

# Somalia

June 2022

UNHCR's operational footprint in Somalia dates back thirty years. Today, UNHCR is present in ten countrywide locations, with its Representation Office based in Mogadishu and a support office in Nairobi, Kenya.

Somalia's operational context remains extremely challenging due to competing political priorities, insecurity from non-state armed actors, and climate change.

In May 2022, Somalia concluded the long-awaited Presidential Election, a step towards securing political stability; yet deep rooted political differences remain.


With the failure of four consecutive rainy seasons, drought conditions have worsened, and eight areas in Somalia are facing risk of famine. Since the beginning of the drought in 2021, more than 900,000 Somalis have been internally displaced.

UNHCR provides protection and assistance for refugees and asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugee returnees, and vulnerable hosting communities.

The operation is working closely with the Federal Government of Somalia and partners to support durable solution initiatives for its persons of concern (PoC). Emergency response to conflict and drought are also central to UNHCR's mandate in Somalia.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

 **2.97** million IDPs

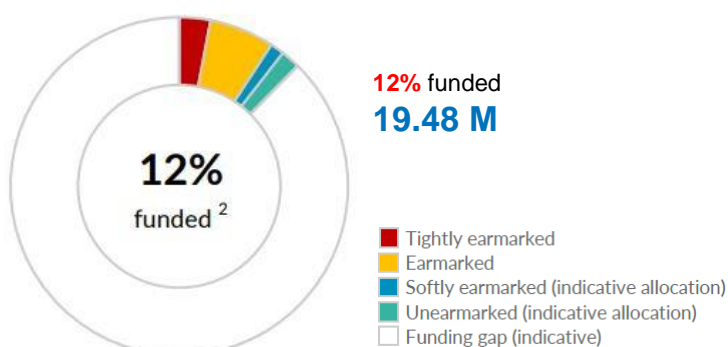
 **33,290** refugees and asylum-seekers

 **135,353** refugee returnees

## FUNDING UPDATE

**USD 157.5 M**

Requested for the Somalia Operation



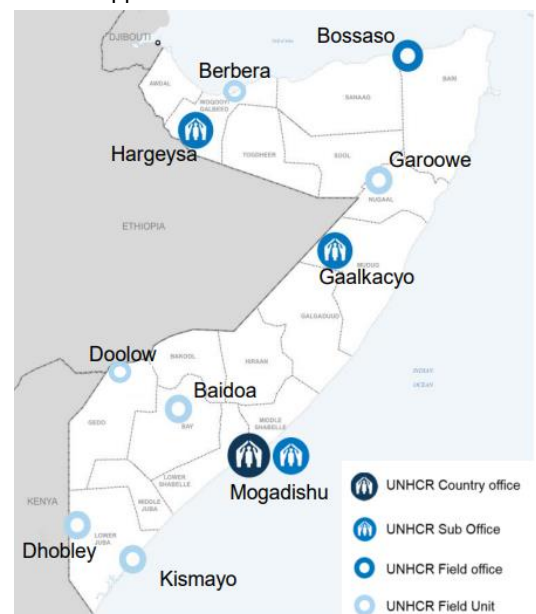
## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

- 121 National Staff
- 47 International Staff
- 30 Affiliated Workforce

### Offices:

- 1 Country Office
- 3 Sub Offices
- 1 Field Office
- 6 Field Units
- 1 Support Office in Nairobi



## Working with Partners

In Somalia, UNHCR is delivering protection and assistance services through 28 partners that include 8 from the government, 12 national and local NGOs, and 8 INGOs. Furthermore, UNHCR also leads the Protection and Shelter Clusters and co-leads the CCCM Cluster.

UNHCR Somalia has finalized Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) standard operating procedure (SOP) to provide understanding, guidance, and direction on the procedures to be followed by UNHCR personnel, implementing partners, contracted service providers, and community-based support structure, when reporting allegations, suspicions, and concerns of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). An all-staff training on the PSEA SOP is scheduled to take place in August.

## Main Activities and Achievements

### Refugees and Asylum-seekers

- Under its core mandate, UNHCR **monitors** the situation of refugees and asylum-seekers in Somalia, including the new arrivals, to ensure their adequate protection and well-being. Majority of refugees and asylum-seekers are from Ethiopia (68%) followed by Yemen and Syria (28%) and the remaining population are from other countries such as Syria and Tanzania. For further reference to the refugee and asylum seeker population, please refer [here](#).
- UNHCR recently trained **60** authorities on **International Refugee Protection** to strengthen the capacity of federal and state authorities to effectively operationalize domestic and international refugee legal instruments.
- UNHCR in 2020 has provided **legal assistance**, including counselling, representation before the court, mediation, and advocacy for release from custody to **430** individuals.
- UNHCR provides **access to essential services**, including education and healthcare, as well as **material and financial assistance** to the most vulnerable. In 2022, **46,816** individuals have received cash assistance to meet their basic needs, **6,310** children have received education grants and services and **5,148** individuals have received hygiene and sanitary materials to ensure the dignity of women and girls of reproductive age.
- UNHCR assists refugees in Somalia to find **durable solutions**, such as local integration and resettlement to a third resettlement country. Since January 2022, the operation has processed **14** cases (57 individuals) for resettlement on emergency basis.

### Somali refugee returnees

- Between 2014 and June 2022, UNHCR has assisted **safe and dignified return** of **92,762** Somali refugee returnees through the **Assisted Spontaneous Returns (ASR)** programme, including 85,620 from Kenya and 5,416 individuals from Yemen, while smaller numbers of Somalis have also returned from other countries. In 2022 alone, UNHCR has supported **286** refugee returnees from Kenya and other countries. The latest data on refugee returnees can be accessed from the [UNHCR Somalia data portal](#).

- UNHCR provides refugees returnees with a **support package** to facilitate their smooth **reintegration** in the community. This includes reintegration and subsistence cash allowance, vocational training and business start-up grants, education, health, and other material assistance upon return. In 2022, **1,382** individuals have received re-integration cash, **933** children have received education support, **113** have received skills training and business grant, and **480** have benefitted from transitional and emergency shelters.

### IDPs

- **Drought and insecurity** are the main triggers for internal displacement in Somalia. Due to the imminent **risk of famine**, the response for the internal displaced is largely centred around the **drought response**, which is coordinated through various stakeholders including the authorities, international organizations, as well as national and international NGOs. UNHCR leads the inter-agency response in **Protection Cluster** and **Shelter Cluster** and co-leads the **CCCM Cluster**. Food, livelihood, shelter, water, health, and non-food items (NFI) are often cited as the top priority needs by the IDPs.
- The **PRMN (Protection and Return Monitoring Network)** is a UNHCR-led project that reports on internal displacements, protection risks, and the triggers for such movements. The data is widely shared with other humanitarian partners for the drought response and is also used for IDP programming, advocacy, and [external publication](#). Following protection assessment in 2022, **2,340** IDPs have been supported with **emergency protection assistance**.

- UNHCR and partners provide **shelter and NFI assistance**, either in-kind or through cash grants, to IDPs and vulnerable host communities across the country. In 2022, more than **87,460** IDPs and host communities, including those who were affected by the drought, have received **lifesaving** NFI and shelter support.



Drought affected IDP woman receives NFIs in Dholeby, Jubaland State. © UNHCR

- Eviction and limited housing, land, and property (HLP) rights remain significant protection concerns in Somalia. UNHCR continues to support **durable solutions** and work closely with local authorities and IDPs to promote **land tenure** and **local integration** for IDPs.
- UNHCR's response for IDPs also include capacity building and **awareness raising** on prevention and response to **gender-based violence (GBV)**, prevention of protection violations, and services available. In 2022, UNHCR has reached **109,450** individuals with awareness raising initiatives and **built capacity** of **1,163** of authorities, partners and community leaders.

## Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Somalia Operation in 2022 amount to some **US\$ 19.48 million**. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have already contributed to this Operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### External / Donors Relations (All listed contributions are in USD)

#### Thanks to the donors of earmarked contributions to Somalia operation in 2022

**United States of America** 9.4 million | **CERF** 2 million | **Japan** 1.1 million | **Sheikh Eid Bin Mohammad Al Thani Charitable Foundation** 1 million | **UNO-Fluechtlingshilfe** 1 million | Republic of Korea | Denmark | Norway | Other private donors

#### Thanks to donors of softly earmarked contributions to UNHCR in 2022

**United States of America** 14.5 million | **Canada** 7.8 million | **Private donors Australia** 4.9 million | **Private donors USA** 4.4 million

Norway | Private donors

#### Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted funds to UNHCR in 2022

**Sweden** 99.3 million | **Norway** 72.5 million | **Netherlands** 37.2 million | **Denmark** 35.6 million | **Private donors Spain** 32.7 million | **United Kingdom** 28.1 | **Germany** 27 million | | **Private donors Japan** 21.8 | **France** 18.5 million | **Switzerland** 18.4 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 16.4 million | **Private donors USA** 15 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million | **Ireland** 11.8 million | **Italy** 10 million

Algeria | Armenia | Azerbaijan | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

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### LINKS

Somalia: [Global Focus](#) | [Somalia: Data Portal](#) | [UNHCR Somalia](#) | [@UNHCRSom](#)

