

Somalia

1-31 December 2017

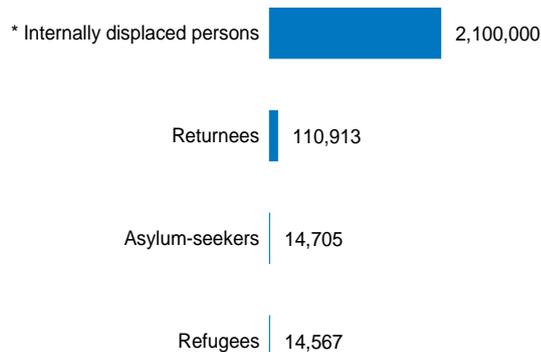
Operating environment was marked with **small-scale attacks**, **political tensions** between the State of Puntland and 'Somaliland' and **forced evictions**.

Drought, insecurity and **conflicts**, remain key drivers of displacement and lack of comprehensive **land tenure framework** remains one of the key drivers for forced evictions.

According to monitoring agencies **drought will continue** in 2018 and can lead to further **increased vulnerability of persons of concern**.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

2.24 M

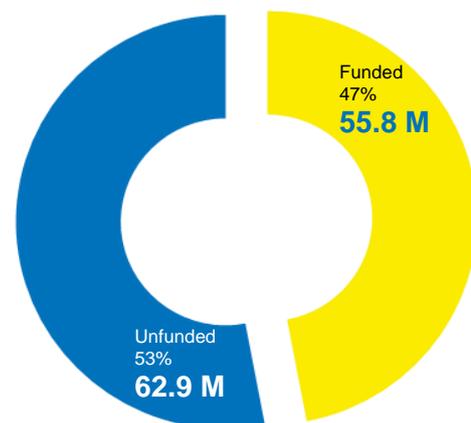


* Estimated internally displaced persons (IDP) as of 31 October 2017 (2018 Humanitarian Response Plan).

FUNDING (AS OF 12 DECEMBER)

USD 118.7 M

requested for Somalia



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff

- 97 National Staff
- 37 International Staff
- 13 Affiliate Workforce
- 8 IUNVs

Offices

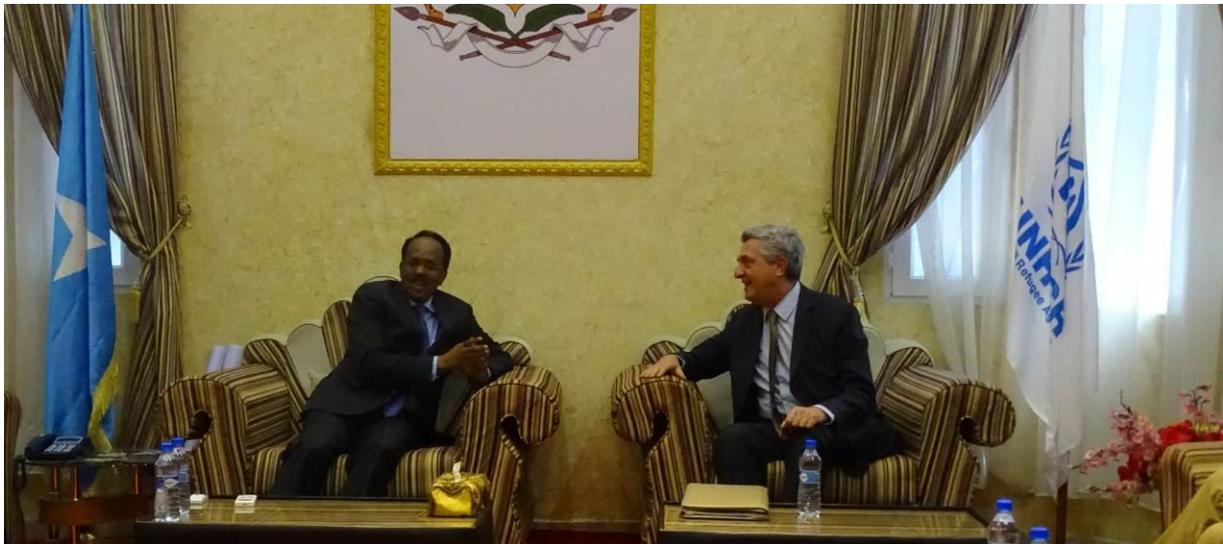
- 1 Branch Office in Mogadishu
- 3 Sub-Offices in Galkacyo, Hargeisa and Mogadishu
- 1 Field Office in Bossaso
- 5 Field Units in Baidoa, Dhobley, Garoowe, Kismayo and Luuq
- 1 Support Office in Nairobi



Major developments

A whole-of-society approach – a new improved way of UNHCR response

Between 17 to 18 December, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees visited Somalia. During his visit the High Commissioner thanked the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia (FRS) for the cooperation and support accorded to UNHCR by the FRS and pledge to the FRS that UNHCR will continue to support persons of concern. The High Commissioner further emphasized that UNHCR will continue investing in housing, education and livelihoods for returning refugees, IDPs and the local population—a whole-of-society approach, a new improved way of UNHCR response known as the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)¹. The High Commissioner also visited implementation sites in Mogadishu in Kismayo, where he laid a foundation stone of a school and opened a settlement for 100 households as well as a school, hospital, police unit, and community market.²



The President of the FRS and the High Commissioner strengthening cooperation. © UNHCR/Mogadishu 2017

The Centrality of Protection Strategy is a paramount in the Humanitarian Response Plan

On 6 December, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) for Somalia adopted the Centrality of Protection Strategy (Strategy). The Strategy was prepared under the leadership of UNHCR and is a result of a wide consultative process among the UN agencies, NGOs, UN mission, donors and researchers on Somalia. The Strategy is paramount in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and underpins the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview, as well as the sector-specific operational response plans in this HRP.³ The aim of the Strategy is to identify and address three key protection risks/threats the populations affected by both drought and multi-layered conflict face, including IDPs, in Somalia today. Namely, the issue of exclusion of populations due to exclusion and discrimination, including those based on societal discrimination, power structures, vulnerability, age, and gender; protection risks/threats with increasing displacement and limited options for solutions; and the need to access conflict affected communities subjected to indiscriminate attacks and destruction of assets vital for their survival by empowering their self-protection and resilience mechanisms.

¹ See "Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework": <http://www.unhcr.org/comprehensive-refugee-response-framework-crrf.html>, 16.01.2018.

² See "UN refugee chief finds Somalia suffering from instability and drought, but sees hope": <http://www.unhcr.org/5a3818904.html>, 16.01.2018.

³ See "2018 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan", the Humanitarian Country Team for Somalia: https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/2018_somalia_hrp_final_draft_18122017_0.pdf.pdf, 16.01.2018.

Emergency response

Since the beginning of drought in November 2016 to December 2017, UNHCR has supported to 844,467 drought affected people (485,208 with water, 268,352 benefited from CRIs, 42,713 with health, sanitation and hygiene activities, 32,548 with SGBV and other protection interventions, 15,646 with cash assistance).

- During December, UNHCR provided immediate support to 38,582 persons: 26,400 with water, 9,378 benefited from CRIs, 2,204 were reached with SGBV interventions and 600 with sanitation and hygiene.⁴ While in an IDP settlement in Luuq (Gedo region) UNHCR ensured long-term solution for 200 families (1,200 persons) with constructing 30 latrines, one well and one water tank.



UNHCR conducting the post-distribution monitoring of CRI at IDP sites in Baidoa. © UNHCR/December 2017

New displacements

Based on provisional figures from the UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) more than 1.13 million individuals have been newly displaced during 2017 (drought-related 893,000, conflict-related 203,000 and 34,000 other reasons).

- During December PRMN monitored some 35,000 persons being newly internally displaced - the main reason given was drought-related for 18,000, conflict or insecurity-related⁵ for 15,000 and other reasons 1,000, up from 33,000 in November.
- More than 5,000 IDP returns were also monitored during the month from Baidoa district (Bay region) to villages within the same and surrounding districts.

⁴ From 1 to 31 December, UNHCR provided water to 26,400 persons in Lower Juba region; 9,378 persons benefited from CRIs (6,000 persons (1,000 households) benefited from 1,000 kits of CRIs in Mudug region, 1,872 persons (312 households) benefited from 312 emergency shelter kits and 1,200 persons (200 households) from kits of CRIs in Bari region and 306 persons (51 households) benefited from 51 kits of CRI in Lower Juba region; and 2,204 were reached with SGBV interventions in Bay region.

⁵ The conflict-related displacements reportedly arose primarily due to conflict between al-Shabaab and government forces in the districts of Afgooye, Marka and Wanla Weyn in Lower Shabelle region (7,000 persons) and also from Balcad district in Middle Shabelle region (2,000 persons). A spike of 2,000 persons in conflict-induced displacements was noted in Bari region due to airstrikes and armed conflict between Puntland forces and ISIS in Qandala district. In addition, new clan conflict in Cabudwaaq district (Galgaduud region) led to new displacements of more than 2,000 persons. Conflict and insecurity due to non-state armed groups (which can include violence, murder, extortion, execution, kidnappings, destruction of property and livelihood assets) is both a direct driver for internal displacement as well as an indirect driver. In areas controlled by non-state armed groups (NSAGs) humanitarian organisations do not have access to deliver assistance directly where needed, so their presence is restricted to regional towns controlled by government forces. This means that those in need, as a result of the prolonged drought (because of lack of food, water and livelihoods), are forced to displace (if they can) to these urban locations in order to access assistance. Moreover, military campaigns by government and allied forces aimed at driving out NSAGs and ensuing retaliatory attacks directly lead to new displacements as people fear for their lives because of cross-fire, air-strikes, destruction of property.

Cluster approach

UNHCR leads the Protection (PC) and Shelter and NFI Cluster (SC) and co-leads the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM) to implement humanitarian response in Somalia. Below is showed their progress and challenges during the month of December.

Protection Cluster

Throughout the whole of 2017 PC reached a total of 763,966 individuals translating to 42 per cent of the annual population targeted.

- In December PC reached a total of 55,846 individuals with protection activities; Child protection sub-cluster: 6,652 persons; SGBV sub-cluster: 34,119 persons, Housing, land and property sub-cluster: 1,741 persons; Explosive hazard sub-cluster: 13,223 persons and 111 through general protection).
- PC is working with the HCT and the ICCG to finalise the HCT Centrality of Protection Strategy Implementation Framework and the selection of lead agencies/focal points for the various workstreams.
- PC is planning a coordination training and strategy development workshop, bringing together sub-national coordination staff from all AoRs. A planned outcome of the workshop is a multi-year overarching Protection Cluster Strategy.

Shelter and NFI Cluster

In 2017, SC reached a total of 927,312 persons in need: 430,968 with non-food items, and 326,682 with emergency shelter kits, 41,424 with plastic sheeting only, 24,210 with transitional shelter, 12,216 with permanent shelter, 15,780 with solar lamps only, 40,200 with jerry cans only, 936 with utensils only, and 258 with blankets only.

- During December, SC provided support to 185,334 persons (39,594 with non-food items, 97,002 with emergency shelter kits, 6,306 with plastic sheeting, 3,270 with transitional shelter, 2,544 with permanent shelter and 1,500 with solar lamps).
- SC continue to face several challenges in delivering humanitarian assistance, such as constraints due to government policies on construction sector, lack of dedicated regional focal points in some regions to coordinate cluster activities; lack of land to relocate the new IDPs to reduce secondary displacements; limited funding and logistical constraints (high costs of transport, inaccessible roads, and insecurity).

The Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster

In December, CCCM has completed with service mapping also in Baidoa (Bay region) and Garoowe (Mudug region) out of total 14 regions reaching over 1.5 million IDPs. Service mappings give site level information on which partners are providing key services. This allows CCCM partners to flag gaps in services and duplication in activities.

- In Dollow (Gedo region) 934 households were successfully relocated from overcrowded areas in Kabasa site to the new site extension. The new site was planned to ensure adequate living conditions, including more space and safer access to services.

Refugees and asylum-seekers

Registration

- As of 31 December, UNHCR registered 29,272 refugees and asylum-seekers, 14,705 asylum-seekers and 14,567 refugees: 62 per cent represents Ethiopians, 37 per cent Yemenis and one percent others.⁶

Refugee Status Determination

- During December, UNHCR conducted Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews for 13 Ethiopian families (55 persons).

New arrivals from Yemen

- Since the beginning of crisis in Yemen in March 2015, 41,340 new arrivals (34,990 Somalis (34,176 spontaneous and 814 assisted), 5,986 Yemenis and 364 third country nationals) arrived to Somalia (6,580 in 2017, including 5,515 Somalis (4,701 spontaneous and 814 assisted), 1,014 Yemenis and 51 others).⁷ During December, 1,050 new arrivals, 905 Somalis (509 spontaneous and 396 assisted) and 145 Yemenis reached Somalia by sea.

Education

- In December, 190 refugees and asylum-seekers were newly enrolled in education, 189 in primary lower and one in upper primary education.

Health

- In December, UNHCR provided access to health care services to 1,347 refugees and asylum-seekers, including 1,241 to primary health care services and 106 referrals to secondary and tertiary health care.

Cash assistance

- UNHCR provided cash assistance to 2,289 refugee and asylum-seekers households (6,344 persons): 2,190 households (6,176 persons) received their monthly subsistence allowance and 99 households (168 persons) received one time emergency cash assistance.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

- In December two livelihood activities took place: 40 persons (Bossaso) finished a vocational training in beauty salon, computer, electrics, tailoring, and four (Galkacyo) in entrepreneurship. While (in Hargeysa) 229 persons were facilitated to access self-employment opportunities. Out of 229 persons, 71 attended language class, 43 literacy, 29, computer, 40 accounting and 46 children attended play groups. During the month of December a total of 273 persons (188 refugees and asylum-seekers and 85 members of host community) were provided livelihood support.

⁶ See "UNHCR Somalia – Refugee, asylum-seekers and returnees at 31 December 2017": <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/61531>, 16.01.2018.

⁷ See "UNHCR Somalia – Arrivals from Yemen at 31 December 2017": <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/61532>, 16.01.2018.

Returnees⁸

Protection and return support

- During December, return movement was assisted by air (from Kenya) and sea (from Yemen). Return convoys⁹ from Kenya to Somalia remain temporarily suspended due to impassable roads made by rains and currently insecurity in return areas in Somalia.
- To ensure that Somali refugees make an informed and voluntary decision about their return, UNHCR in Somalia has shared the Country of origin information (COI) for the month of November with the Return Help Desk in Refugee Camps in Kenya and Yemen.
- The pilot phase of the Post Return Monitoring assessment (PRM) has started and data collection has been ongoing since the fourth quarter of 2017. In the period between 1 October and 31 December 2017, a total of 828 households have been interviewed (76 per cent by telephone and 24 per cent in face-to face interviews).

Return figures

- Since the beginning of repatriation in 2014, a total of 110,913 Somalis returned to Somalia; 75,297 from Kenya, 34,990 from Yemen (34,176 spontaneous and 814 assisted) and 626 from other countries of asylum (589 from Djibouti, 34 from Eritrea, two from Tunisia, and one from Pakistan).
- During the month of December a total of 1,596 Somali returnees have returned, 902 from Yemen (396 were voluntary repatriated and 506 returned spontaneously) and 691 were repatriated from Kenya).

Core relief items

- In December, UNHCR provided 510 CRI kits to 314 returnee households (1,055 persons), 337 kits were distributed to 164 households (690 persons) from Kenya and 173 kits to 150 households (365 persons) from Yemen.

Cash assistance

- In December, UNHCR released reinstallation grants to 1,267 refugee returnees (339 households); 1,046 persons (249 households) from Kenya and 221 persons (90 households) from Yemen.

Shelter

- In December, 50 permanent shelters and 33 latrines were constructed. Between January and December, a total of 1,041 shelters and 442 latrines have been built.¹⁰

Community empowerment and self-reliance

- In December 1,976 persons (1,337 returnees, 299 IDP and 340 members of host community) were part of various projects. Out of 1,976 persons, 1,260 were part of a cash for work (CfW) programme (1,000 in Mogadishu, 100 in Luuq, 100 in Afmadow and 60 in Baidoa), 406 were enrolled in technical and educational vocational training (136 in Hargeysa, 110 in Mogadishu, 100 in Kismayo and 60 in Baidoa), 120 in small-business programme (65 in Mogadishu, 50 in Luuq, 40 in Kismayo and five in Hargeysa) and 190 were assisted with self-employment opportunities (101 in Kismayo and 89 in Hargeysa).

⁸ See "Repatriation Update, 1-31 December 2017": <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/61546>, 16.01.2018.

⁹ The temporary suspension of the road convoys was put in place on 5 April 2017 following the security incidents and subsequent Deyr rainfall.

¹⁰ The figures are provisional and can be adjusted after final verification.

Internally displaced persons

Forced eviction

- The forced mass eviction of 29 and 30 December 2017 left over 4,000 families (over 24,000 persons) in 21 IDP camps at Km13 in Mogadishu without their homes, property and assets. In a disputes between two parties over land ownership ended up in mass displacement. Since 2015, according to the Protection Cluster Eviction Tracker, on average each year more than 155,000 persons have been evicted across Somalia.



An IDP with his property whose shelter was destroyed during the forced eviction. © NCRI/December 2017

SGBV

- UNHCR reduced protection risks of 12,175 persons: 7,300 IDPs benefited from installed 50 solar lights (27 May and Aqil Yare IDP settlements in Togdeer region); 2,100 IDPs (2,000 in Mudug region and 100 in Banadir region) received solar lanterns; 1,200 persons were reached through text messages (Mudug region); 410 persons participated at awareness raising sessions (Banadir, Mudug and Woqooyi Galbeed regions), 318 persons (70 IDP in Banadir region and 10 IDP and 238 stakeholders in Mudug region) were trained on prevention and response, 103 persons (53 IDP and 50 stakeholders in Togdeer and Woqoyi Gableed regions) participated at workshop, 564 persons received dignity kits (Banadir, Bari and Mudug regions) and 165 survivors were identified and provided with assistance (Banadir, Bari and Nugaal regions).
- UNHCR also reduced protection risks of 850 families (5,100 persons) in Aqil Yare IDP settlement (Burco) by constructing a police post. UNHCR handed over the police post to Burco regional authorities.

Water and sanitation

- UNHCR provided long-term solution for 497 families (2,782 persons): 2,002 persons (367 families) in 27 May IDP settlement (Hargeysa) are accessing to potable water through eight newly constructed water kiosks; and 780 persons (130 families) in 11 IDPs settlements (Togdheer region) have improved sanitation and hygiene conditions following construction of 76 latrines.

Core relief items

- In December, UNHCR distributed 8,774 sanitary kits to 8,774 IDP women and girls of reproductive age (Mudug and Galgaduud regions), and 20 kits of CRI to 20 families (120 persons) in Bossaso who's shelters have been damaged by fire.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

- UNHCR supported 1,003 persons (825 IDPs and 144 members of the host community) with livelihood activities. 500 completed with vocational skills training (in beauty salon, carpentry, cooking, masonry, solar power system and tailoring in Banadir, Galgaduud and Banadir regions), registered 100 IDPs (Lower Juba region) and 269 IDPs completed with entrepreneurship programmes (100 IDPs in Banadir and 169 in Mudug regions).

External / Donors relations

Donors who have contributed to the operation in 2017

United States of America | Japan | European Union | CERF | Saudi Arabia | Germany | France | Belgium | Austria | Italy | Sweden | Priv Donors Germany | Sheikh Thani Bin Abdullah Foundation | MBC Al Amal | Canada | UN Peacebuilding Fund | Jassim and Hamad Bin Jassim Charit Found | GSK | Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints | Priv Donors Switzerland | UNIQLO Co., Ltd | Priv Donors USA | Priv Donors Italy

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (266 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Priv Donors Spain (60 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | United Kingdom (45 M) | Norway (41 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (29 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Priv Donors Italy (19 M) | Australia (19 M) | Priv Donors USA (16 M) | Canada (16 M) | Priv Donors Japan (15 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Priv Donors Sweden (12 M) | Germany (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

Algeria | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Chile | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Holy See | Iceland | Indonesia | Ireland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Morocco | New Zealand | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Spain | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Zambia | Private Donors

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