

SOMALIA

Operational highlights

- More than half of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country were offered non-food items (NFIs) and emergency shelter.
- Refugees living with HIV and AIDS in “Somaliland” and “Puntland” were given counselling and treatment.
- Refugees had access to free health care in several health centres in Hargeisa in “Somaliland”, and in Bossasso, Garowe and Galkayo, in “Puntland”. Some 2,700 asylum-seekers also received medical care in 2009.
- The Population Movement Tracking and the Protection Monitoring Network initiatives provided data on displacement and violations of human rights that helped humanitarian agencies conduct coordinated responses.

Working environment

Somalia is divided in three regions: the semi-autonomous region of Puntland, the self-declared republic of Somaliland and the South Central area. Fighting between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) forces and the insurgents occurred in the South Central area.

Somalia has been unstable and without a functioning government since 1991. The escalation in fighting that began in May 2009 between forces loyal to the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), supported by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), and armed opposition fighters has displaced more than 400,000 people in Mogadishu. Most of these IDPs have moved to the Afgoye corridor, some 35 kilometres west of Mogadishu, and live in congested temporary settlements lacking adequate water, health and sanitation facilities. Severe episodes of drought



and flooding have further exacerbated the situation and contributed to the displacement.

Access to those in need of humanitarian assistance has further diminished, compelling aid agencies to relocate staff to safer sites, either within Somalia or in neighbouring countries. With most humanitarian activities run through a network of national NGOs, UNHCR has implemented a

Persons of concern					
Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Ethiopia	1,800	1,800	47	49
	Various	20	20	43	41
Asylum-seekers	Ethiopia	24,600	24,600	42	37
	Various	80	80	38	32
IDPs	Somalia	1,550,000	1,550,000	51	59
Returns (refugees)*	Various	60	20	67	-
Total		1,576,560	1,576,520		

* Demographic breakdown refers to assisted returnees.



A water kiosk at a mosque in Bossaso migration centre for IDPs and refugees.

UNHCR / M. DEGHATI

post distribution monitoring system to reinforce accountability and prevent the diversion of aid. Meanwhile, piracy in the waters off Somalia increased insurance costs for humanitarian cargo and delayed deliveries.

Achievements and impact

Protection and solutions

The protection environment in “Somaliland” and “Puntland” was affected by the authorities’ fear of infiltration into these regions by radical fighters of the Al Shabaab group. Security measures were reinforced and the authorities were reluctant to register refugees. In “Somaliland” the registration of refugees has been suspended since October 2008. The protection environment in this region was further damaged by the deportation to Ethiopia of some 120 potential asylum-seekers before UNHCR could screen them. The situation was better in “Puntland”, where some 680 asylum-seekers were registered during the year.

UNHCR identified 70 cases of extremely vulnerable asylum-seekers in both “Somaliland” and “Puntland” who were registered with the authorities but in need of accelerated refugee status determination (RSD). As part of its durable solutions strategy, the Office helped a total of 190 refugees to leave the two regions for resettlement in a third country.

The humanitarian community in Somalia benefited from improved protection monitoring and movement tracking systems coordinated by UNHCR, as leader of the protection cluster. The data collected guided emergency interventions in all sectors. It was also used to support advocacy efforts

aimed at preventing violations of international humanitarian law and human rights.

Activities and assistance

Community services: Four new youth centres were set up with community participation in Afgooye and in Jowhar.

Crop production: Four sub-surface dams were constructed in Dabis, El-lahelay, Rabley and Malugta. Thirty-four shallow wells were constructed in Debis and Laasadawaco, Adaadley, Awbarkhadle and Habaas. Sixty-two water pumps were purchased and distributed to farmers in Marodi-Jeeh, Sahil and Awdal regions.

Domestic needs and household support: UNHCR improved coordination in the NFI and shelter cluster and increased the procurement of emergency relief items such as jerry cans, blankets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, soap and sanitary materials. These items were distributed to more than 1.2 million IDPs.

Education: UNHCR continued to provide support on teacher training, school uniforms, sports materials, school furniture and extension of classrooms. Refugee children have access to the existing educational system in Somalia.

Forestry: Three environmental awareness training sessions were conducted in Debis in Maroodi-jeex region. A forestry centre was rehabilitated and a tree nursery established. Two environmental and climate change discussion forums were organized in Hargeisa and Borama.

Health and nutrition: Refugees and IDPs had only minimal access to health care in Somalia. However, UNHCR, through its implementing partners, provided some health services to asylum-seekers. In “Somaliland” and “Puntland” the entire refugee population had access to free health care in Hargeisa, Bossaso, Garowe and Galkayo. More than 2,700 asylum-seekers also received free medical care. In “Somaliland” UNHCR provided an ambulance for the refugee social welfare centre in Hargeisa. All refugees living with HIV and AIDS in “Puntland” and “Somaliland” received counselling and treatment.

Income generation: UNHCR targeted microcredit projects at some 3,000 returnee women. Income-generation grants were provided to 14 groups of returnee women and men in Hargeisa, Togdher and Awdal, substantially strengthening livelihoods and facilitating the returnees’ integration into the local communities.

UNHCR also reinforced livelihood activities for IDPs as a practical means of protection. For instance, UNHCR supported the local production of sanitary materials, which it then purchased for inclusion in NFI packages. In addition, 25 IDP women were provided donkey carts which they could rent for transport purposes to farmers or small businesses.

Legal assistance: The Office provided legal assistance to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and other vulnerable cases.

Livestock: Some 3,000 goats and sheep were distributed to 300 returnees and host community households in Awdal region.

Operational support (to agencies): Adequate management structures supported all planned activities, and UNHCR contributed towards the operational costs of implementing partners.

Sanitation: Sanitation facilities in IDP settlements were maintained and improved.

Shelter and infrastructure: More than 500 IDPs received shelter materials including emergency shelter and plastic sheeting.

Transport and logistics: Logistics support was provided for the distribution of food, shelter material and non-food items.

Water: Less than 54 per cent of the returnee population had access to clean water at the beginning of 2009. To improve the situation, UNHCR installed 30 water reservoirs in rural areas in the Awdal, Maroodi-jeeh and Togdher regions in “Somaliland”, allowing more women to collect water in a safe manner and helping to improve the health of the targeted returnee families and host communities.

○ Constraints

Continuing conflict in south and central Somalia reduced humanitarian agencies’ access to people of concern. The reinforcement of security measures in “Somaliland” and “Puntland” was cause for serious concern, with deportations from Somaliland of Ethiopian refugees and asylum-seekers despite strong opposition from UNHCR.

| Financial information |

During the past five years, UNHCR’s supplementary budgets for Somalia have gradually increased in order to provide protection and assistance to increasing number of IDPs.

| Organization and implementation |

UNHCR’s operations were managed by the sub-office in Hargeisa (“Somaliland”); field offices in Bossaso, Garowe and Galkayo (“Puntland”); and field offices in Mogadishu and Baidoa (south and central Somalia). UNHCR had 88 staff members, including 16 international staff, 61 national employees, two JPOs and nine UNVs working in the Somalia operation.

| Working with others |

The cluster approach continued to be the key mechanism for partnership and collaboration in Somalia in 2009. UNHCR was co-leader of the protection cluster with OCHA, and the non-food item and shelter cluster with UN-HABITAT. In addition, UNHCR teamed up with IOM to lead the mixed migration task force. The Office participated in the Consolidated Appeal Process and served on the board of the Humanitarian Response Fund. UNHCR contributed to the United Nations Transition Plan for Somalia, which focuses on helping the country shift from the crisis of conflict to peace, recovery and development.

| Overall assessment |

While giving a high priority to the safety and security of its staff, UNHCR improved its capacity to manage operations in south and central Somalia by strengthening partnerships with local NGOs. The implementation of a “protection through livelihoods” approach offered economic opportunities to vulnerable people, especially displaced women; in the case of the latter it reduced risks related to sexual and gender-based violence and allowed many children go to school. The population movement tracking system and the protection monitoring network are providing critical information on displacement and the violation of human rights, respectively. Both facilitated common planning and coordinated responses among humanitarian actors in Somalia.

Budget, income and expenditure in Somalia (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual budget	11,105,638	4,556,192	5,669,911	10,226,103	9,783,573
Somalia Situation SB	21,339,682	17,706,247	2,234,505	19,940,752	13,319,011
Total	32,445,320	22,262,439	7,904,416	30,166,855	23,102,584

Note: Supplementary programmes do not include seven per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. Income from contributions includes contributions earmarked at the country level. Other funds available include transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.



Partners	
Implementing partners	
Government:	Ministries of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction; the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of State Security and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration; National Refugee Commission
NGOs:	Agriculture Development Organization, Agrocare and School Aid Organization, Center for Education and Development, Community Based Rehabilitation Services, Danish Refugee Council, Galkayo Education Centre for Peace and Development, Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee, Ijra Organization for Welfare and Development, Islamic Relief, Norwegian Refugee Council, Puntland Development Research Center, Relief and Development Organization, SAACID, Sahar Research and Development Organization, Save Somali Women and Children, Somali Minority Vision in Action and Relief Development Organization, Somali Red Crescent Society, Somali Reunification Women Union Somali Women Concern
Operational partners	
Others:	FAO, ICRC, IOM, OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, WFP, WHO

Financial report for UNHCR's operations in Somalia (USD)				
Expenditure breakdown	Current years' project			Previous years' project
	Annual budget	Supplementary budgets	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,118,988	2,692,320	5,811,307	0
Community services	252,401	96,692	349,093	192,903
Crop production	217,991	0	217,991	63,747
Domestic needs and household support	435,619	2,909,840	3,345,459	688,390
Education	232,593	22,483	255,076	38,818
Food	0	61,864	61,864	0
Forestry	29,364	0	29,364	21,000
Health and nutrition	440,952	15,003	455,955	28,736
Income generation	292,507	255,641	548,148	396,990
Legal assistance	760,298	771,639	1,531,937	619,120
Livestock animal husbandry	95,559	0	95,559	28,890
Operational support (to agencies)	408,774	283,962	692,736	472,549
Sanitation	13,268	37,910	51,178	234,430
Shelter and infrastructure	66,417	194,793	261,210	1,315,914
Transport and logistics	237,931	696,692	934,624	305,852
Water	267,588	0	267,588	221,808
Instalments to implementing partners	2,333,448	3,968,844	6,302,292	(4,629,147)
Subtotal operational activities	9,203,699	12,007,682	21,211,381	0
Programme support	579,874	1,311,329	1,891,203	0
Total expenditure	9,783,573	13,319,011	23,102,584	0
Cancellation on previous years' expenditure				(205,442)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	4,762,482	5,262,844	10,025,326	
Reporting received	(2,429,035)	(1,294,000)	(3,723,035)	
Balance	2,333,448	3,968,844	6,302,292	
Previous year's report				
Instalments with implementing partners:				
Outstanding 1st January				5,961,380
Reporting received				(4,629,147)
Refunded to UNHCR				(302,054)
Currency adjustment				(866,236)
Outstanding 31st December				163,943