

SOMALIA NEWSLETTER

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

We Stand Together With Refugees



UNHCR Somalia marked 2018 World Refugee Day, in six different locations across the country, together with 3,200 refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees, IDPs, members of the host community, governmental officials and partners. © UNHCR/June 2018

As of June 2018, around 3.6 million Somalis were forcibly displaced; 2.6 million were displaced internally, almost one million were forced to leave the country and 30,959 persons sought international protection in Somalia.

2,648,000

Somalis **displaced internally** because of conflict or hazard

968,901

Somalis sought **refugee** worldwide

30,959

refugees and asylum-seekers in Somalia

In the newly published [Global Trends report](#) for 2017, UNHCR has announced that as of the end of 2017, over 68 million people were displaced around the world. Somalia was the fifth-largest source of refugees with over 986,400 Somali refugees living outside Somalia.

On 20 June, UNHCR Somalia expressed solidarity with people of concern and appreciation to government counterparts for providing asylum and protection to the people in need.

Solidarity with Refugees

War. Conflict. Drought and Floods. These are just some of reasons Somali families had to flee their homes, leaving behind their houses, belongings, jobs, relatives and friends. UNHCR stands with these displaced persons, and works together with government counterparts, NGO partners and UN agencies, to provide displaced persons assistance, protection and opportunities to rebuild their lives.

In June, in six different locations across Somalia, 21 activities took place, involving around 3,200 refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees, IDPs, members of host community, partners and governmental officials, to express solidarity with refugees. These are some of the highlights of the activities organized on World Refugee Day.

Mogadishu: Football Tournament

In Mogadishu, UNHCR organized a workshop on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) prevention and a football tournament. The three-day long tournament between the refugees to foster cohesion, tolerance, inclusiveness and peaceful community coexistence among refugees and the host communities.



Four teams comprising of the host community and Yemeni refugees participated on the tournament. © UNHCR/June 2018

In the final match, the team Qaxootiga Yemen Football Club (FC) representing the Yemeni refugees won against the Walaha FC representing the host community. UNHCR facilitated the tournament and equipped participants with sportswear.

Hargeysa: Cultural Exhibition

In Hargeysa, UNHCR celebrated World Refugee Day together with government counterpart the National Displacement and Refugee Agency of “Somaliland”, and five partners. More than 500 persons celebrated and enjoyed World Refugee Day which featured educative entertainment such as music, drama, poetry, exhibitions and cooking of traditional food by asylum-seekers and refugees.

The celebration was honoured with the presence of the Vice President of “Somaliland”. In his

speech, he emphasized that the host community in “Somaliland” has a long history of solidarity with refugees and thanked UNHCR and NDRA for the exceptional and constant support extended to refugees, asylum seekers and IDPs.



Ethiopian refugees together with UNHCR fostering cohesion, tolerance and community inclusiveness. © UNHCR/June 2018

Galkayo: Poetry Competition

In Galkayo, UNHCR organized a workshop on protection refugees in urban settings and raising awareness on World Refugee Day, a football tournament, a poetry, drama and dance competition, and distributed solar lamps. Around 100 persons participated in the celebration of World Refugee Day, including government officials and UNHCR partners.



A winning team reciting a poem after winning the competition. © UNHCR/June 2018

Four teams comprising of 10 children (five members of the host community and five refugees) participated in a drama and poetry competition. The main objective of the competition was to promote peaceful coexistence between the host community and refugees. One of the performing teams included the following rallying call:

“World Refugee Day is an important day to remind us how our brothers and sisters are suffering around the world. [...] Help, support and protect Refugees.”

Kismayo: Beautifying a Public Facility

World Refugee Day in Kismayo was attended by 180 refugees, returnees, IDPs and members of the host community including representatives of the Jubaland Refugee and IDP Agency (JRIA), the Office of Governor of the Lower Juba region, and the Ministry of Interior After. After the official ceremony, the community, under the leadership of JRIA, cleaned the road along a hospital. Around 100 persons supported the initiative.



Refugees, IDPs, returnees and the host community beautifying the main road alongside Kismayo Hospital. © UNHCR/June 2018

UNHCR Somalia Stands *#With Refugees*

Finding lasting solutions of displaced persons and rebuilding their lives is core of UNHCR work. UNHCR Somalia started applying a new model, called a whole of society approach, that strives helping refugees returning home or build new lives elsewhere. The new model should be adopted this year in the [Global Compact on Refugees](#).

In Somalia, UNHCR supports and protects displaced persons in close collaboration with government and state authorities, and through engagement in the UN Country Team, the Humanitarian Country Team and partnership with national and international NGOs.

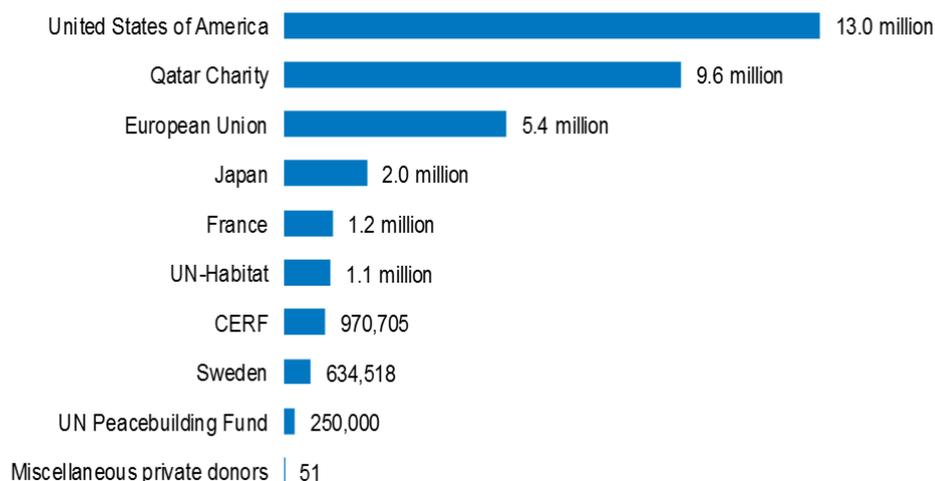
UNHCR Somalia provides protection to displaced persons through support in the following sectors: access to territory; registration and documentation; shelter; education; health; livelihood and self-reliance; cash-based interventions; provision of core relief items; legal support; SGBV prevention and response; peaceful coexistence and community-based protection.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 34.1 million**.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region.

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