In Hanano Hospital, Mogadishu, COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) such as face mask, hand sanitizer, and gloves were distributed to 931 patients. Moreover, hand washing facilities inside the hospital premises were maintained to contain the spread of the pandemic.

- UNHCR through its partner, conducted COVID-19 prevention awareness in Baidoa, Dinsoor, and Hudur, districts in South-West State, reaching 407 HHs (3,042 individuals).

EDUCATION

- In July, UNHCR through its partner conducted a total of five community dialogues in Baidoa, Dollow, Kismayo, Mogadishu. The main aims of the community dialogue are to sensitize the community about child protection and importance of education, with a particular focus on girl child and to provide a safe space for communities to come together and discuss about trends and challenges on child protection and girls’ education.

- UNHCR, through its partner rehabilitated seven classrooms and ten latrines in a primary school in Mogadishu. These improvements to the school’s infrastructure are intended to increase the school’s capacity to absorb additional students from returnee, IDP, and poor hosting communities.

DROUGHT (RISK OF FAMINE) RESPONSE

- 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.
UNHCR through its partner, in Bari region, Puntland, has completed distribution of NFI kits to 700 IDP HHs affected by the drought. The NFI kits provided essential household items such as jerry cans, blankets, plastic sheet, solar lamp, mosquito net, sleeping mats, and kitchen set.

In order to mitigate against protection risks faced by IDP women and girls displaced by the drought, UNHCR through its partner, across 30 locations in Baidoa, South-West State, distributed solar lamps and chargers to 300 female-headed HHs. Likewise, in Dollow, Jubaland, five solar streetlights were installed in two IDP sites.

In North Mudug, Puntland, UNHCR through its partner conducted four awareness raising and sensitization sessions on GBV and Child Protection risks for 100 women and girls. Beneficiaries included girls originally from the rural areas worst affected by the drought and currently living in towns with distant relatives. Many of them had no skills to secure their livelihood and were at risk of exploitation and abuse. The women and girls were also supported with literacy and numeracy training in preparation to enrol them for vocational training courses.

In response to the drought, in South Mudug, Galmudug, UNHCR, through its partner conducted protection monitoring, counselling, and awareness on mitigation of sexual abuse and gender-based violence for 35 women and girls and psychosocial counselling for 120 individuals, who were suffering from trauma and anxiety, in two newly established IDP sites.

UNHCR through its partner in Baidoa reached 53 IDPs, originally from Bay and Bakool regions, with information, counselling, and legal assistance services.

UNHCR through its partner in Baidoa, South-West State, conducted hygiene promotion awareness in 17 IDP sites including, reaching some 130 HHs (780 individuals).

UNHCR registered 700 drought-affected IDP HHs living in Luglow, near Kismayo in Jubaland to assist them with NFI kits.

UNHCR in Dollow, Jubaland facilitated a mission of VICE Media Group, who specialize in documentary series, to film new arrivals and to interview drought-affected communities in IDP sites, local authorities, and humanitarian partners.
SHELTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NFIS

- In southern Galkayo, UNHCR successfully advocated with the Galmudug State Government to build 100 permanent shelters with the aim of providing local integration to some of the long settled IDPs. UNHCR’s partner has completed land demarcation and levelling works. Moreover, the construction of the first 40 shelters has also begun.

- The IDP community in Bulsho IDP site located in North Mudug, Puntland State, with cash for work support from UNHCR, constructed eight pit latrines for 80 IDP and vulnerable host community families to mitigate against sexual violence and harassment of women and girls, who are forced to practice open defecation because of lack of toilet facilities.

- In Mogadishu, UNHCR through its partner worked closely with the community leaders to distribute assistive devices (wheelchairs) to 10 differently abled persons. The community leaders were instrumental in identifying the vulnerable individuals that needed the assistance. Likewise, in Dhooley, Jubaland, UNHCR through its partner distributed 11 pairs of crutches and 13 wheelchairs to 24 differently abled individuals.

- In Baidoa, UNHCR through its partner completed the construction of a community center in Asha-gabo-1 IDP site for women and girls and other community groups to improve social cohesion and community participation.

- UNHCR through its partner in Baidoa, distributed dignity kits to 50 GBV survivors across 10 IDP sites. Likewise, UNHCR provided hygiene kits to 60 adolescent girls in Qansaxley school in Dollow district, Jubaland State, to improve school attendance.

- In July, in Hargeisa, Somaliland, UNHCR distributed NFI kits to 12 HHs (85 Individuals) in two IDP sites which were recently affected by fire.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Livelihoods and self-reliance

- In Mogadishu, UNHCR through its partner trained 60 individuals from refugee returnees, refugees and asylum seekers, IDPs, and host community members on ICT, tie and dye, beauty salon, camera and video editing, mobile repairs, and financial management.

- In Hargeisa, UNHCR through its partner conducted entrepreneurship skills training for 36 refugees, who were impacted by the massive fire in Waheen Market in April, and 32 IDPs, who operate shops and stalls in the recently opened market in Qalax settlement.
Protection Cluster
A total of 131,094 individuals were reached through protection monitoring.

Community based mental health and psychosocial support services were provided to 6,113 individuals.

A total of 1,840 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 346 individuals.

A total of 3,778 individuals were reached with specialized protection assistance, including victim assistance services.

The Protection Cluster participated in two caravan missions to Hobyo in Galmudug State and Baidoa in South-West State in July. In Hobyo, the mission identified legislation gaps
that exacerbate protection concerns of children and women. In Baidoa, the mission confirmed significant number of people living with disabilities, who lack access to health services and assistive devices, and out of school and unaccompanied and separated children, who are resorting to child labor.

Shelter Cluster
Shelter Cluster partners reached 72,258 individuals with NFI kits and 26,325 individuals with shelter assistance. Cumulatively in 2022, the Shelter Cluster partners have reached 191,947 individuals (24%) of 803,800 targeted with NFI assistance, and 803,000 individuals (20%) of the 430,000 targeted with shelter assistance.

Around 3.6 million people need shelter and NFI assistance in Somalia. According to the PRMN report, 58% of IDPs displaced between November 2021 and June 2022 have mentioned shelter as their first or second priority need.

CCCM Cluster
Service monitoring activities were held in 1,137 IDP sites covering 25 districts. Only 50% of IDP sites monitored had access to water. This continues a three-month trend where limited access to water has been reported from IDP sites. Moreover, gaps were also observed in shelter, learning facilities, food, health, and nutrition.

In July, complaint and feedback mechanism recorded 4,959 complaints, which is a slight decrease by 5% against complaints received in June. 78% of the complaints were related to food security and livelihood (48%) followed by shelter (18%) and WASH (12%). This is consistent with the ongoing drought needs highlighted by new arrivals upon arrival at the IDP settlements.

CCCM partners trained 224 camp management committee members (CMCs) in new IDP sites, building their capacity on roles and responsibilities of CMCs to ensure humanitarian assistance reaches those who are vulnerable and in need of support.

Partners conducted more than 150 site-level coordination meetings with local authorities, service providers, and displaced community members to discuss drought response through improved service delivery.

Through cash for work scheme, 192 community members were mobilized to rehabilitate non-functional latrines in 41 IDP sites in Bossaso, Qardo, and Garowe in Puntland. Furthermore, cash was distributed to 1,300 HHs in Baidoa, Berdale, and Belethawa to cover minimum basic needs for May, June, and July, with payments ranging from USD 70-90, depending on the location.
Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Somalia Operation in 2022 amount to some **US$ 37.39 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 Somalia Operation in 2022 | USD**
United States of America (USA) 28.2 million | CERF 2 million | Japan 1.1 million | Sheikh Eid Bin Mohammad Al Thani Charitable Foundation 1 million | UNO-Fluechtlingshilfe 1 million | European Union 0.8 million

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