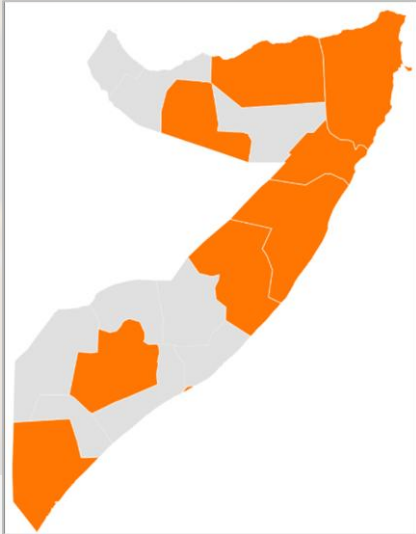


SOMALIA**AREAS OF OPERATION: EDUCATION****CONTEXT**

While government institutions and civil society strive to enhance education services and accessibility, limited capacity continues to hinder the delivery of education for displaced children, those in conflict-affected areas, and other complex challenges.

- Over 4.8 million crisis-affected children are out of school and require education assistance.
- Huge number displaced children have no access to any form of education.
- Thousands of protracted displaced children have no access to education.

OUTCOMES/IMPACT

In 2024, 25, 871 people (52% female) received support to access education. Through NRC's education programme. This includes:

- Children and youth affected by crisis enrolled in schools as well as received teaching and learning materials.
- Teachers trained to improve education and learning outcomes.
- Classrooms constructed/rehabilitated and equipped to increase access to education.
- Community education committee members trained.

For the latest updates, please visit:

nrc.no/somalia

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Photo: Abdulkadir Mohamed / NRC

HOW WE SUPPORT: EDUCATION

Education is a fundamental human right. In Somalia, quality education equips children and young people with the skills needed to build meaningful lives and seize opportunities.

NRC's education approach

To bridge the gap between capacity and need, NRC Somalia's education approach focuses on providing access to basic formal and non-formal education, education in emergencies, and youth vocational training for displacement-affected communities in remote, conflict-affected, and disaster-impacted areas.

Our efforts support school-aged children (6-18) and youth (15-24) who lack access to education, have never attended school, or have dropped out. We also assist those in emergency settings to complete their basic education or vocational training, ensuring relevant and effective learning outcomes.

Guided by Federal and State Education Sector Strategic Plans, the Humanitarian Response Plan, NRC's Global Education Strategy, UNHCR's Refugee Education Strategy, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) minimum standards, we work to ensure every child receives the education they deserve.

Who we support

In Somalia, we support displacement-affected boys and girls (refugees, returnees, IDPs and vulnerable host communities) with access to quality and equitable education, working across 8 of 18 regions. (Gedo, Lower Juba, Bay, Mudug, Nugal, Bari, W/Galbed).

NRC programmes and activities

Our education activities prioritize: 1) safe and inclusive learning; 2) professional development for educators; 3) influence on policy and practice; 4) providing expertise to strengthen the national education systems. Our approach generally integrates with other areas – including WASH, protection and legal support – to provide holistic support.

Support for basic formal education

NRC helps out-of-school and displaced children and youth access and progress through formal education. Our support includes scholarships, learning materials, uniforms, emergency school feeding, protection initiatives, and psychosocial support.

To enhance learning environments, we assist schools with classroom construction and rehabilitation, improved WASH facilities, teaching and recreational materials, sanitary kits for girls, and teacher training with incentives. These efforts improve the quality and safety of education while supporting students' psychosocial, emotional, and cognitive development.

Education in emergencies: In collaboration with local officials and partners, NRC ensures crisis-affected children and youth can continue learning during emergencies. Our rapid response includes setting up emergency classrooms, catch-up and accelerated learning programme, remedial classes, and providing protection and psychosocial support.

Support to non-formal education: When formal education is inaccessible, NRC delivers Accelerated Education Programme (AEP), offering age-appropriate, flexible, and accredited learning for out-of-school, over-age, or disadvantaged children and youth. AEP provides certified basic education using curriculums, textbooks, and guidelines developed by Ministries of Education.

Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET):

Our TVET programme equip youth with accredited pathways, including secondary and higher education, to enhance their skills, confidence, and earning potential.

We provide life skills, literacy and numeracy courses, and training in technical and business skills based on market demand. Courses, lasting 6–12 months, are delivered in institutes and enterprises, offering training materials, job counseling, government-accredited certifications, and internship opportunities.

NRC also collaborates with authorities and the private sector to create employment pathways for graduates while supporting training centers through infrastructure improvements, training, and equipment.

Our partners



European Civil Protection
and Humanitarian Aid
Operations (ECHO)



WHERE BOOKS TRUMP TRAUMA: FARDOWSA'S STORY:

Dust swirled around Fardowsa's ankles as she navigated the makeshift camp, a stark reminder of the drought that stole her family's livelihood. Surrounded by tents and hollow eyes, the future felt as barren as the land they left behind. Yet, Fardowsa (8), clung to a spark—the spark her parents kept alive, whispering about a different life, a life built on education.

The camp was a harsh world, but amidst the struggle, a school arose—sanctuary built by NRC with the support of the authorities.

Inside the classroom, teacher Abdirahman understood his students' trauma, harnessing education's power. Despite limited resources, he ensured no child was left behind. Fardowsa thrived. "I can read now," she announced, tracing letters on a chalkboard. "I want to be a doctor." Her confidence rippled through the classroom. Children huddled, sharing pencils, whispering encouragement.

Fardowsa embodies the resilience of Somalia's children. Education is their refuge, their weapon against despair, their path towards a future where drought and displacement won't define their lives.