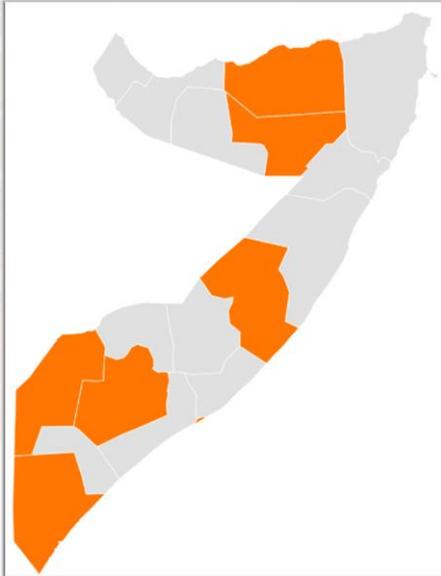




NORWEGIAN  
REFUGEE COUNCIL

SOMALIA

AREAS OF OPERATION: RESILIENCE



## CONTEXT

Conflict in Somalia led to the collapse of most economic, agriculture, and manufacturing activity. Three decades of development underinvestment, recurrent flooding, droughts and insecurity, leave communities with limited resilience and high fragility to shocks.

- 5.98 million people require food assistance.
- Only 52% of the Somali population has access to drinking water.
- 3.5 million people internally displaced.

## OUTCOMES/IMPACT

In 2024, NRC supported hundreds of thousands of people with resilience activities.

This included:

- Farmers supported with farm inputs and climate-smart agriculture trainings.
- Solar-powered water systems, including wells, dams and boreholes.
- People supported with clean water access.
- Infrastructures: livestock markets, fish markets, slaughterhouses, and women's market stalls.

For the latest updates, please visit:

[nrc.no/somalia](http://nrc.no/somalia)

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Photo: Abdulkadir Mohamed / NRC

# HOW WE SUPPORT: BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The ongoing humanitarian crises in Somalia, coupled with rising climate vulnerability, will persist without focused efforts to enhance community resilience. We strive to support and empower affected populations through targeted programmes designed to mitigate shocks.

## NRC's resilience building approach

NRC plays a key role in shaping resilience approaches in Somalia. As consortium manager for the [Building Resilience Communities in Somalia \(BRCiS\) Consortium](#)— a multi-programme, multi-donor initiative involving nine NGOs, we have overseen the delivery of over \$242 million in interventions since 2013. We implement programmes both independently and in collaboration with the consortium.

Leveraging strong community connections, our initiatives strengthen local networks and support the development of community-led development plans. We enhance governance capacity, attract community and external investments, and establish infrastructure to promote self-sufficiency.

Our practical interventions include improving irrigation, expanding access to water, energy, and animal feed, strengthening local markets, and enhancing livelihood opportunities and essential services. By partnering with the private sector, we emphasize agricultural resilience and entrepreneurship to drive long-term economic stability.

Operating in seven of Somalia's 18 regions, our efforts are integrated with humanitarian responses, ensuring that communities gain the skills, resources, and capacity to lead and sustain their own development.

## NRC programmes and Intervention

Resilience is a systemic issue, requiring a cross-sectoral, partnership-based response. NRC programmes align with Somalia's Recovery and Resilience Framework and National Development Plan.

### Community engagement, participation, and monitoring

Our approach is driven by community engagement in planning and implementation, combining technical expertise with local perspectives to strengthen resilience in priority sectors. We ensure community ownership by building local capacities for planning, operation, and conflict resolution. Technical support promotes sustainability, environmental protection, and long-term self-reliance.

Through BRCiS, we integrate shock data collection and Early Warning Early Action systems for rapid crisis response. We also enhance natural resource management with communities and officials to mitigate future shocks and strengthen resilience.

### Water systems and management

Poor water resource management and underdevelopment are major drivers of community vulnerability to drought and flooding, limiting livelihoods and economic growth. Recognizing the importance of sustainable water systems, especially for women and girls, we prioritize water access in our resilience efforts.

NRC has developed over 30 major water supply systems across Somalia, including earth dams, boreholes, river intakes, and shallow wells. We strengthen local capacity by forming management committees, maintenance funding plans, and partnerships with the private sector. Our approach also integrates environmental sustainability and collaboration with local authorities for long-term impact.

### Diversified and sustainable livelihood strategies

Building resilience requires supporting youth, women, men, and vulnerable groups in acquiring and protecting productive assets while promoting diverse, climate-resilient livelihoods.

NRC implements major irrigation projects, greenhouse installations, and new livelihood opportunities, including business grants for displaced women entrepreneurs. We strengthen market linkages, expand market infrastructure, provide agricultural inputs, and implement vector control to protect livestock.

Our approach includes resilience design and ecosystem restoration, turning risks into opportunities through community-driven solutions that address climate shocks, reduce vulnerabilities, and promote sustainable growth.

## Our partners



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### EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH RESILIENCE

Through our BRCiS programme, we are committed to strengthening community resilience by equipping people with skills, resources, and strategies to withstand crises, droughts, and climate shocks.

We support farmers and pastoralists with climate-smart techniques, improved irrigation, and seeds to boost food production. Greenhouse farming, fodder production, and market linkages enhance economic stability.

To reduce vulnerability, we empower women and youth entrepreneurs with business grants, vocational training, and income diversification opportunities.

NRC also promotes sustainable land use and natural resource management while fostering community-led disaster preparedness and early warning systems.

Through collaborations with local authorities, private sector partners, and community groups, we drive long-term resilience and help Somali communities transition toward self-reliance and sustainability.