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Reception of returnees by UNHCR at the Way Station

SOMALIA

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION UPDATE

1 - 31 January 2017

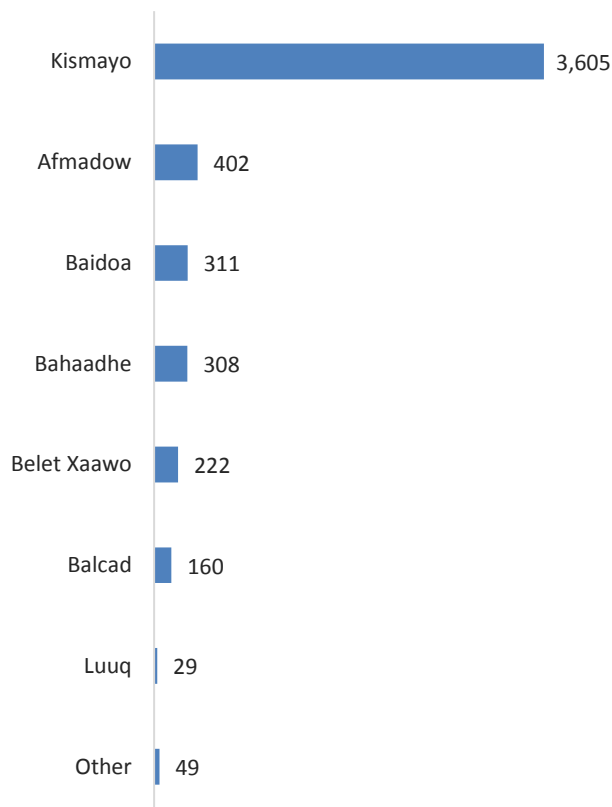
HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 5,086 Somalis **returned** from Kenya with UNHCR assistance;
- 1,104 **non-food item (NFI) kits** were distributed to 806 returnee households consisting of 3,766 returnees;
- UNHCR provided **re-installation grants** to 4,783 returnees comprising 962 households;
- **Education Grants** enabled 5,542 children to access primary and secondary education;
- UNHCR through its partner Norwegian Refugee Council (NCR) constructed 183 **shelters**.

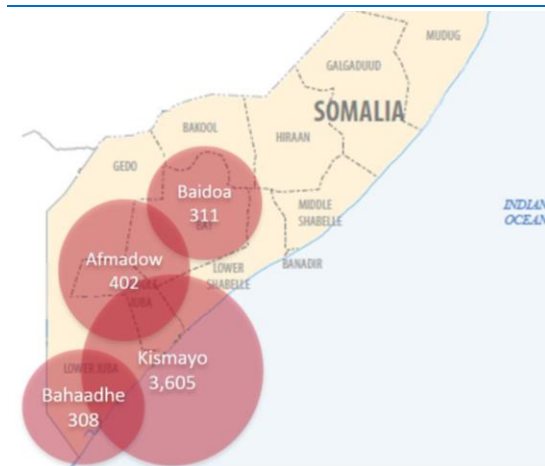
Return figures

- During January 5,086 refugee returnees have been voluntary repatriated from the Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps in Kenya to Somalia, mainly to south and central regions of Somalia. Compared to December 2016, 39 per cent more returnees were received in Somalia in January 2017.
- Since the beginning of the voluntary repatriation exercise in December 2014, a total of 44,982 Somalis returned home.

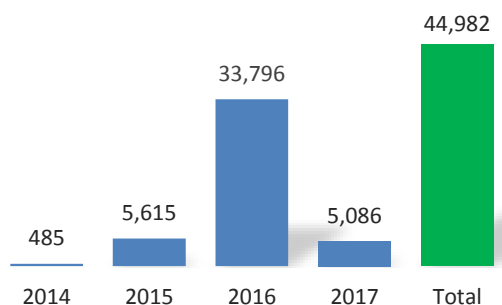
Destination of return in January



Main destinations of returnees in January



Total returns from Kenya



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational context

- The security situation in south and central regions of Somalia remained volatile in January causing repatriation activities to occasionally be postponed.
- On 16 January the first group of returnees from Kenya was received by road convoy since the suspension by Jubaland State in August 2016, followed by the Deyr rains making the roads inaccessible in November.
- A Tripartite Committee Meeting was held among government delegations from Kenya and Somalia, and UNHCR to discuss the repatriation of Somali refugees from Kenya. The objectives of the meeting were to exchange an update on the ongoing repatriation process and acknowledge commitments to support further returnees should the refugees so wish.
- UNHCR participated at meetings in Kismayo on the Durable Solutions Initiative to establish a durable solutions platform and address gaps and progress on shelters for returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs).
- UNHCR attended the monthly Cross-Border Meeting to review the management of returns from Kenya to Somalia.
- UNHCR held a workshop to launch the Peacebuilding Fund cross-border project for voluntary return, co-existence and sustainable reintegration in the areas of return.

Transit assistance

- At the return Way Stations returnees were provided with one night accommodation, hot meals, and information on areas of return and check points, mobile phones to receive the re-installation grant and subsistence allowance.



UNHCR assisting returnees at the Way Station

Enhanced Return Assistance

Re-installation grant

- From January 2017 UNHCR directly implemented the re-installation grant. In January, UNHCR provided re-installation grant in the amount of US\$ 200 per person to 4,783 returnees comprising 962 households.

Education

- Through the provision of education grants, 5,542 children were able to access education in Kismayo and Luuq; 5,350 of these children had access to primary and 192 to secondary education.
- In Baidoa UNHCR, through Danish Refugee Council (DRC), completed the construction of ten sanitation facilities for two primary schools and one university, a water kiosk for one primary school and a perimeter wall for a primary and secondary school.

NFIs

- UNHCR, through partners MC, DRC and American Refugee Council (ARC) distributed 1,104 NFI kits to 806 returnee households consisting of 3,766 returnees at the Home Way Stations in Kismayo, Luuq and Afmadow.



Delivery of NFI kits to the Way Station

Shelter

- UNHCR through partner NRC has completed 183 shelters in January; 30 shelters in Baidoa and 153 shelters in Kismayo. So far a total of 353 shelters out of 605 were completed, 200 in Baidoa and 153 in Kismayo.

Capacity Building

- In Baidoa UNHCR, through DRC, has completed the rehabilitation of the Ministry of Resettlement and Diaspora Affairs (MORDA) facilities.

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