

# Annual Results Report

**2024**

**Somalia**

## Acknowledgements

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### **Note:**

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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# Section 1: Context and Overview

## 1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2024, the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) worked to strengthen state institutions and governance, including discussions on electoral processes and federal-state relations. Although humanitarian access improved in some areas, insecurity and bureaucratic constraints continued to limit aid delivery, especially in Al-Shabaab-controlled areas.

About 555,000 internally displacements were recorded – 53% by conflict, mostly in Gedo, Lower Juba, and Banadir; 26% by flood, impacting Belet Weyne and Afmadow mostly; and 2% by drought, mainly in LaasCaanood and Gardo. Extreme weather conditions, including flooding along the Shabelle and Juba rivers, displaced communities, disrupting agriculture and increasing food insecurity. Climate and conflict-related displacement strained urban areas like Mogadishu, Baidoa, and Kismayo, which continued to receive large influxes of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Ongoing insecurity led to mass internal displacements, with thousands fleeing violence in Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba, and Galgaduud. Puntland faced intermittent conflicts, especially in Bari. In Somaliland, tensions escalated between the Sool, Sanag Cayan (SSC) militia and the Somaliland National Army (SNA), hampering humanitarian access in areas like Oog and Buhoodle. Military offensives against non-state armed groups caused temporary returns and fresh displacement. Security threats, including targeted attacks on aid workers, remained a major concern. Inflation, food shortages and limited jobs worsened humanitarian needs. Despite UN and NGO efforts, funding shortfalls hindered the delivery of assistance.

Tensions between the FGS and Ethiopia escalated after Ethiopia and Somaliland signed an MoU for sea access in exchange for Somaliland's sovereignty recognition. Türkiye mediated, reaffirming territorial integrity. Somaliland's Presidential elections held in November resulted in an opposition party victory. The UN Security Council passed a resolution on 30 October, transforming the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) to the UN Transitional Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS), with the transition period having commenced on 1 November 2024. The new mission is tasked with gradually handing over its responsibilities to the FGS in two phases by 31 October 2026. This shift aims to strengthen Somalia's security forces while continuing to combat AS and ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates. The Council adopted resolution 2767 (2024), authorizing African Union member states to support the Somali government in this transition, with African Union personnel deployed to AUSSOM for up to 12,626 uniformed personnel, including 1,040 police.

## 1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

### 1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

**Forcibly displaced, stateless and other affected persons enjoy living in a safe and secure environment in line with national and international protection frameworks**

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
<b>1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	96.23%	99.99%
<b>1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%

The protection environment for refugees, asylum-seekers, and IDPs remained favorable, with a slight improvement from 2023. 100% of refugees and asylum-seekers seeking international protection were able to access registration and asylum procedures and to move freely within Somalia albeit scrutiny of undocumented foreign nationals mainly in circumstances of suspected involvement in criminal activities. As of December 2024, Somalia hosts approximately 41,765 refugees and asylum-seekers, primarily from Ethiopia (65%) and Yemen (30%). No barriers to access registration processes nor registration backlogs were reported during the year.

There was an improvement in the situation of persons able to access asylum procedures in Somaliland in particular, influenced by policy changes and regional dynamics. The significant increase in Ethiopian arrivals and the resumption of registration of Oromos are key drivers. Increased training of immigration and law enforcement officials resulted in a better grasp of asylum law principles, allowing more freedom for forcibly displaced persons to move in the region, with very few cases of refoulement reported and very few immigration-related arrests.

In Puntland asylum-seekers from Ethiopia, Yemen, Sudan, Iraq, and Syria were able to access asylum procedures. Continuous advocacy and efforts by UNHCR allowed refugees and asylum-seekers to move freely within and outside Puntland.

Positive advancements on national legislative processes on asylum were reported. The Federal Government of Somalia Refugees and Asylum-seekers Act was enacted on 24 February 2024 by Presidential Decree, and the Somaliland Refugees and Asylum-seekers Law No. 103/2023 took effect in April 2023, enhancing the protection of asylum-seekers and refugees from arbitrary arrest, detention, and deportation of legally residing refugees and registered asylum seekers. However, the threat of refoulement remains a concern, with police raids targeting undocumented foreigners or migrants for deportation.

In 2024, four (4) Yemeni refugees were refouled from Somaliland. In a separate incident, 172 Ethiopian nationals were arrested at the Ethiopia/Somaliland border, and upon UNHCR intervention, 45 individuals who were established to be asylum seekers were released, and the remaining 127 were deported as illegal migrants. There were no reported cases of refoulement or irregularities in the asylum procedures in Puntland or other locations in the country.

### 2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

**Affected populations and most vulnerable persons strengthen their resilience, proactively mitigate the effects of climate change and their essential needs are met**

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
<b>2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities</b>		
IDPs	0.13%	0.60%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2.48%	5.30%
Returnees	0.00%	7.59%
<b>2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	84.70%	86.70%

UNHCR's settlement and shelter strategy focuses on improving the living conditions of forcibly displaced and stateless people. The first objective is to enable access to secure settlements where they can live in dignity, with fewer socio-economic vulnerabilities. The second objective ensures access to shelter solutions for IDPs that provide privacy, security, and protection.

According to the 2024 Results Monitoring Survey (RMS) report, 72.8% of forcibly displaced persons have access to drinking water, 64.8% have cleaner lighting energy, and 1% have access to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services. Only 0.6% of IDPs, 5.3% of refugees, and 7.6% of refugee returnees reside in safe settlements with basic facilities. UNHCR provided sustainable, climate-resilient shelter solutions and advocated for land and property rights. 3,378 households (20,268 individuals) received improved emergency, transitional, and durable shelter solutions. UNHCR through the Shelter and CCCM Clusters continued to advocate for settlement planning to achieve safe and secure settlements. Most support was in the form of Core Relief Items (CRIs) and emergency shelter kits. Cash-based interventions (CBI) were preferred for their promptness and flexibility. Sustainable shelter solutions accounted for 40% of the response. UNHCR scaled up emergency preparedness and response with timely prepositioning and provision of CRIs and multipurpose cash assistance.

UNHCR advanced climate action programming by partnering with key ministries, government agencies, and UN agencies to improve the living conditions of forcibly displaced people and their adaptation capacity and resilience. 12,480 households (74,883 individuals) received cash assistance, improving access to basic needs and services. A community center was established within the transitional shelter settlement in Baidoa as a hub for displaced populations to access services. 15 and 11 solar streetlights were installed in Kismayo and Bossaso respectively, enhancing security and community well-being in the settlements.

Access to health services increased by 2.3 %, but this must be understood within Somalia's weak healthcare system, requiring future assessments to validate findings and identify barriers.

### 3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

**Forcibly displaced, stateless and other affected persons improve their self-reliance with better access to socio-economic opportunities and engagement with development partners**

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
<b>3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	50.00%	63.99%
<b>3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	64.65%	75.64%
Returnees	33.63%	20.00%
<b>3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	33.95%	29.95%
Returnees	16.81%	7.27%
<b>3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	70.95%	90.40%

In 2024, UNHCR faced significant challenges in ensuring access to education for forcibly displaced persons, including refugees, IDPs, and returnees. Among these groups, refugees had the highest enrollment rates, while returnees had the lowest. Overall, enrollment rates declined compared to 2023. Primary education enrollment for refugees and asylum-seekers was significantly low at 20% - 41.9% less than in 2023. Returnees' primary education enrollment decreased by 12.9%. Secondary education enrollment for refugees and asylum-seekers was 19.2% and for returnees, it was 9.9%, representing a decline of 14.8% and 7.1%, respectively. The low refugee returns rates during the reporting period have led to the drop of the percentage of children and youth's enrollment rate. Additionally, the enrolment rate, particularly new enrolment rate, of the refugees and asylum seekers got declined resulting from the lower number of refugee arrivals during the reporting period and this is probably because of a series of awareness campaigns conducted by UNHCR and partners in the previous years around the risks and consequences of mixed migration.

In Somaliland, 52 forcibly displaced individuals completed vocational training in electrical engineering and tailoring, a 12% increase from 2023. Life skills, entrepreneurship, and financial management training boosted their employability and readiness for self-employment. Gender inclusivity and women empowerment improved with 24 male and 28 female trainees. Advocacy workshops raised awareness of refugees right to work and fostered collaboration with local communities and the private sector, improving employment opportunities. Renovations and expansions at the Skills Production Centre created a better learning environment, leading to improved outcomes. Progress was made in self-reliance, employability, and gender equality, aligning with UNHCR's objectives.

In Puntland, refugees and asylum-seekers face significant vulnerabilities due to limited economic prospects, lack of lasting solutions, and challenges in local integration, compounded by reduced funding and the scaling down of humanitarian services. Through limited socio-economic opportunities provided by UNHCR's livelihood interventions, 1,085 refugees and asylum-seekers started their own businesses, ensuring their right to decent work and supporting their families. These opportunities contributed to self-reliance, enabling them to manage their day-to-day lives, including ensuring their children's access to education.

## 4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

**Refugees, IDPs and returnees have improved access to alternative pathways and a range of durable solutions**

Population Type	Indicator	
	Baseline	Actual (2024)
<b>4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	1
<b>4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1	23
<b>4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	14	3
<b>4.3a Number of stateless people for whom nationality is granted or confirmed</b>		
Stateless Persons	0	0
<b>4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed</b>		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	0

Despite Somalia not having an allocated quota for resettlement, 23 refugees of Ethiopian and Yemeni nationality accessed durable solutions through resettlement and departed from Somalia for Finland and Canada. These cases were processed under unallocated quotas and reflect the critical importance of flexible resettlement programs. While data is not available for most refugee departures to third countries through complementary pathways, in particular family reunification and private sponsorship, UNHCR provided assistance to three (3) Yemeni refugees who were supported to travel to New Zealand via its Community Refugee Sponsorship (CORS) pilot.

Advocacy for Government land donations in many locations across Somalia to support the settlement and reintegration of IDPs and returnees continues to support momentum among humanitarian and development actors to collaborate on durable solutions.

The extent of statelessness in Somalia remained unclear due to the lack of comprehensive census data or a functioning Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System (CRVS). However, a UNHCR study conducted in 2023 found no stateless persons in the country but identified populations at risk due to the discriminatory citizenship law, which prevented women from conferring nationality, and the limited availability of civil registration services.

Progress was recorded in 2024 in strengthening civil registration mechanisms. UNHCR facilitated the shipment of tablets to support the government's initiation of civil registration activities. Awareness-raising efforts also improved public understanding of the importance of registration. Additionally, high-level government participation in regional and global discussions on statelessness helped sustain dialogue on gender discrimination in nationality laws, a critical issue affecting long-term solutions.

Despite these advancements, legislative progress remained slow. The draft Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Bill awaited approval in the Lower House of Parliament, and the draft Citizenship Bill saw no movement in 2024, as the government did not prioritize it. However, UNHCR's continued engagement with government counterparts ensured that legal reforms addressing statelessness risks remained on the policy agenda.

## 1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

Low education enrolment in Somalia reveals significant gaps in education access for forcibly displaced people, needing urgent support. UNHCR works with the government, NGOs, and stakeholders to improve access to quality education. While no legal barriers prevent refugees from attending public schools, conflict, instability, and resource shortages—like insufficient teachers and materials—severely limit access. Primary education is free, but schools often require guardians to contribute to running costs. Secondary education requires payment for tuition, exams, and scholastic materials, which many cannot afford. Governance and management reforms are crucial to enhancing inclusion and reducing dropouts.

Measuring decent work in Somalia is difficult due to limited formal employment, a large informal labor



market, and regulatory gaps. Key indicators include employment rates, working conditions, wages, social protection, and labor rights. The Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) monitor decent work, but many workers, especially displaced populations, face job insecurity, unfair wages, and weak legal protections, highlighting the need for stronger policies.

With most resettlement countries unable to conduct selection missions or consider dossier adjudication for refugees in Somalia, resettlement opportunities remain significantly restricted. Resettlement case identification for unallocated quotas is challenging in urban and peri-urban settings due in part to underutilization of proGres for protection case management and referrals. Expanding access to complementary pathways for admission to third countries is held back by limited English language skills among the refugee population, lack of recognized qualifications, financial constraints, and lack of machine-readable travel documents.

A refugee population verification exercise aims to improve data quality. Despite funding constraints, UNHCR is linking education and vocational training to third country in-demand skills and promoting English courses to widen opportunities. Adhering to global guidelines for voluntary returns, UNHCR lacks a dedicated budget to support such returns but will continue advocating with government authorities for alternative protection mechanisms.

## 1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

UNHCR has built strong partnerships with Somalia's private sector, including Hormuud Salaam Foundation, Salaam, Dahabshiil, Premier, and IBS banks, as well as the Somali Diaspora. UNHCR also collaborates with academic institutions like SIMAD and Mogadishu University, as well as think tanks. The operation effectively engaged in strengthening its partnership both locally and regionally with UN agencies, international organizations, the development partners such as African Development Bank, GIZ, and other multilateral institutions with the aim of promoting entrepreneurship, job creation and inclusive economic development. . UNHCR has been working closely with government institutions to ensure the effective implementation of Global Refugee Forum pledges.

UNHCR has been actively collaborating with government donors, country based pooled funds, National Association Partners (NAPs), and private donors, particularly from the Gulf countries such as Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Kuwait. By leveraging these partnerships, UNHCR strives to address immediate humanitarian needs while also working towards long-term stability and resilience for affected communities.

Throughout 2024, the operation signed project workplans with 29 funded partners comprising of government, national and international NGOs. UNHCR continued to strengthen the capacities and provided strategic guidance to funded partners. Additionally, the operation launched a competitive partnership selection process for the best fit partners. The selection was aimed at enhancing cost efficiency while also focusing on key priority interventions, including emergency response, solutions, multi-sector support for refugees. The operation also streamlined government partners and developed a compact of interventions for government commissions. The overarching objective is to progressively move from subsistence programming to sustainable responses, maximizing efficiencies and reducing costs while gradually transitioning services to national systems, especially education and health.

## Section 2: Results

### 2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

#### 1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

**By 2026 forcibly displaced and stateless persons have improved access to asylum, respect for non-refoulment, registration and documentation**

##### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	96.23%	100.00%	100.00%
<b>1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	39.96%	85.00%	35.40%
Returnees	20.55%	90.00%	26.63%
<b>1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	56.29%	100.00%	65.80%

##### Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2024)
<b>01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis</b>	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,496
<b>01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation</b>	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	6,168

### Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In Somalia, registration is conducted in full compliance with UNHCR standards and best practices for refugees and asylum-seekers. According to UNHCR's database and records a total of 3,496 refugees and asylum-seekers (1,733 refugees and 1,763 asylum-seekers) were registered in Somalia. During the reporting period, the office managed to register 100% of refugees and asylum-seekers on an individual basis. The office focused on facilitating registration for newly arrived individuals and maintaining an ongoing process of registration and verification, confirming existing registration data within proGres, and updating changes caused by births, marriages, deaths, divorces, new arrivals, and departures, among others. This has contributed to refugees' and asylum-seekers' rights to education and health services. The collection of individual biometrics (aged 5 years old and above) facilitates the issuance of documentation that includes individual identification cards and certificates to all refugees and asylum-seekers in the country. This documentation significantly improved their access to services and assistance, enhanced freedom of movement within Somalia, and prevented arbitrary detentions. The government of Somalia played a key role in ensuring access to asylum through conducting screening, border monitoring, and capacity building

for other government entities.

According to RMS data, birth registration rate among children under 5 years old is 35.4% for refugees and asylum seekers while for refugee returnees the rate is 28%. IDPs had the lowest birth registration rates, with only 8.2% of children under 5 years registered. These figures highlight significant disparities in access to civil registration services among the FDPs, with IDPs in urgent need of targeted interventions to improve birth registration rates and ensure the legal identity of children.

In terms of national identification, according to RMS data 16.6% of FDPs in Somalia have legally recognized identity documents or credentials to support their mobility and access to services. Among surveyed groups, 65.8% of refugees and asylum seekers possess legally recognized identification, followed by 55.4% of refugee returnees, and 16% of IDPs. Overall, 16.6% of all FDPs across surveyed populations have formal identification. These documents play a critical role in enabling FDPs to exercise their rights, access essential services, and facilitate mobility across regions, especially in a context marked by displacement and protracted crises.

## 2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

**People with international protection needs have access to fair and efficient asylum procedures according to international and regional standards.**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,324.00	183.00	39.73
<b>2.2 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal representation</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	90.00%	0.00%
<b>2.3 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	10.25%	100.00%	0.00%

### Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2024)
<b>02.1.1 UNHCR has provided capacity development support to strengthen the national status determination system(s), in accordance with international standards</b>	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

A prima facie approach is implemented for individuals seeking international protection from Palestine, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen and Sudan in Somaliland. Similarly, Puntland implements a prima facie approach for individuals from Palestine, Syria and Yemen. South Central only implements this approach for individuals from Yemen. In contrast, individuals from Ethiopia and other countries of asylum undergo a Refugee Status Determination (RSD) process to assess their eligibility for refugee status. There are approximately 22,262 asylum-seekers in Somalia awaiting adjudication of their applications, with the majority being in Puntland

(53%) followed by Somaliland (42%). In South central, UNHCR has engaged the National Commission on Refugees and IDPs (NCRI) on the implementation action plan for the Refugee Act, including the drafting of the Refugee Regulations. In Somaliland, the UNHCR RSD team conducted several trainings for the National Displacement and Refugee Agency (NDRA) team on fair and efficient RSD procedures, interview techniques, use of country-of-origin information (COI), assessment drafting, case prioritization, and interpreter use. Simplified RSD interview and assessment forms were developed for NDRA caseworkers. The RSD team assessed NDRA infrastructures to ensure fair procedures. In June 2024, NDRA caseworkers began observing RSD team interviews for training, and by August 2024, the RSD team started observing NDRA-conducted interviews, providing guidance and reviewing assessments.

In Puntland, in line with the Puntland State of Somalia government's enactment of the Refugee Protection Law No. 6 in September 2017, which vests the responsibility for recognition, protection, and management of matters relating to RSD in the Puntland government, UNHCR has initiated a three-year transition plan. Under the law, the Ministry of Interior (now the Ministry of Interior, Democratization, and Federal Affairs – MOIFAD) of Puntland is mandated to manage and oversee matters relating to asylum and refugees through a dedicated Refugee Affairs Department. The transition plan aims for the gradual transfer of RSD and registration responsibilities to MOIFAD through capacity building, judicial reviews, resource allocation, case processing, etc. UNHCR had its first meeting with senior officials from MOIFAD, where an agreement was reached to start working on the transition. To this effect, UNHCR developed a transition plan.

In addition, in 2025, an enhanced verification and profiling exercise will be undertaken in South Central, Puntland and Somaliland which serves to address the RSD backlog as the profiles of asylum seekers along with recommendations regarding eligibility will be presented to the Government authorities for a determination on refugee status.

While the national legislation and applicable legislation in Somaliland and Puntland do not explicitly bar or provide for access to legal representation in the asylum process, there was no reported instance of asylum seekers undergoing asylum procedures opting to use legal representation

### 3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

**By 2026, the national legal, policy and regulatory framework for refugees, IDPs and stateless persons in Somalia is strengthened in line with international standards**

#### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol</b>			
None	Not yet aligned	Not yet aligned	Progressing toward alignment
<b>3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness</b>			
None	Not yet aligned	Not yet aligned	Progressing toward alignment

#### Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
<b>03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness</b>	
Stateless Persons	Yes

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The Federal Government of Somalia enacted the Refugees and Asylum Seekers Act in February 2024. UNHCR is working jointly with the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI) on the development of administrative regulations on refugees and complementary protection, serving as by-laws to the Act. While the legal framework exists to protect refugees and asylum seekers, according to equal rights as nationals for instance freedom of movement, housing, land, and property rights, Somalia continues to face significant challenges in implementation due to limited governmental capacity, resource constraints, and ongoing security concerns.

The Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Bill of 2022 domesticating the Kampala Convention was endorsed unanimously by the Council of Ministers on 20 March 2024. The instrument went through two readings in Parliament, and Parliament and is expected to go through other legislative processes including public consultations. This law will complement the 2019 National Policy for IDPs and Returning Refugees, as well as other relevant instruments such as the National Durable Solutions Strategy (2020-2024) and the National Solutions Pathways Action Plan (2024 – 2029).

The extent of statelessness in Somalia remained unclear due to the lack of comprehensive census data or a functioning Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System (CRVS). A UNHCR study conducted in 2023 found no stateless persons in the country but identified populations at risk due to the discriminatory citizenship law, which prevented women from conferring nationality, and the limited availability of civil registration services. Progress was recorded in 2024 in strengthening civil registration mechanisms. UNHCR facilitated the shipment of tablets to support the government's initiation of civil registration activities, contributing to an increase in birth registration rates. Awareness-raising efforts also improved public understanding of the importance of registration, reflected in a reported rise in civil documentation applications. Additionally, high-level government participation in regional and global discussions on statelessness helped sustain dialogue on gender discrimination in nationality laws, a critical issue affecting long-term solutions.

However, the national legal framework remained misaligned with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness due to the lack of legal provisions guaranteeing gender-equal nationality rights and safeguards against childhood statelessness. Despite these gaps, UNHCR's continued engagement with government counterparts ensured that legal reforms addressing statelessness risks remained on the policy agenda.

While the draft Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Bill awaited approval in the Lower House of Parliament, no progress was made on the draft Citizenship Bill in 2024, as the government deprioritized it. This stalled efforts to improve legal safeguards against statelessness and align the national framework with international standards. Nevertheless, UNHCR continued to advocate for legislative reforms to reduce the risk of statelessness and strengthen protection for affected populations.

## 4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

**By 2026, forcibly displaced and stateless persons will have improved access to services in addressing risks of violence, exploitation, and abuse (GBV)**

**Forcibly displaced and stateless persons with protection risks and specific needs are identified and monitored to provide specific assistance**

## Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services</b>			
IDPs	29.30%	75.00%	35.80%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	51.25%	85.00%	42.40%
Returnees	44.44%	85.00%	41.03%
<b>4.2 Proportion of people who do not accept violence against women</b>			
IDPs	89.27%	90.00%	85.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	88.01%	90.00%	87.99%
Returnees	86.00%	90.00%	86.05%
<b>4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services</b>			
IDPs	79.13%	85.00%	85.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	93.01%	94.00%	93.00%
Returnees	71.62%	75.00%	71.60%

## Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
<b>04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes</b>	
IDPs	7,500
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	4,547

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Awareness of available GBV services fell below the target primarily due to funding limitations, which led to a reduction in GBV activities. Humanitarian responses were concentrated in priority districts to maximize resources for the most vulnerable and those at the highest risk of displacement. Despite these constraints, significant progress was made in in GBV prevention and response through expanded service delivery, strengthened coordination, and enhanced community engagement.

UNHCR and partners reached 14,211 individuals, yet only 36% of forcibly displaced persons knew where to access GBV services. GBV survivors received case management support, with 80% of sexual violence cases reported within 72 hours. UNHCR and partners, including Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Women Action for Advocacy and Progress (WAAPO), and Galkayo Education Center for Peace and Development (GECPD), strengthened service coordination, expanded GBV information management system (GBVIMS+) rollout, and integrated cash-for-protection programmes to mitigate risks.

In Puntland and Galmudug, UNHCR focused on individual case management within a multi-sectoral response framework, including , access to health/clinical management of rape, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), shelter, sanitary materials, legal aid, and durable solutions. Additionally, the office provided urgent individualized protection support to vulnerable women and girls affected by displacement through the distribution of dignity kits containing hygiene and sanitary items, as well as other items explicitly tailored to the local needs of women and girls. The office strengthened referral services for vulnerable women and girls at risk through mobile protection desks and by enhancing coordination with humanitarian partners and service providers, including state authorities across Puntland and Galmudug

regions. Furthermore, it supported community mechanisms in the prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV) by promoting strategies to reduce the risk of GBV and strengthen protective measures within the community, in line with survivor-centered principles. All interventions respected the survivor's autonomy and prioritized safety, confidentiality and non-discrimination.

## 5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

**Child protection, prevention and response enabled and sustained.**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	62.41%	80.00%	95.33%
<b>5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes</b>			
IDPs	1.24%	65.00%	1.50%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.63%	50.00%	5.60%
<b>5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.63%	20.00%	7.50%

### Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2024)
<b>05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services</b>	
IDPs	224
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	715

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Child protection services continued in 2024, improving case management and alternative care. A total of 939 children received child protection services, particularly children at heightened risk who received Best Interest Procedures (BIP). Among this, 61 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) received alternative care or direct support. UNHCR and partners, including DRC, WAAPO, and GECPD, strengthened referral systems, improved Best Interest Assessments (BIA), and enhanced cross-border case management. Child protection awareness activities reached thousands, increasing early detection of at-risk cases.

However, the proportion of internally displaced children engaged in community-based child protection services remained low. This was due to limited funding for child protection programming and a reliance on the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) to cover these needs in IDP contexts. In Somaliland, the coverage of child protection services has been constrained by the allocated budget, which limits support for different population types. A larger proportion of child protection services and actors (both governmental and non-governmental) are concentrated in Maroodi Jeex, primarily in Hargeisa, leaving gaps in other regions. The volatile security situation in eastern Somaliland further impedes the



provision of child protection interventions. Underfunding and the absence of reliable data have further constrained concrete and effective responses for children affected by internal displacement and returnees. Moreover, Somaliland benefits from a low but highly competitive regional unallocated resettlement quota. Increasingly restrictive national asylum policies for resettlement countries have narrowed its utility as a durable solution, exacerbating the situation for vulnerable children and families. Foster care arrangements remain weak and often threaten the well-being of children without a clear commitment to responsibility. While the Horn, East, and Central Africa refugee community expresses some willingness to take responsibility for UASC, the added economic burden amid limited livelihood opportunities and dwindling humanitarian assistance remains a disincentive. In contrast, the Middle East and North Africa refugee community—particularly Yemenis—are more accustomed to fostering UASC, reflecting practices common in their countries of origin.

Despite these challenges, in Puntland and Galmudug, UNHCR supported preventative, protective, and care services to address various risks and vulnerabilities faced by children, including abuse, exploitation, and violence, through targeted multi-sectoral responses and case management aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of children. UNHCR's efforts notably focused on reshaping social and gender norms, advocating for change at the community level, and engaging with pertinent child protection service providers. Additionally, they provided support and case management for child survivors through specialized interventions.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

By 2026 forcibly displaced and stateless persons have improved access to quality legal remedies in relation to their fundamental rights

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
06.1.1 Number of people who received legal assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	5,372

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In Puntland, refugees and asylum-seekers face significant obstacles in accessing justice due to weak legal and justice institutions, interference from clan justice systems, high levels of discrimination, delays in the judicial process, and unclear administrative procedures. To facilitate access to effective justice mechanisms, UNHCR and its partner KAALO Aid and Development (KAALO) offer legal assistance to refugees across four major refugee-hosting hubs: Bossaso, Garowe, Gardo, and Galkayo. In 2024, around 800 individuals were targeted for legal assistance, including legal counselling, legal representation, filing cases at police stations and in court, and mediation support. Common offenses range from serious crimes like rape, murder, and physical harm to petty crimes and disputes, including GBV, financial disputes, physical fights, and harassment and intimidation.

Without appropriate legal support, refugees are vulnerable to exploitation, abuse, and wrongful deportation. Many refugees from Ethiopia who do not speak Somali, notably Oromo and Amhara, face barriers in accessing the justice system due to language issues, lack of knowledge about their rights, and discrimination. Legal assistance helps them navigate these challenges, ensuring they receive fair treatment and due process. In Somaliland, refugees and asylum-seekers benefited from the protection space, with few reports of arrests for immigration or legal status reasons. During the reporting period, UNHCR legal partner supported 4,368



asylum-seekers, refugees and host community individuals, IDPs and returnees through legal representation, mediation, counselling, shelter assistance and referral to the police and/or other partners. 245 FDPs were provided marriage, divorce and birth certificates (civil documentation). Legal awareness sessions were facilitated by legal clinic, promoting understanding of legal rights and obligations and fostering peaceful coexistence in Somaliland. Routine monitoring activities have been crucial in identifying and intervening on behalf of wrongfully detained refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR's Legal partner conducted 212 detention and border monitoring activities including police stations, immigration detentions, key border entries, and coast guard detention centres throughout Marodi-jeh, Awdal, and Sahil regions, four of which were border monitoring.

## 7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

**By 2026, inclusive and accessible feedback and response mechanisms are established and maintained for all community members, people have access to protection services, women receive information and support to participate in leadership structures, and youth resilience and inclusion in government-led socio-economic programs are strengthened.**

**Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), leadership, partnership and community mobilisation enhanced**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms</b>			
IDPs	61.00%	25.00%	100.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	25.00%	100.00%
Returnees	100.00%	27.00%	100.00%
<b>7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures</b>			
IDPs	50.00%	60.00%	75.00%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	33.33%	45.00%	40.32%
Returnees	50.00%	60.00%	50.00%

### Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
<b>07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments</b>	
IDPs	4,500
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0
Returnees	0
<b>07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback &amp; response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback</b>	
IDPs	23,541
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,627
Returnees	1,101
<b>07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services</b>	
IDPs	560,456
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7,379

Returnees	1,115
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## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR/Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) has significantly advanced women’s leadership across Somalia. A key achievement is the establishment of inclusive governance structures in 1,600 IDP settlements (95% of CCCM-managed sites), with 1,200 (75%) now women-led, placing women at the center of decision-making.

To strengthen these leadership structures, UNHCR/CCCM delivered 46 capacity-building workshops, equipping women with management and advocacy skills. At the national level, a three-day training for 30 Somali Disaster Management Agency (SoDMA) participants integrated protection and GBV prevention into camp management through a multi-sectoral approach. Practical exercises and case studies deepened understanding of GBV complexities, embedding protection into Somalia’s disaster management framework.

UNHCR/CCCM constructed five multipurpose community centers serving as hubs for women leaders, fostering collaboration and collective action. Additionally, UNHCR supported the launch of the African Women’s Leadership Network (AWLN)-Somalia Chapter in March 2024, in partnership with UN Women, UNDP, UNSOM, the Office of the First Lady, and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development.

Community engagement was enhanced through 217 stakeholder meetings in regions including Baidoa, Kismayu, and Hargeisa, ensuring displaced communities influence decision-making. Service accessibility improved through dialogue with authorities and service providers. UNHCR/CCCM also conducted 473 orientation sessions, reaching 95,255 individuals (48,569 males, 46,686 females), promoting awareness of services, referral pathways, and emergency contacts. These efforts strengthened community resilience while amplifying women’s voices in governance structures.

Infrastructure investments supported women’s participation, with 104 solar lights installed across 45 IDP sites in Baidoa, Sanaag, Hirshabelle, and Sool, improving security for over 100,000 women and 120,000 girls. An additional 380 households in Baidoa received multipurpose solar lights, enabling women to engage in evening community activities previously hindered by safety concerns.

UNHCR/CCCM, in collaboration with partners, conducted extensive safety audits throughout 2023 and 2024. In 2023, 702 safety audit KI assessments were conducted across 26 districts, followed by 1,742 KI interviews across 29 districts in 2024. Safety audits in 10 sites in Southwest and Jubaland states identified protection risks and informed targeted interventions.

Women’s perspectives were systematically integrated into decision-making through 217 community-level stakeholder meetings and 120 area- and site-level coordination meetings, bringing together government representatives, Camp Management Committees, and community leaders. These initiatives have strengthened women’s leadership, enhanced protection frameworks, and improved community resilience across Somalia.

## 8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

**Forcibly displaced and stateless persons have access to core relief items cash assistance and basic household needs**

## Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	25.72%	100.00%	39.03%
Returnees	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
<b>8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	11.03%	30.00%	14.10%
Returnees	8.51%	30.00%	4.14%

## Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance	
IDPs	54,185
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	16,299
Returnees	3,107
08.2.1 Number of people who received non-food items	
IDPs	123,600
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	338
Returnees	363

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR, in line with strategic priorities to ensure life-saving assistance, focused on delivering a strong flood emergency and conflict response with the distribution of non-food items (NFI) kits (in-kind and cash) to a total of 37,026 newly displaced and vulnerable households in protracted situations based on UNHCR's vulnerability assessments. The prioritization process was in accordance with the shelter cluster severity analysis and modality which depended on context for both cash and in-kind; cash (100 USD/household) was provided to a total of 20,717 households (124,300 individuals). The kit components, as per shelter cluster guidance, consisted of 1 solar lamp, 2 jerrycans (10 liters each), 3 blankets, 1 mosquito net, 1 plastic sheet, 1 kitchen set, and 2 sleeping mats.

According to Results Monitoring Survey data, a very low proportion (2.2%) of displaced persons report a primary reliance on clean cooking fuel and technology. This is highest among refugees (16.5%), asylum-seekers (11%), refugee returnees (4.1%), and IDPs (1.9%).

In 2024, UNHCR provided multipurpose cash and in-kind assistance targeting vulnerable displaced persons, including women and children, which increasingly improved their access to basic needs and essential services. This was in line with the interim strategy to support multi-sectorial response in basic services including health, nutrition, shelter, education, livelihood, and self-reliance by providing freedom and dignity of choice. A total of 17,380 households (73,591 individuals) received cash assistance.

Key achievements included CBI for dignity kits for 1,319 girls and women of reproductive age (RAS and IDPs); Climate response for IDPs: 8,848 households (53,895 individuals) were received MPCA and NFI in cash; and livelihood support through CBI for 1,101 households (6,373 individuals) Refugees and Asylum seekers. Additionally, 1,236 households (4,296 individuals) of refugees and asylum-seekers

received multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA), and education support was provided through CBI for 2,833 girls and boys. 1,768 refugees and asylum-seekers received physical protection through CBI. Additionally, 1,279 returnees received one-time cash assistance (reinstallation grant), and 1,146 households (1,828 individuals) who arrived in 2023 received their pending monthly subsistence allowances in 2024.

In line with the interim strategy, UNHCR continued to engage with relevant interagency coordination forums to address the protection, assistance, and solutions needs of forcibly displaced people. This included Protection, Shelter, and CCCM Clusters that are led/co-led by UNHCR, UN Country Team (UNCT), and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), and engagement in durable solutions activities/initiatives, and local authorities.

With the majority of refugee households still relying on firewood/charcoal, access to clean cooking fuel and technology remains a prominent challenge in the settlements/sites, hence creating a limitation in achieving the desired target. Only 14.1% of refugees and asylum-seekers and 4.1% of returnees were attained against a target of 30% for each population group. Inaction on clean cooking results in substantial losses caused by gender inequality, health outcomes, climate, and natural resource degradation, which turns a domestic opportunity for industry and commerce development into a continuing drain on wealth creation and economic activity

## 9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

**Forcibly displaced and stateless persons have access to shelter in safe settlements with minimal natural or man-made threats, risks, and hazards**

**Forcibly displaced and stateless persons have access to shelter in safe settlements with minimal natural or man-made threats, risks, hazards and contextually adapted to the climate**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing</b>			
IDPs	0.37%	10.00%	2.10%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1.12%	10.00%	3.90%
Returnees	0.00%	10.00%	9.66%
<b>9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting</b>			
IDPs	63.79%	90.00%	64.80%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	86.76%	100.00%	84.20%
Returnees	88.89%	75.00%	83.79%

### Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
<b>09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance</b>	
IDPs	21,392
Returnees	0

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

According to the Results Monitoring Survey data, a very low proportion of forcibly displaced people (FDP) reported living in habitable and affordable housing. Among the groups, refugee returnees have the highest access at 9.7%, followed by refugees and asylum seekers at 3.9%, while IDPs are significantly underserved, with only 2.1%. In contrast, a majority of all persons UNHCR serves reported having energy to ensure lighting, with the highest being refugee returnees (83.8%) followed by refugees and asylum seekers (84.2%), and IDPs (64.8%).

Secure tenure/property rights to housing or land remain limited across all groups of FDPs. Refugee returnees report the highest proportion at 16.5%, IDPs at 3.6% and refugees and asylum seekers at 2%. These findings emphasize the urgent need for targeted interventions to improve access to adequate housing and ensure secure tenure for FDPs, addressing disparities and promoting stability among vulnerable populations.

In 2024, the Shelter Cluster reached a total of 31,300 individuals with emergency (12,300), transitional (8,700) and durable shelter assistance (10,300).

UNHCR response comprised of both provision of sustainable shelter solutions and advocacy for access to land and property rights through integrated settlement approach as part of durable solutions for forcibly displaced people. 3,378 households (20,268 individuals) were supported with emergency shelter kits (241), improved emergency shelters (1,800), transitional (800), and durable shelter (537) solutions that are resilient to the impact of climate change. The prioritization process was guided by the geographical distribution and severity of needs based on the severity analysis and categorization. The improved emergency shelters were designed to prevent damage by floods through the incorporation of a raised floor and a plinth wall. In Adado, NRC constructed a water pipeline, with communal water points, connecting the settlements to an existing borehole, improving the living conditions of 1,302 individuals.

To promote access to shelter in safe settlements, 15 and 11 solar streetlights were installed in Kismayo and Bossaso respectively to enhance security and community well-being in the settlements. Studies have shown that the installation of solar-powered streetlights in displacement settings can significantly improve perceptions of safety and reduce incidents of violence, particularly against women and girls.

To ensure sustainability of the project, training on shelter construction and maintenance was conducted for the selected beneficiaries. Local artisans and laborers also provided services during the construction phase, which helped stimulate the local economy. These efforts were designed to provide immediate relief while fostering long-term resilience and stability within the community. In addition, community consultations were undertaken to obtain feedback on the project for quality assurance.

## 10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

**Forcibly displaced and stateless persons have access to sustainable health care and reproductive services through advocacy for the inclusion of refugees into existing public health services provided by government**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	60.25%	95.00%	72.30%
<b>10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	80.79%	95.00%	82.90%

## Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
<b>10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services</b>	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	17,372
<b>10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial support services</b>	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	68

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The Proportion of children aged nine months to five years who have received measles vaccination increased by 12% from a baseline of 60% to 72.3%. The increase indicates a positive trend toward the 95% target to prevent measles outbreaks and its devastating complications. UNHCR's operating level (OL) increase has resulted in sustained and steady progress in providing essential measles immunizations. Additionally, the government, sister UN agencies (WHO, UNICEF), and development actors contributed significantly by supporting measles outbreak campaigns, vaccine logistics, and supplies. UNHCR's funding and the support of other stakeholders collectively strengthened the health system. Despite the progress, the measles immunization coverage is far below the 95% target and more needs to be done. Multiple measles outbreaks are routinely reported across Somalia by the Health Cluster along with other outbreaks such as cholera, diphtheria, and malaria compounded by a high prevalence of child malnutrition.

Elsewhere, the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel showed a slight upward trend from 81% baseline to 82.3%. Though the increase is small, the impact is positively consequential for pregnant women seeking skilled birth attendance. The actual 82.3% result is far below the standard (100%) – overall, the achieved result falls within the unacceptable spectrum. According to the National Demographic Health Survey, the skilled birth attendance percentage stands at 32%, making the figures for FDPs higher than that of the host communities. Given the fragility of the health system and the prevailing operational reality and considering other UN agencies and Health Cluster's health access assessments, the consistently high skilled birth attendance outcome reported in the RMS needs close examination and triangulation with other sources of data. At the same time, investing in health outcomes and realizing its positive impact takes a long time and is funding intensive.

## 11. Outcome Area: Education

**Forcibly displaced persons have access to equitable and sustainable primary, secondary and tertiary education, and advocacy efforts for their inclusion in the national education system in Somalia are enhanced.**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.51%	10.00%	1.97%
<b>11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	17.15%	20.00%	25.39%
Returnees		65.00%	5.53%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7,861

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

The UNHCR Education Strategy for Somalia 2020-2024 aims to transition refugee children into the national education system. To facilitate this transition, UNHCR has undertaken various initiatives, including supporting the building and rehabilitation of educational infrastructure and distributing school and office furniture to different locations in Somalia.

As a result, in 2024, UNHCR supported 8,193 refugee and asylum-seeker children in accessing primary and secondary education; with 6,737 students enrolled in Primary while 1,456 students enrolled in Secondary schools .4,234 in Puntland, 3,020 in Somaliland, and 771 in Mogadishu. UNHCR conducted information campaigns to encourage parents and guardians of refugee children to enroll their children in public primary schools to improve enrollment and reduce the dropout rate of refugee students. The Gross Enrollment Rate for refugee children during the reporting period is 23.7% while according to the RMS report, the enrolment rate at impact level stands at 75.64% for Primary and 29.95% for secondary enrolment for the refugees and Asylum Seekers while 20% for primary enrolment and 7.27% for secondary enrolment for the returnee education,

In 2024, UNHCR supported only 84 students from refugees who returned to Somalia in 2023. This number is quite low due to two factors, budget constraints over the last three years and the fact that returnees have integrated quickly with their communities and managed to enroll their children in national and private schools near their locations.

The DAFI Scholarship Programme is the sole opportunity for tertiary education for refugees and asylum-seekers (RAS) students in Somalia. In 2024, UNHCR supported 202 students to pursue various faculties at national and private universities in Somalia.

To enhance students’ dedication to their studies, UNHCR provides DAFI Scholars with various entitlements, including books, student supplies, food, rent, transportation, clothing, uniform allowances, and registration/tuition and associated fees. Furthermore, DAFI Scholars also receive counseling before they join universities and throughout their studies. To promote stakeholder engagement in supporting RAS students’ tertiary education, UNHCR consistently coordinates with other UN agencies involved in education, such as UNICEF, and INGOs like Save the Children. Moreover, UNHCR collaborates closely with the Ministry of Education, Higher Education, and Culture of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and state education ministries to facilitate the smooth transition of RAS students into the national education system.

Notably, in 2024, there was fruitful coordination between UNHCR and the Direct Aid Organization to support RAS students in Somalia. The program aimed to support 10 students in the first phase, with the possibility of increasing the number in the future. The program will be launched in 2025.



## 13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

**By 2026 more forcibly displaced persons will have access to sustainable livelihoods and economic opportunities leading to self-reliance**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider</b>			
IDPs	73.99%	100.00%	88.80%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	92.51%	100.00%	91.40%
Returnees	80.39%	100.00%	90.00%
<b>13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year</b>			
IDPs	7.30%	30.00%	5.30%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.43%	40.00%	1.89%
Returnees	0.00%	50.00%	1.72%

### Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
<b>13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions</b>	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,797
Returnees	657

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

To enhance the employability of both refugees and vulnerable host community members, a total of 2,465 individuals (1,355 females and 1,110 males) received vocational training and toolkits to either start their own businesses or enter the labor market. The training included beautification (henna), aluminium works, mobile repair, electrical installations, and tailoring. The entrepreneurship module covered key topics such as small and medium business management, marketing, accounting, business plan development, market exploration, and risk identification. This training enhanced FDPs' entrepreneurial skills and knowledge, equipping them with the ability to develop simplified business plans. To support refugees and asylum-seekers in taking the first step toward formal financial inclusion, UNHCR and its funded partners and other stakeholders assisted FDP-owned businesses in opening accounts with local banks. This initiative aimed at facilitating FDPs' access to financial services and gradually integrating them into the formal financial system. In Somalia, many forcibly displaced persons rely on mobile money for financial transactions, access to financial services is relatively high among FDPs, with 88.9% of all surveyed FDPs having an account at a bank, financial institution, or mobile money service provider. Refugees reported the highest access at 91.4%, followed by refugee returnees at 90.5%, IDPs at 88.8%, and asylum-seekers at 87.5%. These accounts are commonly used for depositing e-money, cash withdrawals, and payment transactions. Data suggests an increase in FDPs utilizing mobile money compared to the previous year. To promote financial inclusion and improve access to credit facilities for forcibly displaced persons, UNHCR, in collaboration with its partner COOPI, facilitated the linkage of 103 FDPs to the microfinance institution RAAS Micro Finance. This initiative was designed to support FDPs in establishing financial stability, fostering self-reliance, and enhancing their economic well-being. By connecting them with microfinance services, the program aimed to provide access to small loans and financial resources that would enable



them to start or expand their businesses, ultimately improving their livelihoods and long-term resilience.

These accomplishments were made possible through strong collaboration and coordinated efforts with stakeholders at the federal, regional, and district levels. By engaging with local institutions, and community leaders, UNHCR and its partners ensured the effective implementation of livelihood programmes, alignment with local policies, and the sustainability of livelihood initiatives. This close collaboration facilitated policy advocacy, and the creation of an enabling environment that supported forcibly displaced persons and host communities in accessing economic opportunities and financial services.

Women are encouraged to start small businesses through financial literacy programs, business mentorship, and networking opportunities women receive training in marketable skills such as tailoring, agriculture, IT, and business management. Forming cooperatives and women's self-help groups to strengthen their collective bargaining power. Besides, in 2024, UNHCR Somalia constructed two markets to enhance women's access to economic opportunities. These markets were established in locations with significant populations of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees, aiming to provide safe and accessible spaces for women to engage in income-generating activities. By facilitating the sale of goods and services, these markets aimed to promote women's economic empowerment, improve household incomes, and strengthen community resilience. This initiative is part of UNHCR's broader efforts to support durable solutions and sustainable response for displaced and returnee populations in Somalia.

## 14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

**Forcibly displaced and stateless persons will have access to CoO information, available services in return areas and reintegration programme in line with UNHCR Somalia Return and Reintegration Strategy**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>14.1 Proportion of returnees with legally recognized identity documents or credentials</b>			
Returnees	51.04%	100.00%	52.43%

### Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
<b>14.1.1 Number of people who received counselling and/or information on voluntary repatriation</b>	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Voluntary return from Yemen remained the durable solution of choice for many Somali refugees. UNHCR supported the return and reintegration as an integral part of its responsibility for promoting durable solutions. Additionally, Somaliland also received and supported Somali returnees from Libya and Sudan. To promote informed return decisions, UNHCR updated and shared with UNHCR Yemen area of return information sheets.

Through the Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) project, UNHCR received and supported 1,473 Somali returnees from Yemen, Libya, Chile, India, Egypt, Malawi Tunisia and Sudan – a slight increase from the 1,432 ASRs received in 2023. In addition, UNHCR received 462 self-organized spontaneous returnees and provided reception and protection services upon arrival, including biometric registration, temporary

accommodation and hot meals.

To facilitate smooth reception, UNHCR, the government, and its partners provided open, safe, and dignified reception arrangements for the returnees coming through Mogadishu International Airport, Berbera Port, and Hargeisa International Airport. The political will and commitment of both the Yemen and Somalia governments to ensure smooth implementation of the project cannot be overemphasized – the support of the Somali government throughout the process to the point of reintegration, has been fundamental, particularly given the deteriorating security/political situation in the Middle East conflict (Gaza) and its consequences on Yemen. There has been increased intention of Somali refugees in Yemen to return voluntarily to their country of origin, and UNHCR has helped facilitate their return with safety and dignity.

Access to documentation is critical to facilitate the full integration of the returnees in Somalia. The Somalia officials conducted nationality screening and issuance of travel documents from the countries of asylum, which promoted access to documentation by the returnees.

To promote the reintegration process, UNHCR supported the assisted spontaneous returnees with reinstallation grants.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Most vulnerable / at-risk refugees are supported to access resettlement and complementary pathways opportunities are expanded for refugees.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	21	50	47

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
15.1.1 Country issues machine-readable travel documents	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	No

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR is primarily responsible for the identification of refugees for resettlement consideration guided by the selection criteria and processing capacity of resettlement States. Standard procedures for internal UNHCR referrals are integrated in community-based protection activities. Although more refugees in Somalia were identified by UNHCR and recommended for submission in 2024 under unallocated quotas, in comparison to 2023, most submissions were not accepted and some internal referrals were not submitted, due to complexities in many of the identified cases which would have required an interview in person. The lack of any resettlement selection missions to Somalia and limitations for most resettlement States affecting dossier adjudication (without interviews) presented challenges in responding to resettlement needs in Somalia.

UNHCR worked closely with its government counterpart (NDRA) and IOM in Somaliland mainly securing government exit clearance for resettlement departure for 5 households of 15 Ethiopian and 1 Yemeni refugees to Canada and Finland.

## 16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

**By 2025, local institutions and communities will be resilient to increase local integration for displaced communities**

**By 2026, the capacities of local institutions and communities are strengthened to enhance the resilience and social cohesion of displaced communities for durable solutions**

**Improved data, tools, and frameworks to inform government-led integrated and inclusive solutions pathways for IDPs and host communities.**

### Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
<b>16.1 Proportion of people with secure tenure rights to housing and/or land</b>			
IDPs	1.91%	10.00%	3.60%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1.56%	75.00%	2.00%
<b>16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems</b>			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7.43%	10.00%	3.10%
Returnees	3.67%	10.00%	20.34%

### Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator
	Actual (2024)
<b>16.1.1. Government Social protection system is inclusive of forcibly displaced and stateless people</b>	
IDPs	Partially

## Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Findings from the 2024 Results Monitoring Survey indicate that access to available safe and secure settlements with basic facilities (electricity, shelter, healthcare and drinking water) for forcibly displaced persons remains critically limited, with only 5.8% reported to have access. From the surveyed population, refugee returnees received the most national social protection coverage at 18.3%, followed by IDPs at 5.9% and asylum-seekers at 3.6%. Refugees had the lowest coverage at 2.7%. Studies have highlighted significant gaps in the provision of social safety nets for FDPs, targeted measures to expand access, particularly for refugees and other vulnerable FDPs to social protection programs are critical.

In 2024, UNHCR progressively worked to transition services to other state actors including through line ministries who can provide services more sustainably (Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health). This is in line with a “whole-of-government” leadership for the refugee response, where line ministries and local governments play their mandated roles and responsibilities in service delivery, social protection, and economic inclusion. Provision of cash-transfers targeting vulnerable displaced persons to support their access to basic services including health, nutrition, shelter, education and livelihoods was facilitated. Refugees and returnees also received safety net assistance in the form of conditional in-kind or cash-based transfers for vocational training and rehabilitation of community assets in order to reduce their vulnerability to protection risks and to enhance their self-reliance.

## 2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2024, UNHCR Somalia strengthened Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) through three key initiatives: the Inter-Agency Complaint Feedback Mechanism (ICFM), the HCT Interoperable Aggregator CFM Model, and the Community Perception Survey (CPS).

UNHCR launched the ICFM, a new toll-free hotline centralized in Mogadishu, enabling 18,469 individuals (4,016 males, 14,453 females, mostly aged 18-59) to access information, report concerns, and receive referrals. Challenges included software development and tool familiarization. The HCT Aggregator Model processed 40,609 feedback cases (16,178 males, 24,431 females), supporting data-driven humanitarian programming and feedback closure. Galgaduud (Galmudug State) had the highest engagement, though access to feedback mechanisms remained limited in hard-to-reach areas. Food security and livelihoods were the most common concerns.

To inform humanitarian response and enhance inclusion, UNHCR conducted a CPS with 3,596 respondents (1,265 males, 2,327 females, 4 unspecified), assessing perceptions on humanitarian effectiveness. Findings revealed barriers to access, communication gaps, and concerns over marginalized group exclusion.

UNHCR prioritized engagement with women and girls, strengthening referral pathways and distributing dignity kits and Individual Protection Assistance where resources allowed. However, limited funding meant UNHCR relied heavily on referrals.

To ensure feedback led to action, UNHCR published regular analytical reports and dashboards at least quarterly to inform UNHCR and humanitarian partners. Efforts to enhance participation included strengthening community leadership, promoting AGD-sensitive decision-making, and increasing direct consultations. However, awareness gaps persisted, with only 31.1% of respondents familiar with complaint mechanisms.

By integrating insights from the ICFM, Aggregator Model, and CPS, UNHCR enhanced inclusive humanitarian action, ensuring affected populations influenced response planning and service delivery.

## Section 3: Resources

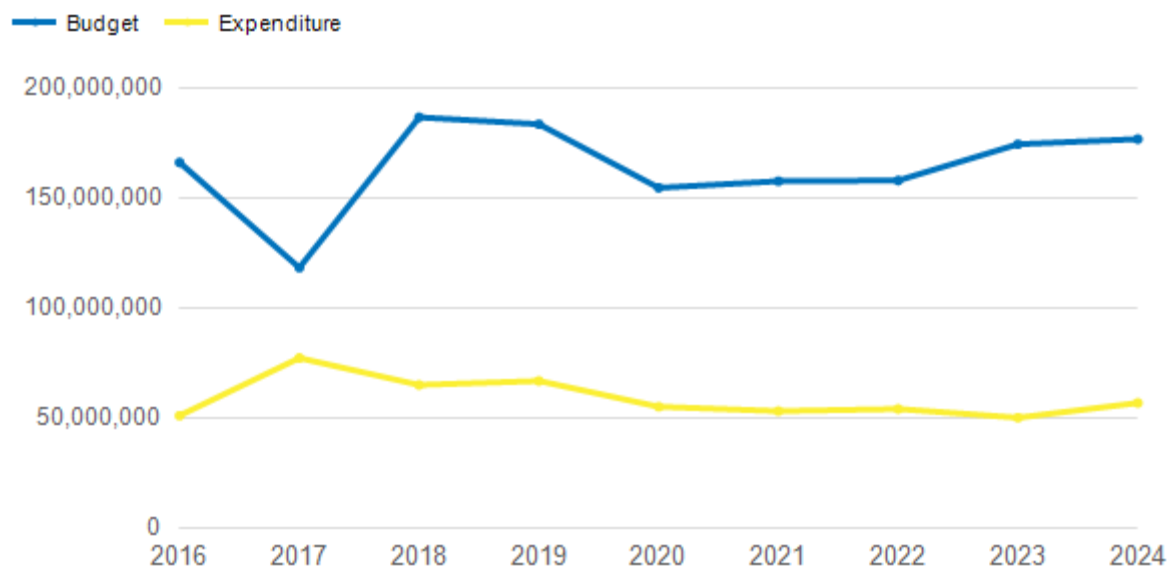
### 3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

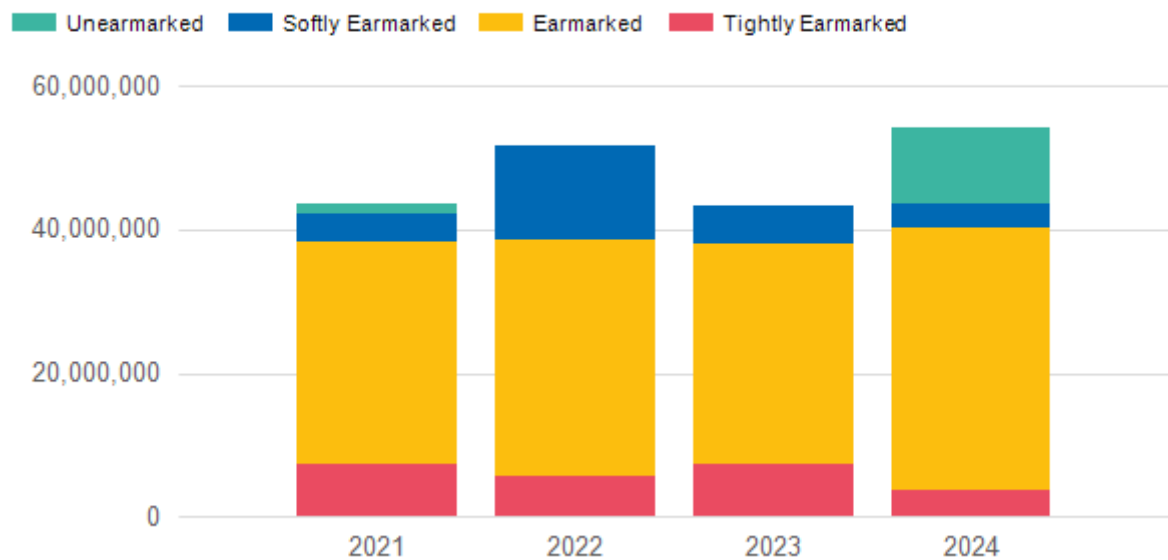
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	44,322,643	25,986,268	58.63%	25,986,268	100.00%
IA2: Assist	65,311,338	16,821,315	25.76%	16,821,315	100.00%
IA3: Empower	23,716,661	4,832,233	20.37%	4,832,233	100.00%
IA4: Solve	43,166,773	9,303,210	21.55%	9,026,764	97.03%
<b>Total</b>	<b>176,517,415</b>	<b>56,943,026</b>	<b>32.26%</b>	<b>56,666,580</b>	<b>99.51%</b>

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	17,840,455	16,380,888	91.82%	16,380,888	100.00%
OA2: Status	598,576	1,111,564	185.70%	1,111,564	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	1,855,823	702,328	37.84%	702,328	100.00%
OA4: GBV	18,708,112	4,500,022	24.05%	4,500,022	100.00%
OA5: Children	2,776,363	803,556	28.94%	803,556	100.00%
OA6: Justice	1,056,717	559,247	52.92%	559,247	100.00%
OA7: Community	6,317,245	4,671,999	73.96%	4,395,553	94.08%
OA8: Well-being	18,841,605	5,442,166	28.88%	5,442,166	100.00%
OA9: Housing	35,849,439	6,763,160	18.87%	6,763,160	100.00%
OA10: Health	5,854,401	1,935,231	33.06%	1,935,231	100.00%
OA11: Education	19,696,250	2,449,614	12.44%	2,449,614	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	23,716,661	4,832,233	20.37%	4,832,233	100.00%
OA14: Return	8,618,357	1,928,669	22.38%	1,928,669	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	1,998,021	262,262	13.13%	262,262	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	5,999,610	1,485,937	24.77%	1,485,937	100.00%
EA17: Systems	6,789,780	3,114,150	45.87%	3,114,150	100.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>176,517,415</b>	<b>56,943,026</b>	<b>32.26%</b>	<b>56,666,580</b>	<b>99.51%</b>

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



### 3.2. Resources Overview

In 2024, the Somalia Operation recorded several civilian displacements due to inter and intra-clan fighting, confrontations between Al-Shabab and government forces, climate-induced shocks (floods and droughts). To respond to these life-threatening situations and mass displacements, the operation received additional budget increases from the private sectors and regular donors, enabling swift action and support to the forcibly displaced and stateless persons across the country.

By the end of 2024, the operation was 30% funded with a total operating level (OL) budget of USD 53.78

million, compared to the beginning of the year budget of USD 37.58 million. The increase in the OL budget by the end of the year was realized through continuous resource mobilization and engagement with the private sector such as Qatar /Eid Charity, USA for UNHCR, Sports for protection and other key donors such as CERF and Government of Japan.

For the operational level (OPS) budget for 2024, 70% was allocated to partners including national, international and government entities while 30% was direct implementation specifically covering CBI, procurement of CRIs for emergency response, and other general project management activities that enabled timely and efficient responses. The operation continuously reviewed emerging and competing priorities and undertook efficient resource utilization through prioritization to maximize impact on the lives of forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

Regarding the allocations per the impact area, the Somalia Operation allocated USD 13.96 million (50%) to the impact area “Assist”, followed by USD 7.35 million (30%) to the impact area “Solve”, as part of the effort to provide life-saving assistance to forcibly displaced and stateless persons across Somalia. For the different outcome areas, the “Housing” outcome area recorded the highest budget at USD 5.78 million (19%), followed by “Wellbeing” at USD 4.99 million(16%), while “Resettle” recorded the lowest budget of USD 20,000. In line with its multi-year strategy and priorities, the operation managed to allocate resources while minimizing negative impacts and promoting a favourable protection environment.

The operation minimized gaps due to limited financial resources by consistently engaging in resource mobilization and fundraising. Through these efforts, the operation managed to respond to affected communities by implementing critical and life-saving programmes.

## Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

### 4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

The Somalia operation demonstrated the critical importance of transitioning from traditional care and maintenance programming to solutions-oriented approaches. By establishing integrated settlements with enhanced coordination with other stakeholders and progressively transferring services to relevant state-level actors and local systems, the operation successfully reduced reliance on parallel systems, fostering sustainability and enhancing local ownership. This shift not only promoted more resilient and self-sufficient communities but also maximized operational efficiencies, enabling a greater allocation of resources directly to beneficiary services. The approach highlighted the value of empowering local stakeholders, strengthening governance structures, and building long-term, impactful solutions.

The establishment of a compact of interventions aligned with the 2024 Guidance Note on Protection, Assistance, and Solutions has proven to be a strategic and effective approach. By adapting this framework to guide engagement with government entities, UNHCR has clearly demonstrated its commitment to implementing impactful interventions for forcibly displaced and stateless persons. This approach adopted in 2024, will not only reinforce strong collaboration with governments but also ensure that protection and solutions are delivered in a structured, transparent, and results-oriented manner, contributing to sustainable and meaningful outcomes for vulnerable populations. Due to the evolving funding situation globally and in the region in particular, the operation will prioritize outcomes related to emergency response, protection, registration and documentation, health, Wellbeing (Cash and Core relief items).

Prepositioning Core Relief Items (CRIs) closer to distribution points and expanding the use of cash-based interventions (CBI) significantly enhanced emergency preparedness, enabling the timely delivery of assistance to newly displaced populations. Building on this success, the operation plans to further scale up the use of CBI in 2025, reinforcing the effectiveness and agility of emergency response efforts.

The Strategic Moment of Reflection (SMR) workshop underscored the critical need to strengthen collaboration with UN agencies, line ministries, the diaspora, and the private sector to drive sustainable solutions for the forcibly displaced. Notably, commitments such as Salaam Foundation's pledge to donate 10,000 plots of land demonstrated the tangible impact of engaging diverse stakeholders. Additionally, banks highlighted promising opportunities for collaboration on digital financial inclusion for internally displaced persons (IDPs). The workshop also emphasized the urgent need to expand livelihood opportunities, as articulated by refugee, IDP, and returnee communities, reinforcing the importance of aligning interventions with the priorities of affected populations.

UNHCR Somalia in collaboration with Evaluation Services at the Regional Bureau commissioned Country Strategic Evaluation (CSE) covering period from 2020-24. This CSE of UNHCR's operation in Somalia has been planned to generate evidence that will inform the planning of its Multi-year Strategic Plan starting in 2026, UNHCR's work under the UNSDCF (2026 going forward) and the HCT. Therefore, the analysis offered by the evaluation, and its conclusions and recommendations, will be forward looking and, to the extent possible, concerned with how UNHCR can optimize its contribution and partnerships to enhance the impact of collective efforts towards protection and solutions for forcibly displaced people, people at risk of statelessness and communities that host them. The recommendations should inform how UNHCR prioritize its work going forward, given needs, and the regional and country context.





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