

Highlights

- More than 270,000 Somalis sought refuge in neighbouring countries so far this year.
- Children account for 80 per cent of some 121,000 refugees sheltered in four camps in Ethiopia's Dollo Ado region.
- Since 25 July more than 37,000 Somali refugees in Kenya relocated to Ifo Extension and Kambioos sites in the Dadaab camp complex.

Somali refugees in the region as at 01 Jan 2011 (by country of asylum)

Country of Asylum	Total
Kenya	351,773
Ethiopia	81,247
Djibouti	14,216
Yemen	180,341
Others	17,306
Total	644,883

Total number of Somali refugees in neighbouring countries as of 01 Sept 2011:

Country of Asylum	Total
Kenya	514,472
Ethiopia	171,419
Djibouti	18,033
Yemen	196,315
Others	17,306
Total	917,545

UNHCR revised emergency financial requirements, including Somalia (in million USD)

Country Operation	Emergency requirements *	Revised total budget (2011)
Kenya	68.8	172.1
Ethiopia	62.7	128.1
Djibouti	4.8	25.5
Somalia	8.6	75.5
Total	144.9	401.2

Percentage funded against revised total budget as at 06 September: 52 %

* included in revised total budget (2011)

New Somali arrivals by country of asylum 01 January to 31 August 2011

Country of Asylum	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Total
Kenya	9,958	10,176	11,334	10,636	9,214	32,383	41,334	37,934	162,969
Ethiopia	6,792	2,016	4,072	6,749	12,045	24,042	19,610	14,846	90,172
Djibouti	384	293	359	246	398	425	833	879	3,817
Yemen	1,735	2,136	2,130	1,571	1,655	1,189	1,118	4,564	16,098
Total	18,869	14,621	17,895	19,202	23,312	58,039	62,895	58,223	273,056

Current situation

- The humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa, prompted by insecurity, drought and hunger at famine levels in southern Somalia, is causing massive displacement within the country and refugee movements across borders into Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia, and Djibouti. Nearly half of Somalia's 7.5 million people have been affected by drought. Almost every third Somali is presently either a refugee or internally displaced. The United Nations has declared famine in six regions of southern Somalia, amid growing concern that the famine could quickly spread across the country and may affect other areas of the Horn of Africa if not addressed through rapid action.
- Currently, there are more than 917,000 Somali refugees and asylum seekers in neighbouring countries, with Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia and Djibouti hosting more than 90 percent of them (Kenya 514,000; Yemen 196,000; Ethiopia 171,000 Djibouti 18,000.) Some 1.5 million Somalis are internally displaced, mostly in the south-central part of the country.
- As of the end of August, the number of Somalis arriving in Kenya this year has topped 162,000. In Dadaab, they continue to arrive at an average of 1,200 per day, bringing the total population in the world's largest refugee camp to some 450,000.
- The Dollo Ado complex of camps in Ethiopia now has a total of some 120,000 Somalis, with arrivals averaging between 200 and 300 a day.

Latest developments

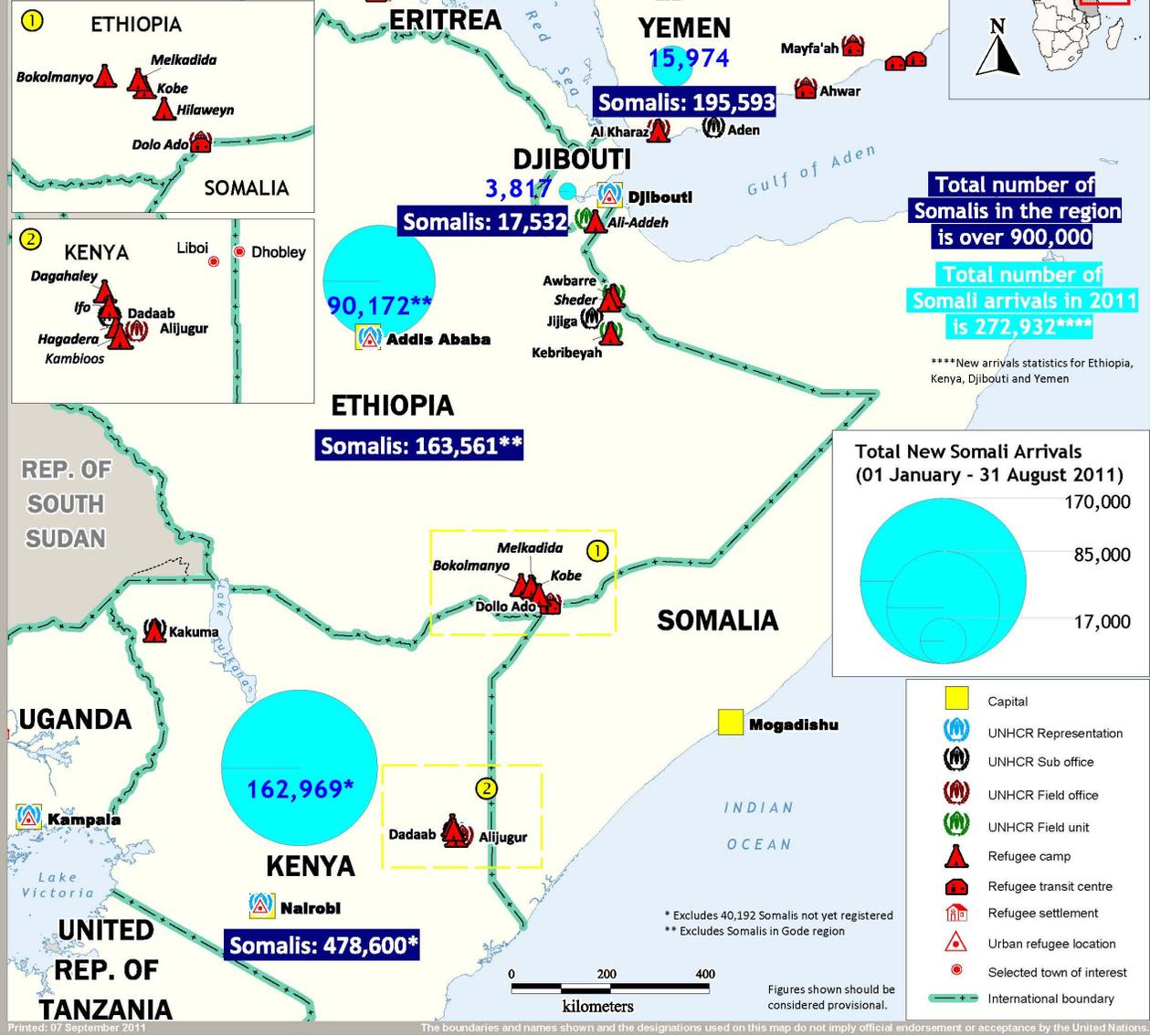
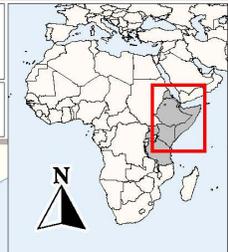
- Amid assessments of a somewhat improved security situation in some parts of Somalia, UNHCR is scaling up its presence in Somalia's border regions and in Mogadishu. On Thursday (08 September) a UNHCR team undertook a mission to Liboi (Kenya) and Doble (Lower Juba), which is the main transit point on the route to Dadaab refugee camps, in order to finalize arrangements for office and accommodation premises in Doble. Once security clearance is obtained, the premises will be also available to other UN agencies and international NGOs, as is already the practice in other UNHCR field offices in other parts of Somalia. This is in line with similar arrangements in Dollow (Gedo region) and Mogadishu, where UNCHR is also securing premises. Presently, UNHCR has national staff in Dollow and Doble and international and national staff in the capital Mogadishu.
- Somali children are the biggest victims of the refugee crisis in the Horn of Africa, according to the latest profiling data collected by UNHCR in Ethiopia. The most recent demographic breakdown of the Somali influx into Ethiopia shows that children under the age of 18 are the largest age group among refugees. Overall, they account for some 80 per cent of the 121,000 refugees sheltered in four camps in south-eastern Ethiopia's Dollo Ado region. The situation is most extreme in the Kobe camp, where children comprise 88.6 per cent of the camp's over-25,000 population. Most families are female-headed households with large numbers of children, including young relatives or orphans.
- In Somalia, UNHCR is supplementing food aid delivered by other agencies in famine-stricken areas in the south. UNHCR is preparing to distribute 7,500 Emergency Assistance Packages (EAPs consisting of plastic sheets, sleeping mats, blankets, jerrycans and kitchen utensils) for nearly 50,000 people in the Bay region, where famine has just been declared. A further 70,000 people are to be assisted in Lower Shabelle, also in famine. Over 50,000 people will be reached through distributions in Mogadishu and 30,000 will be reached in the Gedo and Lower Juba border areas. All in all, by the end of August, UNHCR had reached almost 220,000 people and aims to reach an additional 180,000 by the end of September.
- UNHCR is extremely concerned about the increasingly poor health state of the most recent Somali arrivals in Ethiopia. At the Kobe camp, in the Dollo Ado area, medical screening of new arrivals is recording severe acute malnutrition among 19 percent of children. At nearby Hilaweyn, the rate is 16 percent while in Melkadida and Bokolmanyo the rates are 10 and seven percent respectively. In July UNHCR reported high incidence of acute malnutrition at Dollo Ado camps. Severe acute malnutrition is a more critical level of malnutrition still, posing a particular risk for children below the age of five. UNHCR considers a rate of over one percent to be alarming.

Registered Somalis in the East and Horn of Africa region

As of 31 August 2011

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Sources:
 UNHCR, Global Insight digital mapping © 1998
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Working with partners

UNHCR is coordinating humanitarian assistance in the affected countries and works with sister UN Agencies and other governmental and non-governmental partners.

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