

Somalia

1-31 January 2022


Entering a new year, the operational environment in Somalia continued fluid. The House of People elections, which are scheduled to be completed at the end of February, continued across the country.

The worsening drought conditions led to the internal displacement of more than 300,000 individuals. As part of inter-agency efforts, UNHCR continued to assess and respond to the needs of drought-affected households.

In addition, UNHCR provide protection, assistance, and solutions to persons of concern across the country, as well as a continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

KEY INDICATORS

 **2.97** million IDPs

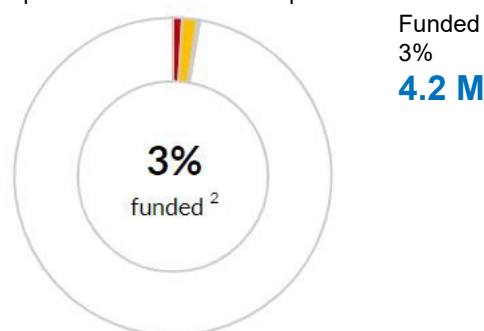
 **14,047** refugees
16,814 asylum-seekers

 **134,276** refugee returnees

FUNDING (AS OF 25 JANUARY)

USD 157.5 M

requested for the Somalia operation



Handover of classroom furniture. © UNHCR

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

Somalia hosts close to 31,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, of which 71% are women and children. The vast majority of refugees and asylum-seekers (68%) are from Ethiopia, followed by Yemen (28%). Most refugees and asylum-seekers reside in urban or peri-urban settings across Woqooyi Galbeed and Bari regions, in the northern parts of the country.

Entering 2022, the operational context in Somalia remained complex and characterized by insecurity, displacement as well as political turmoil due to the ongoing elections. By the end of January, the House of People elections remained in progress. The Federal Government of Somalia has committed to finalize the House of People elections as well as the long overdue Presidential elections by 25 February.

Somalia continued to be severely impacted by the drought, for which a state of emergency was issued in November 2021. The UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), implemented in partnership with NRC, reported 317,000 new internal displacements in January. Of these, a staggering 309,000 were triggered by drought or lack of livelihood while 7,000 were related to conflict and insecurity. The number of internal displacements increased significantly in January, in comparison to the 900,000 internal displacements reported in all of 2021. Displaced families continued to be in dire need of food, shelter and NFIs, and are faced with multiple protection risks. Many drought-affected families arrived in overcrowded IDP settlements, where services are already overstretched. For more information on this, see [PRMN Flash Report](#) from 29 January. Directly, and through the UNHCR-led clusters, UNHCR and partners continued to respond to the immediate needs of the displaced families.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Multipurpose cash assistance

- In January, UNHCR distributed monthly multipurpose cash grants to 1,523 refugee and returnee households across the country.

Prevention and response to GBV

- Through partners and GBV committees, UNHCR identified 36 GBV cases in January across the country. Survivors were provided with medical care, psychosocial and legal support as well as dignity kits.

Legal assistance and capacity development

- In January, 19 refugees and 34 asylum-seekers living in Galkayo, Garowe, Gardo and Bossaso were assisted with various legal assistance services including counselling, representation before the court, mediation and advocacy for release from custody.

Telling the Real Story

- In an effort to increase public awareness of the dangers of irregular movements, *tahriib*, UNHCR and partners carried out several information campaigns, reaching 1,334 individuals across IDP sites in Baidoa, Dhobley, Fanole, Galbeed, and Dalxiska.

Registration

- UNHCR and partners conducted a joint verification exercise for the new Ethiopian arrivals in the Qansaxley IDP camp, Dollow. A total of 203 cases (583 individuals) of Ethiopian asylum-seekers were registered during the registration mission in Dollow. In addition, UNHCR conducted verification of 41 newly arrived Ethiopian households in Kabasa IDP camp. The verified households will be registered in early February.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Through its partner, UNHCR covered the January-May school fees for 3,033 refugee and asylum-seeker students in primary schools, and for 451 students in secondary schools. Furthermore, 635 refugee and asylum-seeker students received transportation to school.
- To improve school infrastructure, UNHCR provided three schools in Bossaso, Garowe and Galkayo with classroom furniture (15 desks and 15 tables with white board). These public schools are attended by refugee and asylum-seeker students, as well as children from poor host communities and IDPs living the surrounding areas.
- UNHCR, along with other UN agencies and various organizations, attended the Somaliland National Education Conference Program, organized by the Ministry of

Education. During this meeting, the MoE presented the estimated cost for implementing the Education Sector Strategic Plan 2022-2026 on an annual basis.



Achievements and Impact

- As part of UNHCR's regular healthcare activities in January, a total of 688 refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs and hosting communities were provided with primary and secondary healthcare, while 12 individuals were referred to further care, including tertiary healthcare.

COVID-19 prevention and response

- UNHCR continued to support a quarantine and isolation facility at Berbera regional hospital, in Somaliland.
- In January, a total of 3,806 IDPs were reached through information campaigns across IDP sites in Baidoa on good hygiene practices and prevention of COVID-19.
- Through its partner hospital in Mogadishu, UNHCR distributed COVID-19 PPEs to 241 patients. The PPEs distributed by Hanano Hospital included Face masks, hand sanitizers and gloves. Hand washing facilities were also installed at the hospital entrance and other public places to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemics.



DROUGHT RESPONSE

- CCCM partners recorded a large number of displaced populations arriving at IDP sites in Kahda, Daynile, Dollow, Belehawa, Galkayo and Baidoa due to the impact of droughts in rural areas.
- UNHCR supported 995 drought-affected households in and around Kismayo villages with a multipurpose cash grant of USD 150 per household.
- In response to drought assessment findings, UNHCR has coordinated with relevant parties, including the government offices, regarding the distribution of cash for NFIs to 4,000 drought-affected households in Puntland and Galmudug states. The registration of beneficiaries has been completed and will be followed by the disbursement of cash grants.
- In Somaliland, the national drought committee has released an appeal for increased drought response.



SHELTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NFIS

Shelter/NFI Achievements and Impact

- Through its partner, UNHCR continued the construction of hybrid shelters in Jeehdin settlements. So far, the first 120 households have completed their construction, while construction is still ongoing for additional households.
- In January, 2,644 asylum-seeker households in Bossaso, Gardho, Garowe and Bossaso were provided with cash for NFIs.
- A fire erupted at Nasahablood A IDP camp, resulting in 30 houses either partially destroyed or dismantled. In addition to the destroying of the makeshift shelters, many families also lost other household items. Through its partner, UNHCR distributed standard NFI kits to 30 HHs (134 individuals).



A woman received an NFI kit at Nasahablood A IDP Settlement Area in Hargeisa, Somaliland © UNHCR



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Community empowerment

- To strengthen participation, consultation and empowerment of refugees and other persons of concern, four monthly community meetings were organized in Bossaso and Galkayo. During the community meetings, participants discussed activities planned for 2022 and consulted refugees on way forward for increasing utilization of health and nutrition services. Participants included MoH and MoIFAD staff.

Cluster coordination and leadership

Protection Cluster

In January, the Protection Cluster, led by UNHCR, provided the following services:

A total of **323,008** individuals were reached through protection monitoring.

A total of **3,937** individuals were provided with community based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services.

A total of **1,702 individuals** were reached with capacity-building training for duty bearers and community members with a particular focus on minority communities on protection and awareness of rights initiatives.

To ensure the access to complaint and feedback mechanisms, the Protection Cluster partners on the ground received and responded feedback complaint and mechanisms from **400** individuals.

A total of **63 individuals** (37 women, and 26 men) were reached with specialized protection assistance, including victim assistance services.

In addition, the Protection Cluster organized a virtual Quarterly Joint Analysis Workshop (JAW) for Galmudug state. The session was organized to review the validity and relevance of the Somalia Protection Monitoring System (SPMS) findings (August – October 2021), identify the root causes and triggers of key protection concerns and agree on specific response mechanisms by the stakeholders. This

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