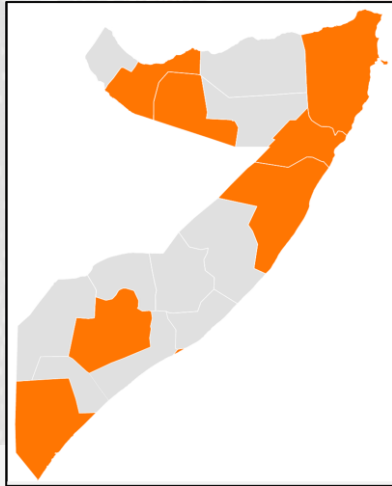


## SOMALIA AREAS OF OPERATION: DURABLE SOLUTIONS



### CONTEXT

In Somalia, internal displacement continues to be one of the most complex and prolonged humanitarian and development challenges globally.

- Displacement is widespread, long-term, and primarily concentrated in urban areas.
- Internally displaced persons (IDPs) represent the most impoverished demographic in urban centers.
- An estimated 3.5 million Somalis are internally displaced, along with approximately 95,185 returning refugees from Kenya, Yemen, Djibouti, and Libya (UNHCR, 2024).

### OUTCOMES/IMPACT

In 2024, NRC supported 126, 287 people through durable solutions programmes, including:

- People assisted to secure land tenure.
- Individuals (50% female) relocated via government-led processes to integrated settlements equipped with basic services, and livelihoods support.
- Individuals supported with improved basic services and housing.
- Community action plans established to address displacement-related vulnerabilities.

For the latest updates, please visit:  
[nrc.no/Somalia](https://nrc.no/Somalia)

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Photo: Abdulkadir Mohamed / NRC

## HOW WE SUPPORT: DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Durable solutions for displacement-affected communities are achieved when they no longer depend on protection or assistance related to their displacement, or when other actors have addressed these needs. We actively support programmes and processes across Somalia to achieve this goal.

### NRC's durable solutions approach

The search for durable solutions for Somalia's displaced populations remains a significant challenge, requiring a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach. Strategic investments that address both immediate needs and long-term stability.

To achieve this, we focus on three core processes: ensuring safe and dignified returns, supporting (re)integration, and facilitating local integration.

Our multi-year programmes take a holistic approach to reducing displacement-related vulnerabilities, enabling affected communities to rebuild their lives and access their rights without discrimination.

Our strategy emphasizes strengthening government capacity to lead durable solutions, implementing area-based interventions to improve land access, housing, and tenure security in urban and peri-urban areas, expanding sustainable access to essential services, fostering economic self-reliance, and investing in preparedness initiatives to mitigate future displacement risks.

### Who we support

In Somalia, we support internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees, and vulnerable host communities, and have implemented durable solutions programmes in urban areas in Mogadishu, Kismayo, Baidoa, Garowe, Bossaso, Galkayo, Hargeisa and Burao.

## How NRC's efforts change lives

Since 2017, more than 583,117 people, including 126,287 in 2024, have benefited from our durable solutions support and improved access to basic services. We employ various tools and approaches, including:

- **Securing land tenure:** Land access is crucial for durable solutions, particularly for displaced persons deciding whether to return home. NRC supports local authorities in ensuring land tenure security for displaced communities.
- **Sustainable services through area-based programming:** NRC integrates humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts with government and private sector actors to improve access to housing, water, sanitation, education, and livelihoods.
- **Enhanced monitoring and data systems:** NRC implemented [forced evictions](#), and [displacement and protection risks](#), tracking helps prevent housing, land and property rights violations and protection incidents. Additionally, NRC contributes to development of innovative tools to measure complex processes, including sustainable (re)integration.
- **Shelter Solutions:** We enhance living conditions through settlement planning, providing transitional or permanent shelters, and installing linked infrastructure like solar street lighting as part of urban regeneration.
- **Advancing a common vision:** In 2019, the Federal Government of Somalia endorsed national principles for durable solutions. NRC helps operationalize these by ensuring they are government-led, area-based, collective, participatory, rights-focused, and inclusive of gender, age, disability, and marginalization concerns.
- **Community action plans:** We support local authorities in aligning responses with community priorities through participatory planning. In Baidoa and Kismayo, NRC helped consolidate these into integrated district-level plans.
- **Legal protection:** NRC collaborates on policy and legislative efforts to strengthen the legal rights of displacement-affected communities. Somalia has made notable progress in adopting displacement-related policies and laws.

While challenges persist, Somalia has made achievements in durable solutions, including a national strategy, stronger coordination, a more protective environment for displaced populations, successful government-led resettlements, and long-term innovative solutions—offering hope to millions affected by displacement.

## Our partners



### ASHA AND HER CHILDREN FINALLY HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME

Asha Abdullahi, a 41-year-old mother of seven, fled the crippling drought in rural Puntland in 2022, her livestock – her family's lifeline – decimated.

She arrived in Garowe's IDP camps, a sea of desperate faces crammed into overcrowded shelters. But Asha's story took a turn. She was among 1,000 families relocated to Hoodaale, a durable solutions site where NRC built permanent homes, each with its own latrine.

Now, Asha has a place to call her own, a place where her children can go to school, where water flows, and where the presence of a police station offers a sense of security. With a title deed in hand, Asha is no longer just a displaced mother; she's a landowner, a homeowner, a beacon of resilience.

