

Somalia

1-31 March 2018

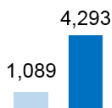


A group of Somali returnees, displaced persons and host community members enrolled in tailoring class in their second month of training. © UNHCR/March 2018

Main achievements

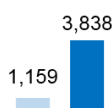
Returns

of Somali refugees that have repatriated



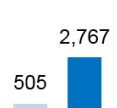
CRI

of returnees that benefited from CRIs



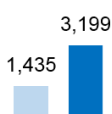
Education

of returnees newly enrolled in education



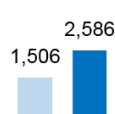
CBI

of returnees that received reinstallation grants



Livelihood

of persons enrolled in livelihood projects



Legend

Progress made in March 2018

Updates on achievements

One of the durable solutions of displaced persons is voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity. UNHCR Somalia supports Somali refugees who decide to repatriate on a voluntary and informed basis, and provides return assistance to support the safe and dignified return and their sustainable reintegration in the area of return.¹ Around 835,900 Somali refugees are still displaced in the region, while 81,000 repatriated with UNHCR support since 2014 and 35,000 returned spontaneously from Yemen.

¹ 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 the amount of US\$ 200 per person, unconditional monthly subsistence allowance in the amount of US\$ 200 per household 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 per month for one year, a conditional grant of up to US\$ 1,000 for shelter per household and conditional enrolment in self-reliance and livelihood projects based on a set of selection criteria and availability of resources.

Protection and return management

SRSG to Somalia met with Somali refugees

On 12 April, in Dadaab (Kenya), the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to Somalia (SRSG to Somalia) visited Somali refugees Dadaab refugee camps. In a meeting with Somali refugees, the SRSG to Somalia highlighted the gradual progress made in Somalia and that any decision on return should be voluntary. He also stated that there are concerted efforts to improve security in Somalia, however, al-Shabaab remains a potent threat.²

Return management

Voluntary Repatriation of Somalis during March was supported by road (from Kenya), air (from Kenya, Libya, and Gambia) and sea (from Yemen). After the resumption of road convoys from Kenya on 20 February, the road convoys have been suspended again since 14 March. The *Gu* rains have started in most parts of Lower Juba region and heavily affected roads to areas of return. On 25 March, the UNHCR Field Unit in Dhobley together with the state authority Jubaland Refugee and IDP Agency (JRIA) conducted an assessment on the road conditions in Afmadow district (Lower Juba region). The team concluded that the return routes from Dhobley were still not accessible. The last road convoy was received on 14 March (third in 2018).



Somali returnees from Kenya arrived at the Home Way Station in Kismayo. © UNHCR/March 2018

Country of Origin Information

On 13 March, the Country of Origin Information (COI) was shared with partners as well as UNHCR operations in Kenya, Yemen, and Djibouti. This monthly update covers topics from the security situation, displacements and evictions to updates on health, the economic situation and the ongoing drought.

Return figures

Since the beginning of the Voluntary Repatriation, from 8 December 2014 to 31 March 2018 a total of 81,030 Somali refugees have repatriated³. Out of 81,030 who repatriated, 1,089 were assisted in March, namely, 759 from Kenya, 272 from Yemen, 56 from Libya and two from Gambia.

² See UNSOM "Meeting Somali refugees in Dadaab, UN envoy expresses solidarity and highlights progress in Somalia", 12 April 2018, available at: <https://unsom.unmissions.org/meeting-somali-refugees-dadaab-un-envoy-expresses-solidarity-and-highlights-progress-somalia>, 26.4.2018.

³ Out of total 81,030 who have repatriated, 78,847 were from Kenya, 1,487 from Yemen, 589 from Djibouti, 34 from Eritrea, 67 from Libya, three from Tunisia, two from Gambia and one from Pakistan.

Since 2014, UNHCR also recorded 35,010 Somalis (206 in March) who returned from Yemen spontaneously and without support of UNHCR.⁴

Country of Asylum	Before 1 Jan 2018	1-31 March 2018	2018	Cumulative
Kenya	75,297	759	3,550	78,847
Yemen (A) ⁵	814	272	673	1,487
Other	626	58	70	696
Sub total	76,737	1,089	4,293	81,030
Yemen (S) ⁶	34,176	206	834	35,010
Grand total	110,913	1,295	5,127	116,040

Core relief items

Each returnee household receives a package (one to three, depending on the family size) of core relief items (CRIs). The package of CRIs is provided in-kind or as a conditional cash grant to purchase CRIs. One kit of CRIs 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. Conditional cash grants in lieu of CRIs are between US\$ 60 and US\$ 66 to support the purchase of one kit of CRIs depending on market prices.

- During March, 1,159 persons (424 families) benefited from CRIs; 320 kits were provided to 251 families (821 persons) from Kenya; 130 kits to 116 families (280 persons) from Yemen; 56 kits to 56 families (57 persons) from Libya and one CRI kit was provided to one family (two persons) from Gambia.

Number of CRI kits distributed per country of asylum

Country of asylum	1-31 March 2018			Cumulative		
	# of kits	# of households	# of individuals	# of kits	# of households	# of individuals
Kenya	320	251	821	1,441	975	3,225
Yemen	130	116	280	279	257	543
Other	57	57	58	65	64	70
Total	507	424	1,159	1,785	1,296	3,838

Education

Each school-going returnee is supported with education fees for one school year, scholastic materials and a school uniform. This initial support ensures that Somali school-going children continue with their education. In 2018, UNHCR supported education for 2,767 returnee students; 2,711 continued with primary and 56 with secondary education.

- In March, 505 Somali returnees were enrolled in education, 475 in primary and 30 in secondary, for the first time after their return.

⁴ See UNHCR "Somalia: Refugee, asylum-seekers and returnees at 31 March 2018", available at: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/63298>, 30.4.2018.

⁵ Somali refugee returnees from Yemen who opt to voluntary repatriate to Somalia under the Assisted Spontaneous Return programme.

⁶ Spontaneous Somali returnees from Yemen.

Total enrolment per location and level of education in 2018

Location	1-31 March 2018			2018		
	Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total
Baidoa	21	3	24	154	3	157
Afmadow	164	2	166	164	2	166
Kismayo	47	1	48	1,738	12	1,750
Mogadishu	243	24	267	632	39	671
Hargeysa	-	-	-	23	-	23
Total	475	30	505	2,711	56	2,767

Cash assistance

UNHCR provides two types of cash assistance to support re-building lives of Somali refugees.

Each returnee is entitled to a one time reinstallation grant in the amount of US\$ 200 and each family to subsistence allowance in the amount of US\$ 200 for a period of six months. The reinstallation grant is provided immediately upon their return, while the six payments of subsistence allowance is provided one month after arrival.

Reinstallation grants

- In March, UNHCR provided reinstallation grants to 1,435 returnees (544 families); 1,115 returnees (366 families) from Kenya, 251 returnees (115 families) from Yemen, 67 returnees (62 families) from Libya and two returnees (one family) from Gambia.

Number of returnees received reinstallation grant per country of asylum

Country of asylum	1-31 March 2018		2018	
	# of individuals	# of households	# of individuals	# of households
Kenya	1,115	366	2,596	763
Yemen	251	115	533	243
Other	69	63	70	64
Total	1,435	544	3,199	1,070

Community empowerment and self-reliance

UNHCR implements small-scale projects to rebuild and restore or create livelihood opportunities and improve public infrastructure to promote community level production. Small-scale projects targeting whole society: returnees, IDPs and host community to promote inclusion and peaceful co-existence of diverse groups.

- In March, 1,506 persons (877 returnees, 357 IDPs and 272 members of host community) benefited from livelihood projects; 300 from cash-for-work (CfW) programme, 744 gained new skills in technical and vocational education and training (TVET), 170 in entrepreneurship and 292 sought assistance at support centres.

Number of persons engaged in livelihood programmes per activity

	1-31 March 2018	2018
Activity	# of individuals	# of individuals
Improvement of public infrastructure (CfW)	300	1,300
Technical and vocational education and training (TVET)	744	744
Small-business programme	170	170
Access to self-employment	292	372
Total	1,506	2,586

Improvement of public infrastructure

During March, improvement of public infrastructure was conducted with 300 persons (150 returnees, 100 IDPs and 50 members of the host community), through CfW projects in Afmadow and Kismayo.⁷

- In Afmadow, 100 persons (50 returnees, 30 IDPs and 20 host community) continued with beautifying the district, planting trees, fencing the Afmadow Public Park, main market and a football stadium.
- In Kismayo, 200 persons (100 returnees, 70 IDPs and 30 members of host community) completed with rehabilitation of 3.5 kilometre road leading from a shelter settlement to the town.

Technical and vocational education and training

In March, five TVET activities were conducted for 744 persons (473 returnees, 168 IDPs and 103 members of the host community) in Baidoa, Hargeysa, Kismayo and Mogadishu.



The launching event of a livelihood project that will empower 500 beneficiaries in Mogadishu. © UNHCR/March 2018

- In Baidoa, a group of 100 persons (70 returnees, 20 IDPs and 10 members of host community) continued with training on construction of shelters.
- In Baidoa, 80 Somali youth (40 returnees, 32 IDPs and eight members of the host community) continued with trainings on carpentry (60 persons) and metal fabrication (20 persons).

⁷ Due to changes at the Benadir Regional Administration, an update was not received on a rehabilitation and construction of 10 premises and the beautifying of 12 districts of Benadir region through a contractor and 1,000 persons through CfW.

- In Hargeysa, out of 84 persons (48 returnees, eight IDPs and 28 members of the host community) enrolled in vocational trainings, only group enrolled in catering continued with trainings. Other classes in tailoring, cooking, plumbing and electronics will continue in April due to a renovation process.
- In Kismayo, 80 persons (35 returnees, 28 IDPs and 17 members of host community) continued attending classes in tailoring, IT and networking, electricians, construction and catering.
- In Mogadishu, 400 persons (280 returnees, 80 IDPs and 40 members of host community) were enrolled in various classes at 12 different institutions.

Small-business enterprise

- In Baidoa, 70 agro-pastoral women (35 returnees, 28 IDPs and seven members of host community) received a donkey cart. One time support will enable pastoral women to facilitate transport of their goods from fields to market and also transporting materials (like water) to field.
- In Mogadishu, a group of 100 persons (70 returnees, 20 IDPs and 10 members of host community) were registered in an enterprise programme to advance their own skills in business.



Distribution of donkey carts to agro-pastoral women in Baidoa. © UNHCR/March 2018

Access to self-employment, information and communication technologies

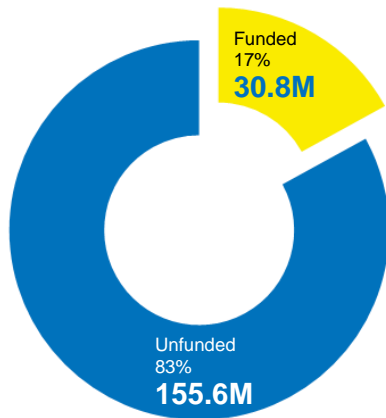
Outside the small-scale projects, two centres, one in Hargeysa and one in Kismayo, offer a place where persons of concern can obtain information on employment or new skills. In March, these two centres together provided services to 292 persons (149 returnees, 41 IDPs and 102 host community).

- In Hargeysa, 84 persons (31 returnees, seven IDPs and 46 members of the host community) continued with trainings in language, computer, literacy and accounting.
- In Kismayo, the Return Support Centre continued to train 140 persons; 80 in computers, 30 in literacy, 20 in tailoring and 10 in Information Technology (IT). Additional 67 persons sought for assistance on employment opportunities and one person found employment.

Funding (as of 10 April)

USD 186.4 M

requested for Somalia



External / Donor relations

Donor(s) who have contributed directly to the Somalia operation

United States of America | Qatar Charity | European Union | Japan | UN-Habitat | Italy | Sweden | UN Peacebuilding Fund

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