Based on figures from UNHCR’s Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), the second half of 2018 has witnessed a decline in the number of internally displaced people in Somalia compared to the first six months of the year. At the height of the displacement in April, 248,000 people were forced to flee. This was mainly driven by floods and a major cyclone that hit parts of the country. Despite the decline, a significant number of people continue to be displaced. In August, over 50,000 people were forced to flee their homes, mainly as a result of conflict. The majority were displaced in Lower Shabelle region where government forces were battling militia allied with extremist groups.

Overall, 693,000 persons have been displaced within Somalia this year. Meanwhile, in what is becoming a common and worrying trend, thousands of people were also evicted from the homes during the reporting period. Most of the evictions were reported in Banadir region.

**POPULATION OF CONCERN**

2.8 M

* Internally displaced persons 2,648,000
  - Returnees 119,291
  - Asylum-seekers 15,533
  - Refugees 15,426

* Estimated internally displaced persons as of 28 February 2018
(Source: Information Management Working Group)

**FUNDING (AS OF 31 AUGUST)**

USD 186.4 M requested for Somalia

**UNHCR PRESENCE**

**Staff**
- 104 National Staff
- 34 International Staff
- 18 Affiliate Workforce

**Offices**
- 1 Country Office in Mogadishu
- 3 Sub-Offices in Galkacyo, Hargeysa and Mogadishu
- 1 Field Office in Bossaso
- 5 Field Units in Baidoa, Dhobley, Garoowe, Kismayo and Luq
- 1 Support Office in Nairobi
**Major developments**

**New displacements**

Provisional figures from the UNHCR-led Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN) indicate that close to 52,000 persons were displaced in August. This is a slight increase compared to July, when 40,000 persons were displaced. Conflict and insecurity were the main drivers of displacements in the Lower Shabelle region throughout August. This brings the total number of displaced people to 693,000 this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason of displacement</th>
<th>1 January – 31 July 2018</th>
<th>1-31 August 2018</th>
<th>2018 cumulative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>275,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>280,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drought-related</td>
<td>190,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>198,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict-related</td>
<td>166,000</td>
<td>38,000</td>
<td>204,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other reasons</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>641,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>52,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>693,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evictions**

Conservative figures from the PRMN indicate that during the month of August, 3,596 persons were evicted. The majority, 2,544 people, were evicted in Benadir region, followed by other areas as follows: Hargeysa (420), Kismayo (264), Bosasso (217), Garowe (47), Ceel Waaq (46), Dhusamareeb (23), Afmadow (22), Balcad (9) and Belet hawa (4). In the previous month, Kaxda had the largest caseload of evictions (7,141) followed by Daynile (2,202) and Baidoa (2,070). While August witnessed a lower number of evictions than in previous months, overall the eviction rate in 2018 has been alarming. Figures show that the total number of individuals evicted as of July 2018 is statistically more than the entire caseload for 2017. This trend underscores the persistent nature of the phenomenon and its consequences on humanitarian efforts in Somalia.

**UNHCR operations in Somalia**

UNHCR targets three main population groups in Somalia including: Refugees, Returnees and IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons). To ensure peaceful coexistence between the local population and target groups, UNHCR also assists vulnerable members of the host community in its interventions.

**Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework**

The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) was adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2016. It seeks to improve the manner in which countries respond to large movements of refugees and migrants. In August, UNHCR officials were in Dobley, Lower Juba where they met with representatives from the Jubaland Refugee and IDPs Agency (JRIA) to sensitize them on the importance of CRRF. The meeting was part of an ongoing campaign to sensitize federal members’ states, humanitarian organizations (including UN agencies) and other stakeholders. The campaign has covered most regional states including South West State, Jubaland, Puntland, and Galmudug.
Humanitarian IDP Response

Humanitarian assistance to approximately 5.4 million people in need including 2.6 million internally displaced persons is coordinated through clusters. UNHCR leads the coordination of the Protection Cluster and the Shelter and NFI Cluster and co-leads the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster.

Protection Cluster

In August 2018, the Protection Cluster reached a total of 53,333 individuals, 35% of the 2018 year to date target. The protection cluster is further divided into four sub-clusters: Child Protection, Gender Based Violence (GBV), Housing, Land and Property (HLP) and Explosive Hazard.

- Child Protection partners reached 33,286 drought affected/ displaced persons with various Prevention and Response interventions including identification, documentation, tracing and reunification, legal aid services, medical support for survivors, psychosocial services, interim care services, reintegration services and referrals to other sectors.

- 9,611 beneficiaries were reached by the GBV Sub Cluster partners with prevention, response and capacity building activities. GBV response interventions include lifesaving medical assistance such as the post rape treatment, temporary protection accommodation, legal, psychosocial, material and livelihood assistance. GBV cases are underreported in some communities, which is attributed to cultural norms and social stigma for survivors.

- Housing, Land and Property sub-cluster reached a total of 1,373 persons through prevention of forced evictions, community dispute resolutions, advocacy, and counselling.

- The Explosive Hazard sub-cluster partners continued working throughout Somalia conducting risk education, mine clearance, survey marking, peace building and conflict resolution. 2,152 individuals including women and children were reached. The construction and equipping of the SEMA (Somali Explosive Management Authority) office facility in Ministry of Internal Security in Mogadishu was also completed. It will contribute to improve coordination of mine action.

Gaps:

- Security of tenure for IDPs is limited increasing the risk of forced eviction.
- Protection support to drought affected populations through existing programmes remains limited by financial constraints. Without additional funding many vulnerable groups will be exposed to protection risks.

Shelter and NFI Cluster

In August 2018: 13,890 persons were assisted with emergency non-food items (NFI) kits. The kit includes plastic sheeting, blankets, jerry cans, sleeping mats and kitchen sets. In addition, 9,871 persons were assisted with Emergency Shelter Kits. An emergency shelter kit includes plastic sheets, supporting poles and a rope for tying down the structure. This provides the most basic shelter which can offer protection from extreme weather.

Gaps

- Although, the government has allocated land in several towns for IDP relocation, low funding and poor access to services hamper progress in helping the IDPs achieve sustainable shelter solutions.
- Timely response to displaced populations is hampered by lack of partners capacity to use existing functioning markets to respond to emergencies.
Logistical challenges including flight costs, road inaccessibility, insecurity, check points for the transportation of NFI/Shelter supplies are affecting the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance.

**Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM)**

The CCCM Cluster, co-lead by UNHCR, oversees the living conditions and protection of IDPs in sites and settlements. As of 31 August, the CCCM had reached 665,532 IDPs representing 44 per cent of the annual target 1.5 million IDPs. The cluster also established CCCM mechanisms at 692 sites (43 per cent) out of targeted 1,600 sites.

**Gaps:**

- living conditions of IDPs were limited by restricted humanitarian access in some parts of south and central Somalia, lack of information at site level, lack of land tenure and forced evictions and low levels of community participation.

**UNHCR activities to assist IDPs**

**Core relief items**

In August, in lower Juba region, UNHCR distributed 27 tents to IDP families forcefully evicted form Mudule IDP camp in Kismayo by the landlord.
**SGBV prevention and response**
In August, UNHCR reached 3,209 IDPs, Refugees and Asylum seekers with SGBV interventions.
- Across Mogadishu, Kismayo, Dobley, Baidoa, Bossaso, Galkayo and Hargeisa, 2,802 persons benefitted from awareness-raising campaigns, 121 persons received health care services, 46 persons received material support, 140 persons psycho-social counselling and 100 received legal assistance.

**Livelihoods**
428 IDPs took part in livelihood projects in Dobley, Baidoa and Mogadishu in August. The activities included vocational training skills such as tailoring, automotive mechanics, ICT, catering, beautician training and fishery. Other beneficiaries graduated from welding and fabrication courses and received start-up tools.

**UNHCR support to Refugees and asylum-seekers**
Based on its mandate UNHCR is the lead UN Agency in the refugee response and responsible for the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. It supports the government in the registration and the status determination of asylum seekers and provides assistance to refugees and asylum seekers in need. As of 31 August, 31,836 refugees and asylum-seekers were registered in Somalia.

**Health**
UNHCR through health-partner Hanano provided access to primary health care services to 1,804 refugees, asylum seekers and members of the host community at Benadir region.

**Cash assistance**
In August, 6,173 (1,936 households) refugees and asylum seekers were assisted with subsistence allowance to meet their basic needs. These were selected from the 31,473 refugees in Somalia based on vulnerability and observations during regular home visits carried out by community-based protection staff from UNHCR and partners. UNHCR cash assistance for refugees and asylum seekers is a monthly grant of 1 to 6 months based on the situation within the households. Each month the Protection team identifies vulnerable cases that are supported with Cash Assistance and other types of support for a period of 1, 3, 6 or 9 months based on the recommendation of the committee set by Protection Unit. In some extremely vulnerable and destitute cases it goes beyond the 6-month period. The beneficiaries are from the following countries: Yemen, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Syria, Palestine and Bangladesh.

**Livelihood**
147 refugees and asylum seekers in Mogadishu took part of vocational training courses, literacy classes and SME initiatives during the reporting period.

**UNHCR support to Somali refugee returnees**
**Over 821,939 Somalis are living outside their county as asylum-seekers and refugees.** The majority live in neighbouring countries of Ethiopia (257,283), Yemen (256,733) and Kenya (256,326). During the month of August 917 Somali refugees voluntarily repatriated from the following countries of asylum: Kenya (663), Yemen (251), and others (3). Since the beginning of the voluntary repatriation programme in 2014, 121,110 Somalis have returned. Of those, 85,238 Somalis have repatriated to Somalia with support from UNHCR. As of 31 August 2018, UNHCR
also recorded 34,176 Somalis who returned from Yemen spontaneously, out of whom 138 returned in August (1,696 in 2018).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Asylum</th>
<th>Before 1 January 2018</th>
<th>1-31 August 2018</th>
<th>2018 cumulative</th>
<th>Since December 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>75,297</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td>82,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen (ASR)†</td>
<td>814</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>1,456</td>
<td>2,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub total</strong></td>
<td><strong>76,737</strong></td>
<td><strong>917</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,501</strong></td>
<td><strong>85,238</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen (S)‡</td>
<td>34,176</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>1,696</td>
<td>35,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand total</strong></td>
<td><strong>110,913</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,055</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,197</strong></td>
<td><strong>121,110</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Country of Origin Information**

UNHCR Somalia prepares Country of Origin Information (COI) updates on the situation in Somalia to allow Somali refugees to make an informed and voluntary choice about a possible return to Somalia.

- On 20 August, the UNHCR Somalia, as lead agency of the COI Working Group, disseminated the Monthly Update on Key Developments to the Return Help Desks in countries of asylum, government and partners. The Monthly Update included key developments from the month of July related to security, politics and the humanitarian situation. This included *inter alia* information on access to basic services, evictions, displacements, food security, and an economic outlook.

- UNHCR Somalia, in close cooperation with the COI Working Group, has further updated the District Profiles for Baidoa, Afgooye and Luuq in August. In addition to this, UNHCR Somalia created District Profiles for Balad Hawo and Jowhar. Over the past seven months, 11 District Profiles have been created (Baidoa, Luuq, Afgooye, Dinsoor, Beletweyne, Mogadishu, Kismayo, Afmadow, Balcad, Balad Hawo and Jowhar) and three of these have been updated (Baidoa, Afgooye and Luuq).

**Enhanced return assistance package**

Upon arrival in Somalia, returnees are provided with an enhanced return package, which consists of: A CRI (core relief item) kit, an unconditional one-time reinstallation grant of US$ 200 per person and an unconditional monthly subsistence allowance amounting to US$ 200 per household for six months, an unconditional monthly grant for food rations for six months (provided by WFP), an education grant of up to US$ 25 per school-going child per month for one year, a conditional grant of up to US$ 1,000 for shelter per household and conditional enrolment in self-reliance and livelihood projects based on a set of targeting criteria and availability of resources.

**Cash assistance**

UNHCR supports access to basic needs and essential services through cash assistance. UNHCR provides two direct multipurpose cash grants to returnees to re-establish their livelihoods and accelerate their re-integration. Each returnee receives a one-time reinstallation grant of US$ 200 shortly after arrival in Somalia. In addition, each returnee household receives a total subsistence allowance of US$ 1,200 in six instalments (US$ 200 per instalment) with first instalment released one month after their arrival.

**Reinstallation grants**

In August, UNHCR provided reinstallation grants to 530 returnees (205 households): 419 returnees (141 households) from Kenya, 102 returnees (55 households) from Yemen and 9 returnees (9 households) from Libya. As of August, UNHCR has provided 8,004 returnees (2,792 households) with reinstallation grants since January, 2018.

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1 Somali refugee returnees from Yemen who opt to voluntarily repatriate to Somalia under the Assisted Spontaneous Return (ASR) programme.
2 Spontaneous Somali returnees from Yemen, outside the ASR programme.
Number of returnees who received reinstallation grant per country of asylum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of asylum</th>
<th>1-31 August 2018</th>
<th>2018 cumulative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of individuals</td>
<td># of households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subsistence allowance

In August, 1,882 households (5,666 returnees) received their subsistence allowance instalments: 1,443 households (4,675 returnees) from Kenya, 418 households (953 returnees) from Yemen, 9 households (9 returnees) from Libya, 11 households (28 returnees) from Djibouti and one household from Ukraine.

Core relief items

Upon arrival in Somalia, each returnee household receives from one to three core relief items (CRIs) kits depending on the size of household. One kit of CRIs consists of three blankets, two 10-litre jerry cans, seven boxes of BP-5, three soap bars, three sleeping mats, one plastic sheet, two cooking pots, one large spoon and kitchen knife, five table spoons, plates and metal cups. CRIs are provided in kind or as a cash grant to amount of US$ 60 to 66, depending on local market prices. Overall in 2018, UNHCR has provided CRIs to 7,382 returnees.

- In August, UNHCR supported 87 households (243 individuals) with Cash for core relief items.
- In Afmadow UNHCR distributed, through its partner ARC, 42 core relief items kits to 31 households with 51 returnees.

Education

In August 380 children from the returnee communities were enrolled in primary school education across Bay region while 46 were enrolled in secondary education.

Community empowerment and self-reliance

Support to returnees is provided through livelihood trainings and improvement of public infrastructure. UNHCR also includes members of the host community as well as IDPs in these activities. Livelihood activities offer returnees an opportunity to build their communities by rehabilitating or expanding public facilities such as schools, hospitals, roads or law enforcement premises. In August, 1,014 persons benefited from livelihood activities and were in the process of rehabilitating 21 public facilities (14 schools, five police stations, one firefighting station and one market).
Number of persons enrolled in livelihood activities per modality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modality</th>
<th>1-31 August 2018</th>
<th>2018 cumulative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improvement of public infrastructure</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical and Vocational Education and Training</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>1,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small-business enterprise</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to self-employment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,014</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,749</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples of the livelihood activities provided by UNHCR:

- During the month of August, the main construction activities of a police post were concluded at an integrated shelter settlement funded by UNHCR in Kismayo. In addition, 100 homes were powered after they were connected to a mini-grid solar system in the same area. Over 1,000 families are residing in the settlement.

- UNHCR supported 634 persons (345 returnees, 154 IDPs and 135 members of the host community) with Technical and Vocational Education and Trainings in Baidoa, Kismayo and Mogadishu. Vocational training skills training courses, included tailoring, automotive mechanics, ICT, catering, beauty treatment and hair styling and fishery. In Hargeisa, 24 returnees completed their training in language skills, computer, literacy and numeracy.
Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some US$ 34.1 million. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and un-earmarked funds.

**EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD**

- United States of America: 13.0 million
- Qatar Charity: 9.6 million
- European Union: 5.3 million
- Japan: 2.0 million
- France: 1.2 million
- UN-Habitat: 1.1 million
- CERF: 970,705
- Sweden: 634,518
- UN Peace building Fund: 250,000
- Miscellaneous private donors: 51

**BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD**

- United States of America: 57.7 million
- Private donors Australia: 8.6 million
- Germany: 7.1 million
- Canada: 3.3 million

**UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD**

- Sweden: 98.2 million
- Private donors Spain: 45.2 million
- Norway: 42.5 million
- Netherlands: 39.1 million
- United Kingdom: 31.7 million
- Denmark: 25.5 million
- Private donors Republic of Korea: 22.2 million
- Switzerland: 15.2 million
- France: 14 million
- Germany: 13.7 million
- Private donors Japan: 13 million
- Private donors Italy: 11.9 million
- Italy: 11.2 million
- Private donors Sweden: 10.2 million

Contact

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