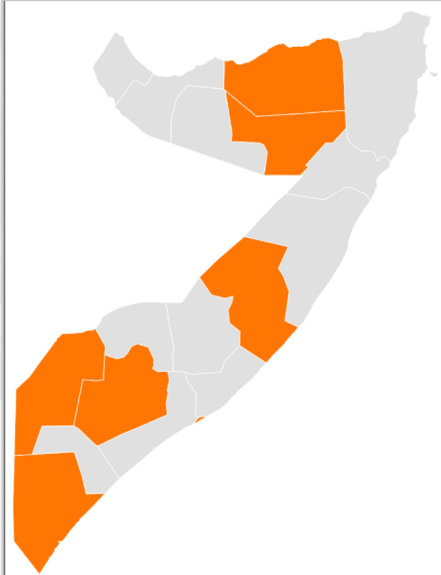




NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

SOMALIA

AREAS OF OPERATION: RESILIENCE



CONTEXT

Prolonged conflict in Somalia has led to the decline of economic, agricultural, and industrial activity. Years of underinvestment, along with repeated flooding, drought, and insecurity, have left communities highly vulnerable and with limited capacity to withstand shocks.

- 6.5 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 2025, 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, women's market stalls, and ecosystem restoration.

For the latest updates, please visit:

nrc.no/somalia

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Photo: Abdulkadir Mohamed / NRC

HOW WE SUPPORT: BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The continued humanitarian crises in Somalia, together with increasing climate vulnerability, will endure without efforts to enhance community resilience. We focus on supporting and empowering affected populations through programmes that mitigate shocks.

NRC's resilience building approach

NRC plays a central role in advancing resilience approaches in Somalia. As consortium manager of the [Building Resilience Communities in Somalia \(BRCiS\) Consortium](#), a multi-programme, multi-donor initiative involving nine NGOs—we have overseen the delivery of more than \$242 million in interventions since 2013. We implement programmes both directly and in partnership with consortium members.

Building on strong community relationships, our programmes strengthen local networks and support community-led development planning. We enhance governance capacity, mobilize community and external investment, and develop infrastructure that promotes self-reliance.

Our interventions include improving irrigation, increasing access to water, energy, and animal feed, strengthening local markets, and expanding livelihood opportunities and essential services. Through partnerships with the private sector, we promote agricultural resilience and entrepreneurship to support long-term economic stability.

Building resilience is a systemic issue that demands coordinated, cross-sectoral partnerships. NRC programmes are aligned with Somalia's Recovery and Resilience Framework and National Development Plan.

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 guided by strong community engagement in planning and implementation, combining technical expertise with local knowledge to strengthen resilience across priority sectors. We promote community ownership by building local capacity for planning, operations, and conflict resolution, while technical support ensures sustainability, environmental protection, and long-term self-reliance.

Through BRCiS, we integrate shock data collection and Early Warning-Early Action systems to enable timely crisis response. We also strengthen natural resource management in collaboration with communities and authorities to reduce future risks and enhance resilience.

Water systems and management

Poor water management and underdeveloped infrastructure are key drivers of vulnerability to drought and flooding, limiting livelihoods and economic opportunities. Recognising the critical role of sustainable water systems—particularly for women and girls—we prioritise improved water access within our resilience efforts.

NRC has developed more than 30 major water supply systems across Somalia, including earth dams, boreholes, river intakes, and shallow wells. We strengthen local capacity through management committees, maintenance financing mechanisms, and partnerships with the private sector, while integrating environmental sustainability and collaboration with local authorities for long-term impact.

Diversified and sustainable livelihood strategies

Strengthening resilience requires enabling youth, women, men, and vulnerable groups to build and protect productive assets while promoting diversified, climate-resilient livelihoods.

NRC implements large-scale irrigation schemes, greenhouse initiatives, and new livelihood opportunities, including business grants for displaced women entrepreneurs. We also strengthen market linkages, expand market infrastructure, provide agricultural inputs, and implement livestock protection measures such as vector control.

Our approach incorporates resilience design and ecosystem restoration, transforming risks into opportunities through community-led solutions that address climate shocks, reduce vulnerabilities, and promote sustainable development.

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TO WITHSTAND DROUGHTS AND SHOCKS



Our partners

