UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

THE HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT SITUATION APPEAL

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023

Ali Mohamed, makes a fence around his family's makeshift shelter at Dagahaley, Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya. He left before his mother with his two brothers, fleeing from the drought and to avoid being recruited by the Al Shabaab militia | © UNHCR/Charity Nzomo

Cover photo: Fathi Mohamed Ali, 35, is an internally displaced Somali mother. The drought, along with the political situation, forced her to flee her home and take the 15-day journey with her children to reach the Kabasa camp for internally displaced people in Dollow, Somalia, in search of water and food | © UNHCR/Nabil Narch

CONTENTS

4 Regional overview

6 Ethiopia

10 Kenya

13 Somalia

18 Funding the response

19 Drought response plans from UN partner agencies

Regional overview

The Horn of Africa region continues to experience the longest and most severe drought on record, threatening lives and livelihoods, including millions of refugees and internally displaced people. Relentless drought and high food prices have weakened many people's ability to grow crops, raise livestock and buy food. The dramatic food insecurity situation in drought-affected areas is expected to persist, driving high humanitarian needs well through 2023, with forecasts predicting a sixth failed rainy season in March-May 2023. Harvests have yielded little and water sources have dried up. Conflict and insecurity continue to intersect with the drought emergency. As conditions continue to worsen, hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to flee in search of safety and assistance.

According to UNHCR's data on displacement and affected populations, by January 2023, some 1.75 million people had been internally displaced in Ethiopia and Somalia, while over 180,000 refugees have crossed borders from Somalia and South Sudan into drought-affected areas of Kenya and Ethiopia, joining a significant existing refugee population.

UNHCR is appealing for $137 million to respond to the immediate needs of affected populations in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Response activities will be carried out under the Refugee Coordination Model and as mandated in the cluster response mechanism for IDP situations. This appeal has been aligned with the country-level Humanitarian Response Plans (for Ethiopia and Somalia) and inter-agency drought flash appeal (for Kenya) to the extent possible.

Population concerned

TARGETED POPULATIONS IN THE DROUGHT RESPONSE

3.3 million
priority populations targeted for assistance in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, including:

2.1 million
internally displaced persons and host communities in Ethiopia (**727,000**) and Somalia (**1,400,000**)

1.2 million
refugees, asylum seekers and host communities in Ethiopia (**294,000**), Kenya (**856,000**) and Somalia (**35,000**)

USD 137 million
overall regional financial requirements, including:

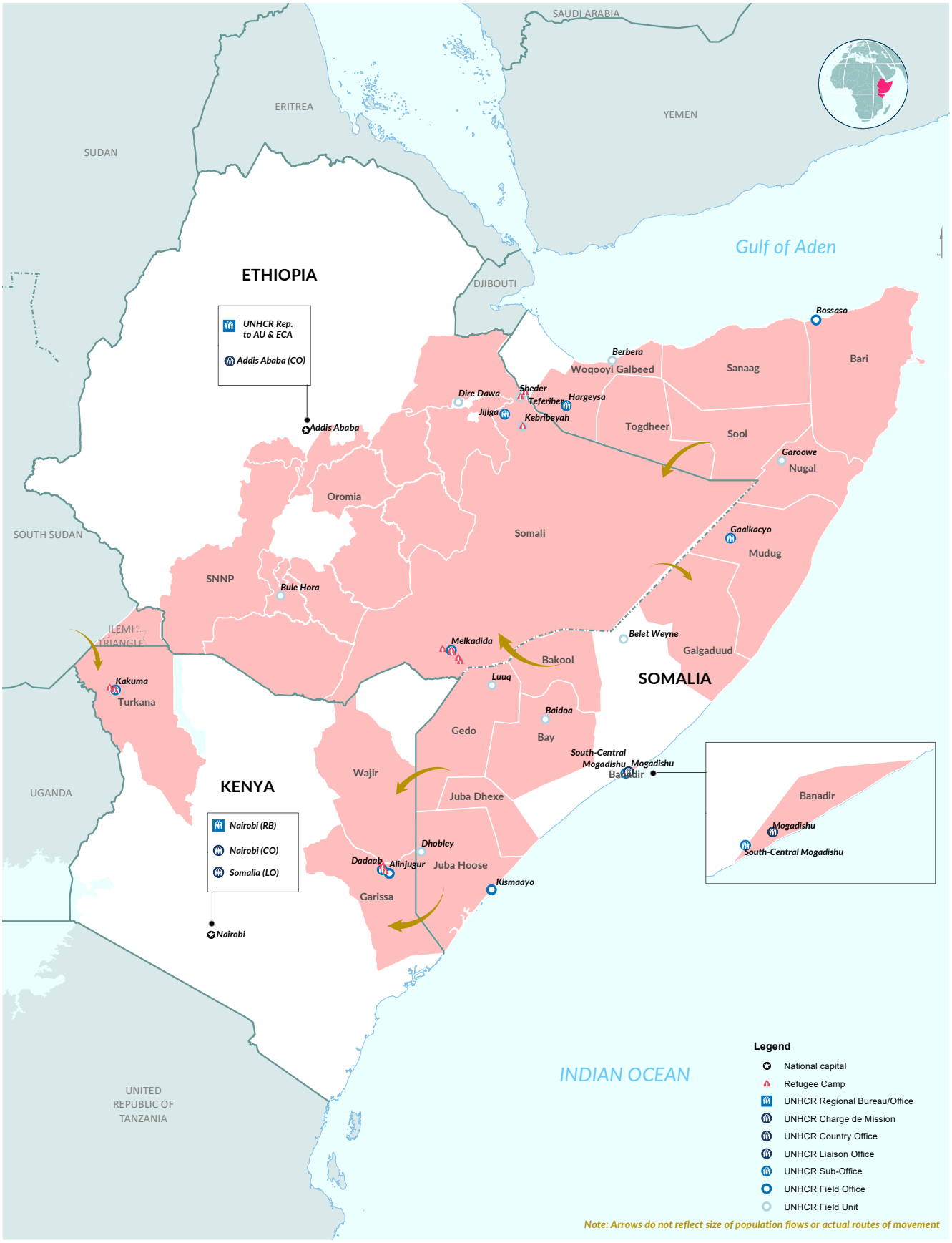
$33 million in Ethiopia

$43 million in Kenya

$61 million in Somalia

REGIONAL BUREAU FOR EAST, HORN OF AFRICA AND GREAT LAKES

Drought Appeal | 2023



Creation date: 27 Feb 2023 **Sources:** Geographic data: UNCS. **Author:** UNHCR Regional Bureau for East, Horn of Africa and Great Lakes **Feedback:** DIMAEHAGL@unhcr.org

Amina Abdirahman Hassen and her six children arrived in Afgoye Displacement Site, Deku (northern Somali region of Ethiopia) when the drought displaced them. She stands next to a rainwater reservoir (or "birka" as they are known") that her husband, Abdi, managed to build. The reservoir collects what little rain does fall in the region | © UNHCR/Astrid Van Genderen Stort

Ethiopia

The humanitarian consequences of the drought are escalating rapidly in the southern regions of the country. Especially in the predominantly pastoralist southeast of the Somali region, many people have lost their livestock or had to sell it off to survive, thus completely depleting their coping capacity. In addition, most water sources – largely rainwater harvest locations – have dried up. Increasing numbers of people are leaving their homes in search of water and food or due to intercommunal conflicts which are flaring up due to competition over scarce resources.

Drought-affected populations in the areas surrounding refugee camps served by UNHCR's offices in Melkadida and Jijiga are also moving towards these camps where water is supplied, and the availability of basic services exceeds those available outside camps. With these trends, established water supply systems and delivery of basic services in the camps are under tremendous pressure to cope with a growing population.

The most recent emergency in the Somali region of Ethiopia has been the arrival in February 2023 of nearly 100,000 people – many of whom are women, children and vulnerable people – into the Doolo zone, following an escalation of fighting and a deterioration in the security situation in Laascaanood, Sool region of Somaliland. The areas where the new arrivals have settled are extremely remote (two days driving from UNHCR's nearest office) and already severely affected by the ongoing drought, with many members of the host community having lost their livelihoods and suffering the worsening effects of climate change.

The Government of Ethiopia, with the support of UNHCR and partners, is conducting rapid needs assessments in the affected areas to ensure a synergized joint response plan. Critical priority needs already identified include food, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), integrated health and nutrition services, emergency shelter and core relief items (CRIs), as well as the urgent establishment of specialized protection services including registration and identification of settlement sites.

UNHCR has declared an internal Level 2 Emergency for the response to the recent influx into Ethiopia from Somalia and will separately be issuing a Supplementary Appeal to respond to the protection and basic needs of the newly displaced population.

Planned response and key activities

Refugees

UNHCR and partners will continue to conduct protection monitoring to identify the urgent protection needs for drought-affected communities. The response will focus on providing emergency assistance to vulnerable people affected by the drought situation, both refugees and their hosts, and in tandem support an integrated approach to increase resilience, climate adaptation, local food production through joint refugee and host cooperatives using solar powered river-fed irrigation systems, and other inclusive, equitable and sustainable initiatives at the humanitarian-development nexus.

Prioritized activities for 2023 will include:

Protect

- Strengthen joint border monitoring activities to ensure access to asylum; advocate to re-establish reception centres and resume registration of asylum-seekers.
- Strengthen access to registration and documentation and increased inclusion in national systems.
- Expand response to gender-based violence and mainstream mitigation measures across all sectors.
- Increase and improve child protection surveillance and mitigation measures for child victims of abuse and exploitation.
- Expand activities and measures to enhance peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities to mitigate possible tensions due to scarcity of resources.

Assist

- Significantly increase the capacity of health and nutrition services in and around refugee camps, to enable a more adequate response to the rapidly increasing needs of drought-affected populations.
- Address malnutrition, provide supplementary feeding, ensure access to adequate health assistance to prepare and respond to diseases resulting from the drought such as cholera, measles, dengue, and maintain access to secondary health services.
- Provide CRIs and emergency shelter to new arrivals and other drought-affected populations as required.
- Improve water and sanitation facilities and increase water supply through refurbishing and enhancing existing water supply systems that were put in place during the peak of the influx of Somali refugees more than 10 years ago.
- Construct additional water points for the benefit of both refugees and host communities; water trucking will be undertaken where required.

Empower

- Support agriculture and livestock cooperatives, especially market linkages, to assist livelihood and economic inclusion opportunities for refugees and host communities and enhance local food production and security.

Internally displaced people

For the drought response in Ethiopia, UNHCR leads the Protection cluster, co-leads the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) cluster, and is an operational participant in the Emergency Shelter/Non-Food Items cluster. UNHCR and humanitarian partners are scaling up assistance to meet the growing humanitarian needs of the internally displaced population in support of the Government in Ethiopia, with attention to strengthening local capacities to respond.

As the drought has worsened in the last year, UNHCR and partners have utilized the foundation of the existing refugee response operation to pivot toward a large-scale and growing internal displacement situation. UNHCR will continue to expand the operational scope of its IDP response in drought-affected areas to the extent possible, considering the number of widely dispersed IDP locations, posing significant logistical challenges. UNHCR has set up profiling, monitoring and response systems across the three most drought-affected zones of the Somali region (Dawa, Liban and Afder zones), as well as in the most drought-affected areas of the Oromia and SNPP regions.

As the Protection cluster lead for the IDP response, UNHCR will provide technical and financial support to the zonal authorities of the most drought-affected areas with a view to increasing overall protection outcomes for vulnerable populations and enabling better operational coordination. As humanitarian response capacity is limited, a lighter area-based coordination approach is being implemented, through protection coordination at zonal and woreda levels. Where the CCCM cluster does not have existing coordination structures, the principles of CCCM will be folded into the localized protection coordination structures to build support for communities and authorities without the burden of a heavy coordination structure. Information from protection profiling, protection desks, participatory and vulnerability assessments, and monitoring exercises will enable other humanitarian actors and partners to provide more targeted and better coordinated life-saving responses.

Drought-affected IDPs have a wide range of needs and as the fast-growing number of IDPs is often not included in standard social safety net interventions, especially those settling in remote and marginalized areas, UNHCR has developed an approach to swiftly deliver multi-purpose cash assistance for IDP protection and assistance, directly benefiting the most vulnerable IDP families.

In the middle of the largest rainwater harvesting site in Filtu town, a man reaches into the belly of the earth in search of water. Of all drought affected areas in Ethiopia, the three zones UNHCR serves from Melkadida in the Somali Region are the most severely hit | © UNHCR/Mary Sanyu Osire

Prioritized activities for 2023 will include:

Protect

- Conduct vulnerability and needs assessments with protection profiling.
- Conduct risk mapping of IDP locations and put in place child protection services and prevention and mitigation of gender-based violence.
- Link displaced people to essential services wherever possible, including water, health and nutrition.
- Analyse and share protection data with cluster members and other humanitarian actors at all levels.

Assist

- Provide direct cash transfers to the most vulnerable IDP families.
- Provision of in-kind support such as CRIs where cash is not feasible.

Halima Hussein, a 28-year-old mother of three children fled the drought in Somalia in October 2023 to Kenya. She was worried she was going to lose her children to hunger if she continued staying in Somalia | © UNHCR/Charity Nzomo

Kenya

The number of refugees in Kenya has continually increased over the past years, mainly due to of the volatile political and security situations in several neighboring countries. In the Dadaab refugee camps, the Government of Kenya has indicated that registration and documentation of new arrivals – suspended since 2016 – would resume in early 2023.

In 2022, over 113,000 Somalis who had arrived in 2022 and in previous years, were profiled by the Department of Refugee Services (DRS) and UNHCR to enable them to receive food and other basic assistance. Based on arrival trends in the second half of 2022, over 130,000 new arrivals are expected in 2023. The three Dadaab camps do not have adequate space to host newly arrived refugees, forcing many to reside in makeshift shelters along the outskirts of the camps, where clean water and sanitation facilities are either grossly insufficient or non-existent.

In November 2022, the Government of Kenya agreed to the reopening of Ifo 2 site in Dadaab to host the new arrivals. The Government has also agreed on remodeling this site into an integrated settlement similar to Kalobeyei, in order to provide humanitarian assistance in a sustainable manner to both the refugees and host communities.

In Kakuma, over 20,000 new arrivals were registered over the course of 2022, mainly from South Sudan, with some 20 per cent citing drought, flooding, and food insecurity among their reasons for flight in addition to conflict and insecurity. Reception centres in Kakuma are holding nearly double their capacity, leading to congestion and posing serious health risks.

Planned response and key activities

Refugees

With the resumption of the registration and documentation of new asylum-seekers by the Government of Kenya as of late February 2023, UNHCR will support DRS with resources, including staffing and equipment to carry out these and other camp management activities.

Infrastructure development is required to provide essential services to new arrivals in the newly established Ifo 2 refugee site. These include the construction of a reception/transit collection and accommodation centre, renovation of a hospital along with a health post, schools and WASH facilities including the renovation of the water supply system. In addition, there is a need for opening of access roads, construction of communal latrines, waste management sites and renovation of the existing office premises. The Office will also consider setting up a number of child-friendly spaces, protection desks and community centres including for women and the youth.

Prioritized activities for 2023 will include:

Protect

- Carry out border and detention monitoring to ensure access to asylum jointly with DRS.
- Expand the reception centers in Kakuma to accommodate new arrivals in a dignified manner.
- Train health care and social workers on gender-based violence response mechanisms and work to ensure strengthened mechanisms to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) through the Interagency PSEA Task Force.
- Conduct community dialogues for awareness on gender-based violence and SEA issues with women, girls, men, boys, LGBTIQ+ individuals, religious leaders, and community elders.
- Ensure programmes to support and provide care to children at risk of violence, abuse or exploitation to identify and incorporate those in need among the new arrivals.
- Construct child-friendly spaces within new settlement areas to protect children and reduce exposure to protection risks.
- Conduct vulnerability assessments to ensure that persons with specific needs receive timely assistance, particularly older persons, children, persons with disabilities and persons with serious or chronic illnesses.
- Focus efforts on information-sharing, individual counselling, and individual legal assistance to new arrivals.
- Advocate with the Government to ensure refugees have access to formal justice mechanisms.

Assist

- Capacitate health facilities to provide new arrivals with primary health care, maternity services, immunization, management of malnutrition, HIV prevention, clinical management of rape, and post-exposure prophylaxis.
- Ensure all health care facilities are running outpatient therapeutic programs for severe malnutrition, supplementary feeding programmes for moderate malnutrition, and blanket supplementary feeding programmes for pregnant and lactating women.
- Continue to utilize stabilization centres for hospitalization and treatment of malnourished children with severe medical complications among the new arrivals and the host community.
- Provide health screening upon arrival, accompanied by vaccination against measles and polio in line with Ministry of Health guidelines.
- Drill two additional boreholes each in both Dadaab and Kakuma to provide adequate potable water to new arrivals and host communities.
- Provide emergency WASH services in reception centres, temporary accommodation sites, and upon transfer of new arrivals to the settlements.
- Provide transitional shelters for new arrivals, as well as household and family latrines. Transitional shelters will be converted to permanent structures once the population stabilizes.
- Organize hygiene awareness, camp clean up campaigns and management of waste to mitigate the spread of vector and waterborne diseases.
- Distribute sleeping mats, blankets, and mosquito nets at reception centres. Kitchen sets, jerry cans, plastic sheets, buckets, and solar lanterns will be distributed upon settlement in shelters.
- Set up 24 tented primary school structures to accommodate 12,000 students in Dadaab, and 12 structures to accommodate 6,000 children in Kakuma. Procure school supplies including textbooks and teaching and learning materials. Transition to semi-permanent primary schools when feasible, while working with local authorities, the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and partners to integrate children in existing local schools to the extent possible.
- Work to support host communities, and where possible initiate projects to mitigate possible conflict between the communities.

Thousands of people within Somalia have been forced to flee their homes in search of humanitarian assistance including food, shelter and safe drinking water | © UNHCR/Nabil Narch

Somalia

Somalia is in the midst of a climate emergency that is showing little signs of abating, uprooting lives and livelihoods of millions. Five consecutive below par rainy seasons, resulting from climate change, has resulted in the longest drought the country has witnessed in more than 40 years. According to the UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), the catastrophic drought has displaced more than 1.4 million people since 2021, 1.1 million of whom were displaced over the course of 2022. Hundreds of thousands of Somalis have also fled to neighbouring countries to seek assistance. Many people have lost their livelihoods and their coping capacities have been stretched too thin to recover from the drought without help. The situation is further compounded by persistent insecurity and armed conflict, soaring food prices, and extreme poverty. These multiple shocks have exacerbated protection risks and pre-existing inequities.

Although the projected famine in Baidoa and Buur Hakaba districts between October and December 2022 was averted, according to the Integrated Food Security Classification (IPC) analysis from 13 December 2022, there is a strong possibility of famine between April and June 2023, if the next rainy season fails and if humanitarian assistance is not sustained. Over 8.3 million Somalis are expected to face crisis level (IPC Phase 3) of acute food insecurity by June 2023, including 727,000 facing catastrophic levels of extreme hunger (IPC Phase 5).

The current climate emergency has disproportionately affected women, children, persons with disabilities, and those from minority/marginalized groups/clans. Women and children make up over 80 per cent of Somalia's drought-displaced population. Limited access to scarce water, and inadequate levels of sanitation and hygiene services as well as shelters and basic needs items have made women and girls more vulnerable to gender-based violence. Children are deprived of safe spaces, and more than a million children have either lost access to education or are at risk of dropping out.

Planned response and key activities

Refugees

Due to the impacts of the drought, the operation is introducing a new cash grant for refugee families that have been in Somalia for several years and who have not previously received assistance. UNHCR has established the implementation methods for the disbursement of multi-purpose cash assistance with both international and local financial service providers. Beneficiary identification, including community mobilization will be carried out through the existing local Government structures and UNHCR's NGO partners. Cash assistance will be based on the established minimum expenditure basket for Somalia and will initially be distributed monthly for three months, targeting vulnerable households. Vulnerability assessments conducted monthly will inform the continuation of such support for an extended period.

UNHCR and partners are also working closely with local authorities to improve reception conditions, profiling and registration of new arrivals from Ethiopia. Whereas some 2,600 asylum-seekers from Ethiopia were recorded in 2022, in the first two months of 2023 there are reports that more than 20,000 new arrivals from Ethiopia have settled in IDP sites in the Bakool region, with indications that the numbers will continue to grow at this increased rate in 2023.

Families shelter at the Ladan site for internally displaced people in Dollow, Somalia. The catastrophic drought ravaging the country is putting communities on the brink of famine, with many thousands having been forced to flee their homes in search of food, shelter and safe drinking water | © UNHCR/Nabil Narch

Prioritized activities for 2023 will include:

Protect

- Continue to conduct protection monitoring and rapid needs assessments to identify critical life-saving interventions at border entry points and the urgent protection needs and gaps for drought-affected populations.
- Ensure the identification and fast-track registration of persons with specific needs.

Assist

- Provide multi-purpose cash assistance which will enable drought-affected refugee families to address their most pressing basic needs, such as shelter, food, medicines, education, and other household needs.
- Provide non-food item and emergency shelter kits to support the settling in of new arrivals from Ethiopia.

Empower

- Support refugees through various livelihood activities that will contribute to the economy of the host communities and build skills that can be utilized upon return to their own countries or in a third country.
- UNHCR will advocate for refugees' economic inclusion into both the private and national institutions which includes access to financial institutions such as private banks. The operation will also advocate inclusion into the national institutions where the Ministry of Trade and Commerce will provide business licences to skilled refugees and asylum-seekers to establish small-scale business that will support the livelihoods and employability of their families. UNHCR will work with the national TVET institutions and the Chamber of Commerce for accredited certificates that will support refugees and asylum-seekers to obtain decent jobs in the host country as well as their countries of origin upon return.

Internally displaced people

UNHCR leads the Protection and Shelter/NFI clusters in Somalia and co-leads the CCCM cluster. The UNHCR-led PRMN system will continue to provide up-to-date information on internal displacement caused by the drought. The PRMN informs the humanitarian response of all humanitarian actors in Somalia, including UN and NGO partners. UNHCR recently launched the new PRMN online portal, which provides real-time displacement and protection updates, and will continue to support evidence-based planning and response.

As the lead of the Protection cluster, UNHCR is coordinating a strategy focusing on five major pillars: enhanced protection service delivery (case management, supported referrals, individual protection assistance, psychosocial support, community-based protection); revamping protection monitoring system to make it more agile in informing and triggering humanitarian response; strengthening the cluster's and protection partners' capacity at sub-national level, particularly in the priority hubs: Banadir, Baidoa, Beletweyne, Galkayo and Kismayo; reinstating the pivotal role of protection of civilians in the response, through dedicated analysis, advocacy and response; and stepping up efforts to mobilize all clusters and humanitarian actors to mainstream protection, with the focus on concrete measures to strengthen inclusion of minority and marginalized groups and vulnerability-based prioritization.

As lead and member of the Shelter/NFI cluster, UNHCR will strengthen the provision of basic services including emergency shelter, CRIs and multi-purpose cash grants for vulnerable families, through a participatory and consultative programming approach that involves the community (including representation of vulnerable and marginalized groups) in decisions to create ownership and ensure accountability to affected people.

As co-lead and member of the CCCM cluster, UNHCR works on enhancing access to services at site level through service mapping, coordination and monitoring, site maintenance and improvement. UNHCR will continue to engage with the relevant local ministries, local leaders and other stakeholders in all stages of programme activities. As part of ensuring accountability to affected persons, UNHCR will continue to use open lines of communication with displaced people through existing complaints, response and feedback mechanism tools.

Prioritized activities for 2023 will include:

Protect

- Build on the existing PRMN and Somalia Protection Monitoring System (SPMS) to identify people exposed to various protection risks including persons living with disabilities, survivors of gender-based violence, persons facing various human rights violations and older persons at risk of facing life-threatening abuse, violence, exploitation and severe distress due to drought.
- Provide defined packages and targeted protection kits using both in-kind and multi-purpose cash assistance to identified individuals and households.
- Provide information, psychological first aid, psychosocial counselling and information

counselling and legal aid (ICLA) to address evictions-related concerns in drought-affected areas and improve targeted multi-sectoral referral and response mechanisms to ensure access to specialized basic services through the existing pool of service providers (psychosocial counsellors, medical practitioners, legal services providers, etc.).

- Continue ongoing activities to ensure that interventions address housing land and property (HLP) concerns (increased tension, land grabbing, multiple land claims, illegal occupation, squatting, etc.) and enhance the legal protection for IDP land tenure rights as a priority to prevent unlawful evictions of displaced populations.

Assist

- Provide a combination of cash and in-kind Non-food items kits and emergency shelter assistance to displaced families.
- Work with CCCM cluster partners to enhance information awareness at IDP sites as part of risk communication and community engagement activities.
- Conduct information sessions such as hygiene promotion messages conducted in collaboration with WASH partners.
- Work with CCCM cluster partners to provide information to newly arriving IDPs on services provided and the free nature of humanitarian assistance to prevent corruption and exploitation and provide new arrivals with emergency contacts and orientation on referral pathways in sites.

Empower

- Scale up emergency related activities including cash for work activities such as site cleaning, drainage repairs, repair of community structures, pathway maintenance, installing flood mitigation sandbags, installation of solar lights in sites, and site decongestion for improvement of living conditions in sites hosting drought-affected populations.
- Introduce livelihood diversification, skills building, and provide agricultural inputs.

Amina Ali, 38, standing outside her make-shift shelter in Dadaab refugee camp, Kenya, with her family. She said she knew they would die if they stayed in Somalia and while she did not want to leave her homeland, staying would mean death | © UNHCR/Charity Nzomo

Funding the response

The total financial requirements amount to **$137 million** including **$33 million** for Ethiopia, **$43 million** for Kenya and **$61 million** for Somalia.

Impact Area	Outcome Area	Ethiopia			Kenya		Somalia			Grand Total USD
		Refugees	IDPs	Total	Refugees	Total	Refugees	IDPs	Total	
Protect	Access to territory; Registration; Documentation, Gender Based Violence; Child Protection; Community Engagement	3,660,000	1,370,000	5,030,000	4,800,000	4,800,000	600,000	16,000,000	16,600,000	**26,430,000**
Assist	Well-being; Housing; Health & Nutrition; Education; Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	10,000,000	14,250,000	24,250,000	38,200,000	38,200,000	3,000,000	36,000,000	39,000,000	**101,450,000**
Empower	Livelihoods	2,100,000	1,615,000	3,715,000	-	-	1,900,000	3,500,000	5,400,000	**9,115,000**
	Total USD	**15,760,000**	**17,235,000**	**32,995,000**	**43,000,000**	**43,000,000**	**5,500,000**	**55,500,000**	**61,000,000**	**136,995,000**

The importance of flexible funding

Flexible funding support helps UNHCR to kick-start an emergency response, bolster forgotten or under-resourced crises, and implement programmes to their full extent. Flexible funds enable UNHCR to plan and manage its resources efficiently and effectively, contributing to the collective success in every life that is transformed and saved. UNHCR is grateful to donors who have provided unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions. Additional financial and operational information is available on Global Focus website (reporting.unhcr.org).

Drought response plans from UN partner agencies

UNHCR remains fully committed to closely coordinate its drought response with other partner agencies. This appeal provides UNHCR's consolidated financial requirements to respond to the Horn of Africa drought emergency as a reference for donors. It has been aligned to the extent possible with the Humanitarian Response Plans in Ethiopia and Somalia, and the Kenya Flash Appeal. The associated regional appeals of key UN partner agencies are summarized here:

World Food Programme (WFP)

WFP's 2023 Regional Drought Response Plan calls for global solidarity to avert a major humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa. The Plan recognizes that, as of December 2022, more than 22 million people have been driven into acute food insecurity by the drought. To address the devastating drought-induced hunger and malnutrition across the region, WFP is pursuing an integrated dual track approach; meeting immediate life-saving food and nutritional needs while simultaneously building resilience to extreme climate variability. WFP is already on the ground, providing millions of people every month with life-saving assistance. Regional Drought Response Plan for the Horn of Africa: 2023

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF's Horn of Africa Drought Response in 2023 is targeting 16.6 million people at high risk, including 12.2 million children with life-saving interventions including Nutrition, Health and WASH in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. In 2022, UNICEF's response reached close to 3 million people with both urgent life-saving and climate-resilient interventions. Due to the likelihood of a sixth failed rainy season, UNICEF recognizes the necessity of providing life-saving support today, while increasing the resilience of drought-prone areas in the future, especially through climate-sensitive water infrastructure and systems strengthening. More than twenty million children suffering in the Horn of Africa as drought intensifies – UNICEF

UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

In 2022, FAO launched a Drought Response Plan aimed at saving the livelihoods of rural communities in the worst affected areas of Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and to a lesser extent Djibouti: https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc0638en/. FAO, WFP, UNICEF, and UNHCR in their cluster-lead functions, have also promoted inter-cluster collaboration and geographic programming convergences in order to achieve the cumulative effects of the agencies' responses. FAO is in the process of launching an advocacy document that supports Ethiopia's and Somalia's Humanitarian Response Plans and Kenya's Flash Appeal. FAO's programming in the eastern Africa region goes beyond the short-term drought response and is fundamentally based on resilience-building and climate adaptation priorities as described under the FAO Resilience Programme of Work 2022-2026.

THE HORN OF AFRICA DROUGHT SITUATION APPEAL

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023

ISSUED ON 28 FEBRUARY 2023

For more information

Visit Global Focus, UNHCR's main operational reporting portal for donors and other key partners. The site provides an overview of the protection risks that refugees and other populations of concern to UNHCR face across the world, as well as regularly updated information about programmes, operations, financial requirements, funding levels and donor contributions.

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency