

Somalia

1-30 November 2017



UNHCR Representative receiving refugee returnees upon their arrival in Kismayo. © UNHCR/Kismayo, 2017

Highlights

Main achievements during the month of November

Number of returnees ¹	819 Somalis returned to Somalia
Core relief items	225 CRIs distributed to 177 households (708 persons)
Reinstallation grants	286 returnees provided with reinstallation grants
Education	3,371 newly enrolled students
Shelters	34 shelters and 11 latrines constructed
Community-based projects	2,354 beneficiaries of community-based projects

¹ Figure shows returnees who have been registered with the UNHCR.

Updates on Achievements

UNHCR together with government counterparts and partners continued providing assistance to Somali refugees who decided to voluntarily return home. To ensure sustainable reintegration of Somali refugee returnees, UNHCR provides the enhanced return package². Detailed achievements throughout November are presented below per sector.

Protection and Return Support

Return Management

- The Government of Kenya have now authorized resumption of road convoys to Somalia but due to rainfalls in the region (Dhobley town, Lower Juba region), most of the return routes are not accessible, making return by road not feasible.
- Flights to Kismayo have resumed on 21 November. The suspension was put in place on 28 September after the State of Jubaland imposed new landing fees on UN flights. The last return flight from Kenya to Kismayo was received on 28 September.

Protection Monitoring

- UNHCR has shared the Country of Origin Information (COI) for the month of October with the Return Help Desk in Refugee Camps in Kenya and Yemen. The COI includes information about the humanitarian, security and political situation in Somalia. The COI helps Somali refugees make an informed decision about their return.
- During November, the pilot phase of UNHCR's new post-returns monitoring system commenced across South Central Somalia. Consultations were held with partners in Mogadishu before the rollout of the telephonic monitoring began. The new monitoring system includes a face-to-face survey.

Return Figures

Since the beginning of repatriation in 2014, a total of 109,317 Somalis returned to Somalia; 74,606 from Kenya, 34,077 from Yemen (33,667 spontaneous and 418 assisted) and 626 from other countries of asylum (589 from Djibouti, 34 from Eritrea, two from Tunisia, and one from Pakistan).

- From 1 to 30 November, 819 Somalis returned home, 663 from Kenya and 156 spontaneous returnees from Yemen.

Return Trends by Country of Asylum

Country of Asylum	Before 31 Dec 2016	1 Jan - 30 Nov 2017	1-30 November 2017	Cumulative
Kenya	39,888	34,718	663	74,606
Yemen (A) ³	-	418	-	418
Yemen (S) ⁴	29,475	4,192	156	33,667
Other	102	524	-	626
Total	69,465	39,852	819	109,317

² The enhanced return package consists of unconditional core relief item kits (one to three, depending on the family size), an unconditional one time reinstallation grant in amount of US\$ 200 per person, unconditional monthly subsistence allowance in the amount of US\$ 200 per households for six months, an unconditional monthly grant for food rations for six months (provided by WFP), an education grant up to US\$ 25 per school-going child, a conditional grant of up to US\$ 1,000 for shelter per household and enrolment in self-reliance and livelihood projects based on the set of selection criteria and availability of resources.

³ Somali refugee returnees from Yemen who opt to be voluntary repatriated to Somalia under the Assisted Spontaneous Return programme.

⁴ Spontaneous Somali returnees from Yemen.

Core Relief Items

A package (one to three, depending on the family size) of core relief items (CRI) is provided to all refugee returnee households. One CRI kit consists of three blankets, two 10 litre jerry cans, seven boxes of BP-5, three soap bars, three sleeping mats, one plastic sheet, two cooking pots, one large spoon and kitchen knife, five table spoons, plates and metal cups.

- In November, UNHCR provided 225 CRI kits to 177 returnee households (708 persons) from Kenya.

Education

Each school going refugee returnee is entitled to receive an education grant for a period of nine months. The education package also consists of school uniforms and scholastic materials.

- In school year 2017/2018 a total of 14,586 students were enrolled: 10,661 in lower primary; 2,820 in upper primary and 1,105 in secondary education.
- In November, UNHCR newly enrolled 3,371 students: 2,455 in lower primary, 730 in upper primary and 185 in secondary education.

Total Enrolment per Region in School Year 2017/2018⁵

Region	Primary lower	Primary upper	Secondary	Total
Banadir	1,330	589	425	2,344
Bay	2,921	672	314	3,907
Gedo	109	-	1	110
Lower Juba	6,279	1,559	365	8,185
Woqooyi Galbeed	22	-	-	22
Total	10,661	2,820	1,105	14,586

Cash Assistance

In a support to re-establish lives of refugee returnees receive cash assistance, namely **reinstallation grants and subsistence allowance**. Upon their arrival to Somalia each returnee receives an unconditional one-time reinstallation grant in amount of US\$ 200. While subsistence allowance is provided in amount of US\$ 200 per households for a period of six months. The first instalment of subsistence allowance is received one month after a returnee's arrival.

Reinstallation grants

- In November, UNHCR provided reinstallation grants to 286 refugee returnees (112 households); 137 persons (70 households) from Yemen and 149 persons (42 households) from Kenya. A total of 819 returnees (663 from Kenya and 156 from Yemen) arrived to Somalia. Due to the resumption of return movement to Kismayo towards the end of the month the payment of reinstallation grants will be made in December.

⁵ Table shows total number of students including Somali refugee returnees, IDPs and members of host community based to approach 50-40-10, which aims to support 50 per cent returnees, 40 per cent IDPs and 10 per cent members of host community.

Subsistence allowance

- In November, 5,717 refugee returnee households (26,348 persons) received their subsistence allowance: 5,102 households (22,722 persons) from Kenya, 488 households (2,902 persons) and 127 households (724 persons) from Djibouti.

Shelter

During the period of initial integration, UNHCR is supporting the most vulnerable returnees with housing.

- In November UNHCR constructed 34 permanent shelters and 11 latrines. This brings a total number to 1,306 shelters and 409 latrines that has been built between January to November 2017.

Total Number of Shelters and Latrines per Location

Town	Kismayo	Afmadow	Baidoa	Total
Shelters	882	124	30	1,036
Latrines	247	62	100	409

- In Kismayo, UNHCR continued with the integrated shelter project, which comprises of a Mother Child Health Centre (MCH), a Police Station, a school, a market and four shallow wells. The project will accommodate 100 households (60 returnee, 20 IDPs and 20 members of host community).



Construction of a Mother Child Health Centre in Kismayo as part of the integrated shelter project. © ARC/Kismayo, November 2017



Returnees in a training on how to building shelters. © UNHCR/Baidoa, November 2017

- In Baidoa, UNHCR started with a shelter project targeting 100 returnees. In November, returnees have been trained how to build and improve shelters. Each person have received first instalment of a grant in amount US\$ 500 per person to construct or rehabilitate their own house.

Community Empowerment and Self-reliance

The enhanced return package consists also of enrolment in community empowerment and self-reliance projects based on the set of selection criteria. Projects focus on improving either community productive assets (rehabilitation of public infrastructure) or on building the capacity of individuals (knowledge and skills). Below is summarized overview of the November achievements for a total of 2,354 persons (1,669 returnees, 330 IDPs and 352 members of host community) who were part of community empowerment or self-reliance projects.

- Out of 2,354 persons, 1,322 were part of a cash for work (CfW) programme, 296 were enrolled in vocational training, 535 in small-business programme and 201 were assisted with self-employment opportunities.

Rehabilitation of public infrastructure

One of core community empowerment activities is rehabilitation of vital public infrastructure.

Activities target community productive assets that could boost community productivity including access to basic social services like healthcare, schools, roads, etc. The approach is normally to use CfW approach or through a contractor where CfW is not feasible. The CfW approach provides short term employment in addition to creating or rehabilitating public assets. Below is the summarized progress of the activities of 1,322 persons (860 returnees, 247 IDPs and 215 members of host community) per location made during November.

- In Galkacyo, a construction of two schools and two community centres have comments. The infrastructure will serve returnees and host community, on one hand to enhance absorption capacities and on the other hand to promote peaceful coexistence between different communities.



One of two newly constructed community centre [left] and school [right] along with latrines in Galkacyo for returnees and host community. © NRC/Galkacyo, November 2017

- In Baidoa, the rehabilitation of two primary schools and the construction of an additional seven classrooms and eight latrines have concluded. Rehabilitation and construction works were done by 62 beneficiaries who were engaged through a cash for work programme for three months.
- In Kismayo, some works, as renovation of the audience seats of Kismayo football stadium have been completed, while some works, like renovation of a VIP lounge, seats for audience, changing rooms and administration blocks are still in progress.
- In three districts, Afmadow, Baidoa and Luuq, CfW programme on beatification and cleaning the main roads and airstrips took place in November. Through this activity 260 persons (100 in Afmadow, 100 in Luuq and 60 in Baidoa) provided cash assistance.
- While in Mogadishu the majority of targeted 1,000, persons have been identified for the beautification project 12 districts through a cash for work programme.
- In Luuq, UNHCR started with the construction of a milk market. A need for a milk market was identified as a need for the community at one of the co-existence forum meetings.
- In Mogadishu, 10 premises; five schools, four community recourses and one training centre were identified for a rehabilitation and construction work.

Technical and Vocational Skills Training

Technical and vocational skills trainings (TVST) are one of the activities that aims to enhance human capital (skills, knowledge and well-being). Through TVST beneficiaries develop skills which are

necessary for their engagement in self-employment or wage employment. In November, UNHCR provided support of TVST to 296 persons (228 returnees, 30 IDPs and 38 members of host community). Below highlights the progress of activities per location during November.

- In Hargeysa, 136 beneficiaries have continued with trainings; 25 in electricity, 20 in painting/decoration, 15 in plumbing, 53 in cooking and 23 in tailoring.⁶
- In Kismayo, 100 persons continued with trainings in poultry. During November around 1,200 chickens have been hatched and raised in a chicken egg hatchery. Chickens will be distributed to beneficiaries along with chicken coops.
- In Baidoa, 60 persons have completed classes in carpentry. The group will sit for an examination and afterwards each person will receive a start-up kit to facilitate their own business.



Returnees and members of host community during a class in carpentry. © AVORD/Baidoa, November 2017

Small-business Programme

Small-business Programme (SBP) are short-term trainings, from three to six months, which offers entrepreneurial skills, financial literacy, book keeping, et cetera that empower persons of concern to be able to start-up small businesses and to establish income sources. In November, 535 (493 returnees, 19 IDPs and 20 members of host community) persons were enrolled in SBP. Progress of SBP activities in detailed are provided below per location.

- In Garoowe and Bossaso 343 returnees were trained on book keeping and received a start-up grant in amount of US\$ 500 per person to establish their own business.
- Start-up grants were also distributed in Kismayo. All 40 persons have received their grants which will help them to launch their own small-business.
- In Hargeysa, out of 37 persons, four have established their business, while the remaining 33 continued with trainings on how to run your own business.
- After a project with 50 persons kicked off in October in Luuq, beneficiaries continued receiving lessons on entrepreneurship.

⁶ Six beneficiaries were excluded from trainings because on non-attendance, while four returnees from Yemen have joined the group.

- And in Mogadishu, 65 persons continued with trainings on community savings and loans methodologies. UNHCR partner has opened several group bank accounts for beneficiaries to use for savings and later to support their business or access a loan.

Access to Self-employment, Information and Communications Technologies

UNHCR has established two support centres to facilitate integration of returnees and other persons of concern. Centres, run by partners, offer various activities from technical and vocational skills trainings and consultations on job opportunities to offering the space for dialogue among different communities. In November, 201 beneficiaries (88 returnees, 34 IDPs and 79 members of host community) visited centres; 112 in Kismayo and 88 in Hargeysa.

- In Kismayo, 112 persons were assisted at the Return Support Centre. Out of the 112 persons, 69 were provided with information on available opportunities in the region, 20 attended classes in literacy and 15 in tailoring and eight in computers.
- In Hargeysa, 89 persons were provided assistance at the Peaceful Co-existence Centre, where 30 attended classes in language, 23 in computer, 21 in literacy and 15 in accounting.

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