



HIGHLIGHTS

30,202

Arrivals from Yemen since
27 March 2015

6,164

Refugee returnees from
Kenya since 8 December 2014

86,793

Evictions in Mogadishu
since January 2015

296,024

New displacements since
January 2015

Population of concern

A total of **1.16 million** people of
concern

By category

Category	Total PoC
IDPs	1,106,000
Refugees (mainly Ethiopians)	2,905
Asylum seekers (mainly Ethiopians)	10,141
Prima facie refugees (Yemenis)	4,770
Refugee returnees from Kenya	6,164
Somali returnees from Yemen	26,631
Total	1,156,611

Funding

USD 100.5 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

121: 71 national staff, 20 international staff
21 affiliate workforce, 8 UN volunteers

Offices:

4 offices: 1 Representation in Mogadishu, 2 sub-offices located in Hargeisa and Galkayo, 1 Field Office in Bossaso and; **4** field units located in: Garowe, Kismayo, Dhobley, Luuq, and support office in Nairobi

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- As part of the UN integrated mission to Somalia (UNSOM), UNHCR maintains close collaboration with UN agencies, local and international NGOs and Somali authorities at country and field levels in a joint effort to provide assistance and durable solutions to the people of Somalia.
- As a lead agency of the Protection and Shelter/NFI Clusters, and the implementation of the Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), UNHCR spearheads productive partnerships with over 60 national and international NGOs.
- Since 2012, UNHCR leads the Somalia Return Consortium, a group of nine UN agencies and NGOs providing coordinated and standardized assistance to IDPs who opt to return and reintegrate in their areas of origin to end displacement.
- To coordinate effective response to the Yemen crisis, UNHCR and IOM co-lead a country-level inter-agency Task Force on Yemen Situation.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

South Central

Luuq

- On 15 November 2015, 40 households that had been evicted from government buildings (former district offices of the ministry of defense and communication) in Luuq were supported with Emergency Assistance Packages (EAPs) and temporary shelter by UNHCR through partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC). Each household was provided with an EAP kit (consisting of two mats, three blankets, a kitchen set and 75kg of soap,) and a temporary shelter kit (consisting of a UNHCR plastic tarpaulin, 50 m of rope and 0.5 kg of nails).



Households evicted from government buildings in Luuq receiving temporary shelter and EAPs from UNHCR, © UNHCR/A. Ahmed November 2015

Kismayo

- Through the UNHCR-led protection cluster an assessment to identify the Kamsuma floods displaced households was implemented: 190 households have been verified and another 300 are pending verification. Once that will be done they will be supported with EAP kits.
- Eviction occurred in two IDP camps in Kismayo that had been set up on private land. With the support of the Jubaland Regional Interim Administration (JRIA) an alternative location was found for the evictees to immediately move into. On the new site the IDPs are being monitored and their shelters are being reconstructed.

Galkayo

- Following the ceasefire agreement between Puntland and Galmudug administrations on second December and the re-affirmation of the agreement on fifth December, IDPs, host community and other persons of concern have slowly begun to return to their homes in North and South Galkayo. During the reporting period over 90 % of the displaced IDPs and over 70 % of the host community residents had returned to their former place of residence.
- An estimated 90,000 individuals have been internally displaced following the fighting that erupted on November 22 between Galmudug and Puntland over a border point that separates the two states within Galkayo town. Out of this number, 40,000 IDPs have suffered secondary displacement. Refugees (40 households, 180 individuals) and refugee returnees (193 households, 820 individuals) in Galkayo have also suffered secondary displacement and have scattered in IDP settlements on the outskirts of town. UNHCR is closely monitoring the situation and has provided protection responses in collaboration with Protection Cluster members and partners on the ground.
- To better understand the impact of the conflict and the protection issues of the IDPs, the members of the Protection Cluster conducted a rapid protection assessment in North and South Galkayo. The assessment found that the conflict resulted in 35 dead, including 14 civilians, and 165 wounded, including 24 civilians from both sides. Among the civilian casualties, three IDPs died and nine IDPs were wounded. The assessment also revealed that an estimated 60% of families have lost most of their household items.
- During the emergency, UNHCR mobilized its partners on the ground to respond to the emergency needs of the affected population of concern, supporting the transportation to safer areas of 233 vulnerable households.
- Following the completion of the registration of 667 Somali refugee returnee households in North/South Galkayo and Beletweyne, UNHCR distributed re-integration cash grants to 655 households. Each individual received 100 USD, for a maximum of 600 USD per family. Cash transfers were made through Amal Bank.
- Through Galkayo Education Center for Peace and Development (GECPD) partner in Galkayo, Harfo and Abdudwak districts, a total of 75 Male community members were trained and sensitized on prevention, causes and consequences of gender-based violence (GBV). The goal of the training was to enable community focal points and leaders to understand psychological, legal, medical and other support needed by survivors of GBV and the need to refer appropriate service in accordance with the principles of confidentiality, respect, safety and security. In Galkayo, UNHCR provided psychosocial and medical support to 19 GBV survivors including 14 cases of rapes, one sexual assault and four physical assaults.
- A vulnerability re-assessment was conducted for refugees and asylum seekers and subsequently eligible cases were identified for targeted subsistence allowance
- As part of the sixteen days activism, a number of awareness-raising and sensitization campaign and activities were conducted. The major activities have taken place in Gureil, Abuwak, Harfo and Bursalah districts .the campaign was observed through conducting open Public Presentations, Consultation Meeting with IDP settlement leaders , Community Level Meetings and sending SMS messages on FGM& early marriage through social media. The 16 days intervention provided an increased awareness and advocacy against, GBV and Women Rights in general.
- The 16 Days of Activism campaign against GBV was scheduled to be launched on November 25, but due to the fighting in Galkayo the launch of activities was put on hold. Since most of the displaced population has not yet returned to Galkayo, activities have been scheduled by UNHCR's implementing partner GECPD (Galkayo Education Center for Peace and Development) in Harfo, Bursallah, Abudwaq and Guriael for the month of December.

Somaliland

- During the month of November, two boats carrying a total of 68 new arrivals from Yemen arrived in Berbera, Somaliland. The number of arrivals during the month of November is much lower than those of October and September.
- A total of 258 individuals (156 cases), including 251 Yemenis, 2 Ethiopians, 1 Syrian, and 4 others were registered by the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Resettlement & Reconstruction (MRR&R) as asylum seekers in November 2015.
- A total of 61 Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews were conducted from January to November 2015, along with an array of complementary interviews. RSD processing was temporarily suspended in April, as Eligibility Officers were required to respond to the unfolding situation in Yemen. Although some urgent processing has occurred since then, RSD activities remain generally on hold because of competing priorities. One Eligibility Officer worked on the finalization of Zanzibari cases.
- The third Senior Government and UNHCR Coordination Meeting was held at the Ambassador Hotel. Senior officials from the Ministry of Resettlement Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (MRR&R), the Ministry of Justice, and the Somaliland Immigration

Department attended the meeting. The first draft of a Somaliland Refugees Act was presented, reviewed and discussed. Participants agreed to review the document in detail, add their comments and send it back to UNHCR.

- 16 Days of Activism activities have been launched under the theme of “Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Make Education Safe for All”. The Somaliland/National theme is “Orange for your schools” (Let's Advocate and Lobby for the Sexual Offense Bill). Several Ministries, UN agencies and UNHCR partners are actively involved in the implementation of the 16 days activities under the leadership of Ministry of Labor and Social affairs. Activities include awareness raising, training on human/women rights, cultural and art events, as well as sport/recreational activities.
- An assessment of the living conditions of new arrivals from Yemen was completed by different service providers in Hargeisa and compiled by UNHCR. The conclusion of the Assessment were presented to the Protection Cluster, the Protection/Program meeting and the New Arrivals Task Force. Participants have agreed to review their support/services according to the findings. Main challenges reported are related to housing, accessibility to health and psychosocial services, work and education.
- UNHCR drafted the first script for a series of information video episodes aimed at improving awareness on services to new arrivals, services in Hargeisa as well as registration processes. The video script is currently under review by the Regional Hub. The video is planned to be screened at the reception and registration centres, as well as by all partners in December.



Participatory Assessment, © UNHCR/K. Omer Ali, November 2015, CCBP

- Between March 2015 and the end of November 2015, a total of 9,453 people (2,965 families) have fled to Somaliland as a consequence of the ongoing hostilities in Yemen. This included 7,751 Somali returnees, 1,561 Yemeni nationals, 109 Ethiopians and 21 persons of other nationalities. As all Yemeni new arrivals are recognized as prima facie refugees, Yemeni nationals now represent of a majority of the active refugee population in Somaliland.
- A total of 2,362 Yemeni refugees (1,200 cases) have been registered by MRR&R in Hargeisa between 28 March 2015 and 30 November 2015.
- A total of 860 identification certificates were distributed for 420 cases and 884 individual's fingerprints were captured for 506 cases. As only individuals above the age of five are targeted for fingerprint capturing, only 61% of the total first batch printed certificates were distributed. Additional distribution days will be conducted in the coming weeks at MRR&R new offices.
- A total of 877 Yemeni Prima Facie refugee certificates were printed for 420 cases and submitted to MRR&R for the Minister's signature and official stamp.
- Nineteen (19) Yemeni New Arrival families (45 individuals) received Emergency Financial Assistance, and 32 Yemeni families (76 individuals) received Subsistence Allowance for the month of November.
- A cash distribution took place on 23 November for all Yemenis who did not get the chance to collect their first installment in October 2015.
- NRC distributed unconditional cash assistance to 392 refugee families (291 refugees, 101 returnees) in Hargeisa through the Dahabshil remittance services.

Education

South Central

Kismayo

- UNHCR's reintegration partner Mercy Corps is rehabilitating two primary schools in Kismayo, the Juba and Ganane primary schools. In each school 5 class rooms and three latrines will be rehabilitated.



Rehabilitation of two primary schools through UNHCR's reintegration project implemented by Mercy Corps going on in Ganane and Juba primary schools. ©UNHCR/M. Dakane, November 2015.

Galkayo

- Following the end of the fighting that had erupted on November 22 in Galkayo, 90% the refugee students have resumed their education and the partner is following up with the partners to send the remaining children back to school. The mid-year exam commenced on Saturday, 9 January 2016 and the Regional Director of the education has indicated that there will be compensatory time for the days lost.
- With support from UNHCR, 72 refugee children and two asylum seeker children (all Ethiopian) have been enrolled in primary education, while one refugee child has been enrolled in secondary education. Following the fighting that erupted on November 22, the schools in Galkayo have been temporarily closed.

Somaliland

- Around 465 students (asylum seekers/refugees) are now enrolled in 16 public schools within Somaliland. UNHCR SO Hargeisa will continue to liaise with students and their parents in an effort to increase enrolment in the public school system.
- UNHCR and NRC continue to provide school material and furniture to schools hosting refugees and asylum seeker students.
- Weekly monitoring was conducted jointly by UNHCR, NRC and the Refugee Committee with the head master of public schools to ensure that the enrollment process proceeds smoothly.
- Some 300 Yemenis students are still in need to be enrolled in primary and secondary schools. Twenty students have joined private Arabic-language schools in Hargeisa, while five families have enrolled their children in public schools with the support of NRC. Yemeni children face problems with the local language, especially secondary school students. Therefore, they are reluctant to enroll in public schools. Private Arabic-language schools are expensive and many Yemenis have reported that they cannot afford to pay the fees.

Health

South Central

Galkayo

- A total of 21 refugees and asylum seekers received primary health care in the month of December. Three patients were admitted for in-patient treatment, including a refugee who sustained injuries during the recent conflict. The patient has undergone surgical operation. Health partners conducted awareness sessions on communicable diseases for refugee and asylum seekers.
- In collaboration with medical partner Galkayo Medical Centre (GMC), UNHCR provided free medical services to the conflict-affected population by expanding medical service capacity of the newly-constructed health post in Salama and by sending additional mobile health teams to handle the increased demand for medical services caused by the conflict.
- A total of 30 refugees and asylum seekers received primary health care in the month of November. The patients included four inpatients and 26 outpatients.
- UNHCR project partners conducted in November hygiene and sanitation awareness training for 23 beneficiaries.

Somaliland

- NRC has supported 50 Yemeni new arrivals suffering from chronic disease with financial assistance to buy their necessary drugs.
- UNHCR is in the process of identifying a new health services partner for 2016 to help meet primary health support needs of refugees and asylum seekers, including public health education and awareness.
- There are around 20 cases that cannot be treated in Somaliland. Discussions are currently ongoing with Djibouti and Ethiopian offices to see if an emergency medical evacuation can be put in place.

Shelter and NFIs

South Central

Kismayo

- Twenty-five refugee returnee households from Dadaab were provided with shelter items and EAPs as part of the return assistance distributed to the returnees at the home way station.

Galkayo

- In responding to the humanitarian needs that resulted from the conflict, UNHCR local partner Galkayo Medical Foundation (GMF), in collaboration with the Galkayo local authority, provided emergency shelter to 2,100 most-affected IDPs and their immediate host families living in nine IDP settlements. The items distributed were one plastic sheet, two jerry cans, three blankets, three sleeping mats and three bars of soap. Also, 160 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls in reproductive age, including women with disabilities and belonging to female-headed households, expectant and lactating mothers.
- Through GMC, UNHCR provided Non Food Items (NFIs) to 270 EL-Nino affected IDPs in eight IDP settlements in North and South Galkayo and to 10 refugees households. The items distributed consisted in one kitchen set, one plastic sheet, two jerry cans, three blankets, three sleeping mats and three bars of soap.
- A total of 2,500 Emergency Assistance Packages (EAPs) have been transported by UNHCR implementing partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC) to Beletweyne, where they will be distributed to vulnerable households that have lost their shelters as a result of the El Nino rains.
- Following the fighting that erupted in Galkayo at the end of November, 2,100 EAPs and 180 dignity kits were distributed to vulnerable displaced households in December 2015.

Somaliland

- Core Relief Items continue to be distributed to vulnerable new arrivals at the reception centers in Berbera. In total 14 EAP kits were distributed in Berbera in November. Since the beginning of the Yemeni crisis, 687 EAP kits have been distributed to vulnerable new arrivals.
- Core Relief Items were also distributed to Ethiopians refugees and asylum seekers who had not received CRIs in the past. A total of 1,542 families have benefited from this distribution.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

South Central

Kismayo

- Sixty-four young women aged between 18 and 30 years (40 returnees, 20 host community and four IDPs) received skill training in tailoring through UNHCR reintegration project implemented by Mercy Corps. As part of the UNHCR's reintegration and capacity building projects implemented by American Refugee Committee (ARC), 300 households (180 refugee returnees, 60 IDPs and 60 from the host community) are temporarily employed in opening drainage systems and rehabilitating school playgrounds. Another 40 households (60% returnees) are being supported with start business cash grants paid in two installments through KAAH.



Beneficiaries receiving skill training in tailoring and Cash For Work temporarily employment in opening drainage systems through UNHCR's reintegration projects in Kismayo. © UNHCR/M. Dakane, November 2015

Dhobley

- UNHCR, through implementing partner ARC, has started a reintegration project in Dhobley that is intended to rehabilitate and improve road conditions in town through Cash For Work (CFW) programs. This should reduce drainage system blockage and facilitate the flow of water. Two-hundred beneficiaries -returnees, IDPs and vulnerable host community members- were selected for the project by UNHCR, ARC and local authorities.
- Apart from the CFW activities, in the month of November UNHCR selected 40 women with skills but lacking start-up capital to initiate employable businesses. The selected women from the returnees, IDPs and host community will be given build your business (BYB) training and provided with \$800 as business start-up grants.



Beneficiaries of the cash-for-work activities in Dhobley town doing rehabilitation and improvement of the main road.
©UNHCR/Y.Hussein, November 2015

Luuq

- A total of 194 CFW beneficiaries (159 returnees from Yemen, Dadaab and Eritrea and 35 individuals from the host community) benefited from UNHCR's Cash Based Intervention (CBI) through DRC. Working in groups, the beneficiaries are currently engaged in bush clearing and garbage collection as part of CFW activities.



CFW beneficiaries engage in bush clearing and garbage collection -UNHCR's CBI, Luuq. ©UNHCR/A. Ahmed, November 2015

Galkayo

- The Rehabilitation of South Galkayo main public hospital has been completed in the month of December by implementing partner Relief International. The partner also assisted 100 women small business ventures with various business commodities upon submission of a business plan.
- During the reporting period, through ILO partner, 150 beneficiaries from the three IDP local integration sites (Haloboqad, Tawakal and Salama) received in-kind grants (materials/equipment) for small-scale, start-up businesses to encourage and improve opportunities for self-employment. Prior to the business grant, beneficiaries had attended a one-month intensive course for business management aimed at strengthening their entrepreneurial skills. Another 100 beneficiaries (66 Female and 34 Male) who have successfully completed vocational skills training courses in electrical installation, carpentry, cooking & tailoring received start-up tools to enable them to apply the skills they have gained. The provision of livelihood grants and skills training was intended to help the beneficiaries to reach sustainable local integration and economic self-sufficiency.
- Through GECPD partner, a financial support of USD 2,000 was provided to Mahad Alla IDP women group. The group consists of 20 women from the Buulo Jawanley, Ceel Gaab and Buulo Baaley IDP settlements in Galkayo who are involved in various small businesses between their settlements and the Galkayo market. The women, who include GBV survivors, formed their association two years ago with the intention of supporting each other morally and financially. They pool money, which they then give to a single chosen member every month to boost their business stock under a system known as *Ayuto* in Somali.
- The rehabilitation of South Galkayo Community Market and of 60 % of the hospital have been completed in the month of November by implementing partner Relief International.
- Implementing partner ILO has supported 250 households (70 % IDPs and 30% from the host community) with a three-week small business training course and four weeks of vocational training in North Galkayo. Following the business training course, ILO was supposed to evaluate the business plans and distribute business start-up cash grants to 150 households. However, due to the recent security problems in Galkayo the cash distribution was postponed. The 100 households that were enrolled in vocational skills training (tailoring, carpentry, cookery, metal work) had their training was put on hold. It is not yet known when it will resume.
- One-hundred IDP and host community households received training in business skills and business planning in South Galkayo. Relief International intended to start paying the business start-up grants to these 100 households, but due to the fighting and tensions following the 22 November these payments have been postponed.

Somaliland

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Durable Solutions

South Central

Kismayo

- During the month of November 2015, one flight of refugee returnees landed in Kismayo with 25 households (121 individuals) on board.



Jubaland authorities receive the refugee returnees in Kismayo international airport. © UNHCR/M. Dakane, November 2015

Dhobley

- The construction of a larger Border Way Station in Dhobley was completed during the month of November 2015. The hand-over certificate was signed by UNHCR and UNOPS in Mogadishu on 29th November, 2015. Originally, UNHCR and UNOPS had planned for the mission to Dhobley to conduct a last inspection and subsequently organize the hand-over ceremony on 28 November, but the mission was cancelled as the DSS aircraft booked for the trip was used for staff evacuation from Galkayo.
- The enlarged and now permanent Way Station will be used to strengthen refugee return infrastructure along with Home Way Stations in three areas return (Kismayo, Baidoa and Luuq). It will have the capacity to accommodate 250 persons with access to basic services, including accommodation, hot meals, clean water, sanitation and medical assistance. UNHCR will have property of the facility and IOM will manage the Way Station as UNHCR implementing partner.

Baidoa

- During the reporting period, 6 households comprising 36 Kenya refugee returnees were received in Baidoa and provided with the return package as set by SOPs and 24 households comprising 73 Yemeni returnees were assisted with a complete return package amounting to the same as that of the Kenya VOLREPs.
- In the second phase of the strengthening livelihood and peaceful coexistence project implemented by DRC, 280 households (85% returnees) were registered for small micro enterprise (SME) cash grants. One hundred among them were provided with SME training on business management. The first 100 plus the 15 best performing among the 35 beneficiaries of phase one of the project have already received cash grant of \$ 600 per beneficiary.
- Infrastructure. Rehabilitation and extension of three Maternal and Child Health (MCH) centres with 200 household beneficiaries (50% returnees) by INTERSOS. Construction and installation of 25 water kiosks for 100 beneficiaries by African Volunteers for Relief and Development (AVORD). Rehabilitation and extension of Abo-Asharow primary and secondary school by AVORD: 100 beneficiaries. Rehabilitation of 300m road in Horseed area (104 beneficiaries) by AVORD. Construction of community recreational centre by contractor through DRC. Community/government-owned land preparation and bush clearing to facilitate seasonal cultivation with 300 beneficiary households by AVORD. Rehabilitation and hygiene improvement of 24 shallow wells with 75 beneficiaries by AVORD.



Baidoa way station, © UNHCR/A. Mohamed Noor, November 2015

Somaliland

- Thirteen cases (39 individuals) that had been submitted for resettlement to Sweden in October were accepted in November.
- Efforts are being made to seek permission from the Djibouti authorities for a group of Ethiopian refugees registered in Somaliland and Somalia to travel there to be interviewed by a US panel completing a selection mission, pending official letter from the MRR&R.
- Clearance has been received from MRR&R for two families composed of 12 individuals currently living in Eritrea who wish to voluntarily return to Somaliland.
- Resettlement countries are restricted by their own domestic policies and cannot undertake missions to Somalia (including Somaliland and Puntland). Since 2007, no resettlement selection missions to Somaliland have taken place and the submission of cases has been done exclusively on a dossier basis. Furthermore, in October 2013 a number of countries closed their dossier based quotas. Although Somalia has a target quota of 200 submissions, only 50 resettlement slots in Sweden have been secured for refugees based in Somalia in 2015.
- UNHCR Hargeisa continues to work to arrange a resettlement selection mission to Somaliland, or a transfer of refugees considered for resettlement selection to conduct interviews abroad.
- As of November 2015, eleven cases (49 individuals) are pending for departure to Canada and seven cases (31 individuals) are pending for departure to France.

Logistics

South Central

Kismayo

- As part of the contingency plans for the El Nino response and preparedness, UNHCR has delivered 5000 EAPs/Shelter kits to Kismayo. The EAP kits will be kept in the stock to respond quickly in the event of an emergency on the ground.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Canada](#) | [Common Humanitarian Fund \(CHF\)](#) | [European Union](#) | [Japan](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [United States of America](#)

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Links:

Somalia Information Portal <http://data.unhcr.org/horn-of-africa/country.php?id=197>

UNHCR-led Somalia Return Consortium <http://somalireturnconsortium.org/> **[NEW]**

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