

Somalia

September 2022

Somalia's operational context remains challenging due to insecurity, political tensions, and a climate crisis that has pushed parts of central and southern Somalia at a risk of famine. In 2022, 1.4 million Somalis have been internally displaced due to drought and insecurity.

The formation of the new federal government finally culminated with the unveiling of 75-member Federal

However, deep rooted political differences between the federal and state governments threaten to undo hard-earned political gains.


The presence of armed actors and the escalation in armed-conflict continue to hinder humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable.


UNHCR's operational footprint in Somalia dates back thirty years. Today, UNHCR is present in ten countrywide locations.

UNHCR provides protection and assistance to the refugees and asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), vulnerable host community members, and refugee returnees. The operation works closely with the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and partners to support durable solutions for the persons UNHCR serves. Emergency response to conflicts and extreme climatic events are also central to UNHCR's mandate.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

 **2.97** million IDPs

 **33,847** refugees and asylum-seekers

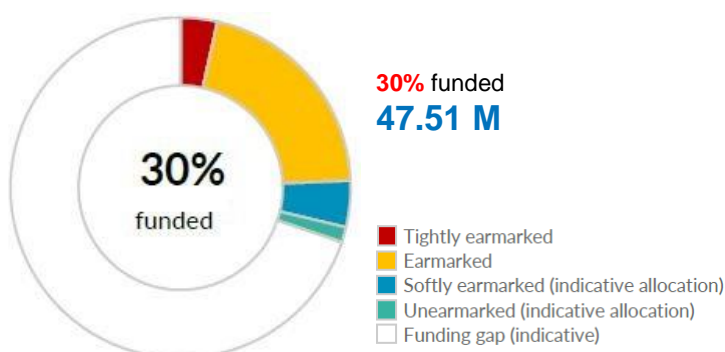
 **136,152** refugee returnees

FUNDING UPDATE

(AS OF 29 SEPTEMBER 2022)

USD 157.5 M

Requested for the Somalia Operation



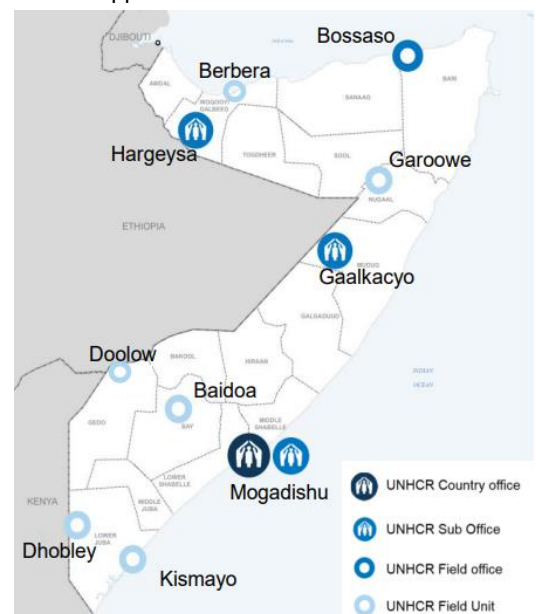
UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 117 National Staff
- 46 International Staff
- 32 Affiliated Workforce

Offices:

- 1 Country Office
- 3 Sub Offices
- 1 Field Office
- 6 Field Units
- 1 Support Office in Nairobi



Working with Partners

In Somalia, UNHCR is delivering protection and assistance services through 28 partners that include 11 from the government, 10 national and local NGOs, and 7 INGOs. Furthermore, UNHCR also leads the Protection and Shelter Clusters and co-leads the CCCM Cluster.

Main Activities and Achievements

Refugees and Asylum-seekers

- Under its core mandate, UNHCR **monitors** the situation of refugees and asylum-seekers in Somalia, including the new arrivals, to ensure their adequate protection and well-being. Majority of refugees and asylum-seekers are from Ethiopia (68%) followed by Yemen and Syria (28%) and the remaining population are from other countries such as Syria and Tanzania. Further information on the refugee and asylum seeker population, can be found in the [UNHCR Somalia data portal](#).
- UNHCR has trained **60** authorities on **International Refugee Protection** to strengthen the capacity of federal and state authorities to effectively operationalize domestic and international refugee legal instruments.
- UNHCR in 2022 has provided **legal assistance**, including counselling, representation before the court, mediation, and advocacy for release from custody to **4,313** individuals.
- UNHCR provides **access to essential services**, including education and healthcare, as well as **material and financial assistance** to the most vulnerable. In 2022, **24,475** individuals have received cash assistance to meet their basic needs; **7,530** individuals have benefited from primary and secondary health care services; **7,068** children have received education-material assistance; and **9,357** adolescent girls have received hygiene and sanitary materials.
- UNHCR assists refugees in Somalia to find **durable solutions**, such as local integration and resettlement to a third resettlement country. Since January 2022, the operation has processed **14** cases (62 individuals) for resettlement.

Somali refugee returnees

- Between 2014 and September 2022, UNHCR has assisted **safe and dignified return** of **93,175** Somali refugee returnees through the **Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR)** programme, including 85,859 from Kenya and 5,566 individuals from Yemen, while smaller numbers of Somalis have also returned from other countries. In 2022 alone, UNHCR has supported **699** refugee returnees from Kenya and other countries. The latest data on refugee returnees can be accessed from the [UNHCR Somalia data portal](#).
- The **Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR)** programme from Yemen to Somalia resumed from late September, with the arrival of **150** Somali refugee returnees. The ASR programme between Yemen and Somalia was suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- UNHCR provides refugees returnees with a **support package** to facilitate their smooth **reintegration** in the community. This includes reintegration and subsistence cash

allowance, vocational training and business start-up grants, education, health, and other material assistance upon return. In 2022, **1,382** individuals have received re-integration cash, **144** children have received education grants to attend school, **163** individuals have received legal assistance, **183** have received skills training and business grant, and **480** have benefitted from transitional and emergency shelters.

IDPs

- **Drought and insecurity** are the main triggers for internal displacement in Somalia. Due to the imminent **risk of famine**, the response for the internal displaced is largely centred around the **drought response**, which is coordinated through various stakeholders including the authorities, international organizations, as well as national and international NGOs. UNHCR leads the inter-agency response in **Protection Cluster** and **Shelter Cluster** and co-leads the **CCCM Cluster**. Food, livelihood, shelter, water, health, and non-food items (NFI) are often cited as the top priority needs by the IDPs.
- UNHCR Somalia has developed a “Vulnerability Assessment” (VA) tool to support a more granular level analysis of affected populations and to place the protection needs of women, children, elderly persons, and vulnerable groups at the centre of the scale-up to the drought response. UNHCR is working with other UN agencies to support enhanced inter-agency response.
- The **PRMN (Protection and Return Monitoring Network)** is a UNHCR-led project that reports on internal displacements, protection risks, and the triggers for such movements. The data is widely shared with other humanitarian partners for the drought response and is also used for IDP programming, advocacy, and [external publication](#).
- UNHCR and partners provide **shelter and NFI assistance**, either in-kind or through cash grants, to IDPs and vulnerable host communities across the country. In 2022, more than **140,000** IDPs and host communities, including those who were affected by the drought, have received **lifesaving** NFI and shelter support.
- Following protection assessments, **3,526** IDPs have been supported with **emergency protection cash assistance** in 2022.
- Eviction and limited housing, land, and property (HLP) rights remain significant protection concerns in Somalia. UNHCR continues to support **durable solutions** and work closely with local authorities and IDPs to promote **land tenure** and **local integration** for IDPs.
- UNHCR’s response for IDPs also include capacity building and **awareness raising** on prevention and response to **gender-based violence (GBV)**, prevention of protection violations, and services available. In 2022, UNHCR has reached **160,982** individuals with awareness raising initiatives and **1,672** individuals with legal assistance.



A UNHCR staff helps an elderly woman to carry NFI assistance she received in Dollow.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Somalia Operation in 2022 amount to some **US\$ 47.51 million**. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have already contributed to the Somalia Operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

External / Donors Relations

Thanks to the donors of earmarked contributions to Somalia Operation in 2022 | USD

United States of America (USA) 39 million | **CERF** 2 million | **Japan** 1.1 million | **Sheikh Eid Bin Mohammad Al Thani Charitable Foundation** 1 million | **UNO-Fluechtlingshilfe** 0.9 million | **European Union** 0.8 million

Republic of Korea | Denmark | Norway | Other private donors

Thanks to the donors of softly earmarked contributions to UNHCR in 2022 | USD

USA 29.3 million | **Canada** 7.8 million | **Private donors Australia** 7.4 million | **Private donors USA** 7.2 million | **Private donors Germany** 3.9 million

IGAD | Japan | Norway | Private donors

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted funds to UNHCR in 2022 | USD

Sweden 99.3 million | **Norway** 72.5 million | **Private donors Spain** 51 million | **Private donors Japan** 40.9 | **United Kingdom** 40.1 | **Netherlands** 37.2 million | **Denmark** 35.6 million | **Germany** 27 million | **Private donors USA** 26.2 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 25.6 million | **Japan** 21.7 million | **France** 18.5 million | **Switzerland** 18.4 million | **Private donors Italy** 14.5 million | **Belgium** 11.9 million | **Ireland** 11.8 million | **Private donors Canada** 11.2 million | **Private donors Sweden** 10.4 million | **Italy** 10 million

Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Austria | Azerbaijan | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Thailand | Türkiye | Uruguay | Private donors

CONTACTS

Magatte Guisse, Representative, UNHCR Somalia
guisse@unhcr.org, Cell: +252 611 634 665 (Somalia)

LINKS

Somalia: [Global Focus](#) | [Somalia: Data Portal](#) | [UNHCR Somalia](#) | [@UNHCRSom](#)

