







SOMALIA

REPATRIATION UPDATE

1 - 31 March 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

	8,034 returnees returned to Somalia
	2,831 core relief items distributed
	1,035 newly enrolled students
	7,930 returnees provided with reinstallation grants
	74 shelters and 32 latrines constructed
	2,222 beneficiaries enrolled in community based projects

RETURN FIGURES

Country of asylum	1-31 March 2017	1 January - 31 March 2017	Cumulatively ¹
Kenya	7,536	20,897	60,785
Yemen	498	1,124	30,599
Other	-	2	104
Total	8,034	22,023	91,488



Returnees preparing for departure from the Way Station in Dhobley to their final destinations.

¹ A total of 91,488 Somali refugees returned to Somalia, including 60,785 from Kenya since the beginning of a voluntary repatriation exercise in December 2014, 30,599 from Yemen since March 2015 and another 102 Somalis returned between 2015 and 2017 from Djibouti (68 individuals), Eritrea (33 individuals) and Pakistan (one individuals).

UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational context

- On 6 March, UNHCR Somalia shared updated Country of Origin Information (COI) with the help desks in the refugee camps in Kenya. The COI includes information on drought, AWD/Cholera and election.
- On 25 March, the Intergovernmental Agency on Development (IGAD) held a special summit in Nairobi on Somali refugees to help find sustainable and durable solutions for Somalia refugees and reintegration of returnees in Somalia.



Return Figures

- During March, 8,034 Somali refugees returned to Somalia, 7,536 from Kenya and 498 from Yemen.
- In 2017, a total of 22,023 Somalis have returned, 20,897 from Kenya, 1,124 from Yemen and two from Tunisia.



Return Assistance

- UNHCR with partners provided assistance to returnees from Kenya at the Home Way Stations in Mogadishu (Banadir region), Kismayo (Lower Juba region), Afmadow (Lower Juba region), Baidoa (Bay region) and Luuq (Gedo region). At the Way Stations, returnees were given an information session on assistance available in areas of return, transport options, security on route, Mine Risk Education and availability of health services, as well as accommodation, hot meals, potable water, medical assistance and sanitation facilities. In the month of March, return assistance was provided to 5,713 in Kismayo, 1,021 in Mogadishu, 890 in Afmadow, 759 in Baidoa and 54 in Luuq.



Returnees at the Way Station during the information session in Kismayo [left] and at the Way Station in Baidoa [right].

- Somali returnees from Yemen were received at the Reception Centre in Bossaso (Bari region), Berbera (Woqooyi Galbeed region) and also at the Home Way Station in Mogadishu. UNHCR with partners provided to all returnees hot meals, potable water, accommodation, information counselling and access to sanitation facilities. In March, 287 Somalis were assisted in Berbera, 244 in Mogadishu and 211 in Bossaso.

Core Relief Items

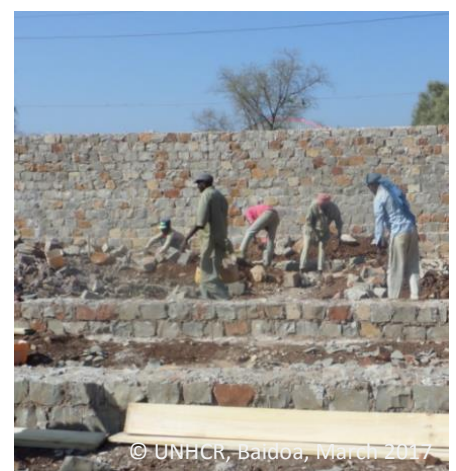
- During the month, 2,620 Core Relief Item (CRI) kits² for returnees from Kenya were distributed at Way Stations to 1,968 households comprising; 1,643 CRI kits to 1,226 households in Kismayo, 493 CRI kits to 405 households in Mogadishu, 265 CRI kits to 178 households in Afmadow, 200 CRI kits to 144 households in Baidoa and 19 CRI kits to 15 households in Luuq. Returnees are entitled for a CRI kit based on three different levels of a family size (one CRI kits for a family with up to five members, two CRI kits for a family with six to 10 members and three CRI kits for a family with more than 11 members).
- CRI kits were also distributed to returnees from Yemen at the reception centres. In March, 211 CRI kits were provided to 211 households; of which 171 CRI kits in Berbera and 40 CRI kits in Bossaso.



Distribution of CRI kits to returnees at the Way Station in Baidoa.

Education

- UNHCR with partners Mercy Corps (MC) and Danish Refugee Council (DRC) registered a total of 1,035 students, 987 in primary education and 48 in secondary education; 705 in Mogadishu, 200 in Dhobley, 100 in Afmadow and 30 in Luuq.
- In Baidoa, UNHCR partner African Volunteers for Relief and Development (AVORD) continue with rehabilitation of the Howlwadaag primary school, two classrooms and a perimeter wall.



Construction of a perimeter wall in the Howlwadaag primary school in Baidoa.

² CRI kit consists of: three blankets, two 10 litres jerry cans; seven boxes of BP-5(a ready to eat snack with high calorie and vitamins); three soap bars; three sleeping mats; one plastic sheet; two cooking pots; one large spoon and kitchen knife and five table spoons, plates and metal cups.



Cash Assistance

Reinstallation Grants

- In March, UNHCR provided one time reinstallation grants in the amount of US\$ 200 per person to 7,536 returnees from Kenya and 394 returnees from Yemen.

Subsistence Allowance

- UNHCR has also provided subsistence allowances in the amount of US\$ 200 per household to 4,900 returnees from Kenya and 200 returnees from Yemen.



Shelter

- During March, UNHCR partner Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) completed the construction of 74 shelters and 32 latrines in Kismayo. In 2017, NRC has constructed 287 shelters and 112 latrines in Kismayo and 30 shelters and 100 latrines in Baidoa.



© UNHCR, Kismayo, March 2017

Construction of UNHCR supported shelters through NRC in Kismayo.



Community Empowerment and Self Reliance

Cash for Work

- In Baidoa, UNHCR's partner INTERSOS started the rehabilitation of the Wadajir Mother Child Hospital and sanitation facilities in the IDP camps through a cash for work program with 200 beneficiaries (140 returnees, 40 IDPs and 20 host community).
- UNHCR partner AVORD continued with a cash for work program for with 70 beneficiaries (34 returnees and 15 host community members) for the rehabilitation of the Howlwadaag primary school, two classrooms and a perimeter wall in Baidoa. Beneficiaries have also received their incentives for the month of March.
- Another 200 beneficiaries, 140 returnees, 40 IDPs and 20 host community, were identified and registered by UNHCR partner DRC in a cash for work program for scrub clearance in Luuq.
- In Afmadow, UNHCR partner American Refugee Council (ARC) identified and registered 100 beneficiaries (60 returnees, 20 host community and 20 IDPs) in a cash for work program for road rehabilitation.

Technical and Vocational Training

- UNHCR partner ARC selected 100 youth (60 returnees and 40 host community) in Kismayo, for training in construction, fabric dying, IT, baking, and tailoring.
- In Kismayo, UNHCR partner ARC registered 80 beneficiaries, 60 returnees, 20 IDPs and 20 host community in fish preservation and fish drying techniques.
- In March, UNHCR together with partner African Action Help-International (AAH-I) in Somaliland, registered 139 Somali returnees for technical and vocational training in carpentry and joinery, plumbing, tailoring, beauty therapy, hair dressing, fabric dying, soap production, cooking, and provided business grants to start up seven new business.

Small-Business Enterprise

- In Luuq, 70 beneficiaries (49 returnees, 14 IDPs and seven host community) were registered in a small-business enterprise (SBE) project through UNHCR partner DRC.
- UNHCR partner Action Semi-Arid Land (ASAL) conducted an assessment for Somali returnees living in Puntland and identified 834 returnee households; 385 in Garowe, 279 in Gardo, and 170 in Bossaso to be trained in small business skills and management who will be provided with business cash grants on successful completion of the course.

Agricultural Production

- In March, a total of 450 beneficiaries (240 host community, 110 returnees and 100 IDPs) received through UNHCR partner AVORD agriculture production kits consisting of farming tools (two hoes, axe, rake, shovel, panga, kawawa and knife) as well as seeds (15 kg of sorghum, 5 kg of cowpeas and 15 kg of sesame).



UNHCR and partner AVORD mobilizing returnees, IDPs and host community to start planting.

- At the same time each beneficiary's land plot (one hectare) was prepared for the planting before the expected *Gu* rains in April. The project is implemented by UNHCR partner AVORD in Baidoa.



Cultivation of a land before the expected *Gu* rains across seven villages in Baidoa.

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UNHCR Somalia

Caroline Van Buren, Representative, vanburen@unhcr.org, Cell: +252 616 141 315, Cell +254 731 688 141

Julien Navier, Senior External Relations Officer, navier@unhcr.org, Tel: +254 20 420 2102, Cell: +254 732 400 044