

NRC’s operations in Somalia

Somalia continues to face a severe human crisis driven by nearly thirty years of conflict, political instability, climate shocks, and economic hardship. About 5.98 million people require urgent humanitarian and protection assistance.

Climate extremes and violence remain the key drivers of vulnerability. Around 4 million people are displaced within Somalia, many of them uprooted multiple times. Drought and failed rains have deepened water shortages, leaving 6.6 million people without reliable access to safe water and exposing communities to outbreaks of cholera and other diseases.

Food insecurity is widespread and persistent. Current projections indicate that 4.4 million Somalis are facing crisis level of hunger. Malnutrition among children remains a major concern: nearly 1.8 million children under five are at risk of acute malnutrition, including up to 466, 000 children who may become severely malnourished.

The health system remains under strain with limited functional facilities and poor access to essential services, increasing maternal and infant mortality rates. Meanwhile, underfunding of the humanitarian response continues to limit lifesaving support. Humanitarian actors aim to reach 4.6 million people, but resource gaps leave many vulnerable communities without the assistance they urgently need.



Our core activities

-  Education
-  Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)
-  Livelihoods and food security
-  Protection from violence
-  Shelter and settlements
-  Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

NRC in Somalia

Established	2004
International staff	13
National staff	178

Our areas of operation

- Mogadishu
- Kismayo
- Baidoa
- Hargeisa
- Burao
- Jowhar
- Bossaso
- Qardho
- Galkayo
- Garowe
- Dhusamareb
- Dollow
- Luuq
- Dinsor
- Wajid
- Hudur
- Abudwak
- Bardere
- Bulaburde



25,871 people reached in 2024 ▼

Education

We want all displaced Somali children and youth, as well as those in the communities that host them, to go to school. Our education teams:

- provide first-line emergency education and protection response to newly displaced children
- provide formal and accelerated classes for children who have missed out on education to catch up with their peers, to ensure their transition into the formal school system
- engage with young people through our youth education programme, which helps young adults find opportunities to create their own businesses and cooperatives
- train teachers in teaching approaches in crisis contexts, child protection and psychosocial support
- construct and rehabilitate temporary learning spaces and permanent classrooms, in coordination with our shelter teams
- provide teaching and learning materials



122,469 people reached in 2024 ▼

Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)

Many displaced people in Somalia are denied basic rights like land tenure. Our teams:

- help Somali refugees to return safely
- raise awareness about the rights of displaced people among local authorities and communities
- provide information and legal counselling on housing, land and property rights to displaced Somalis and Somali refugees who have returned to the country
- run an emergency hotline and call centre to provide immediate legal advice
- assist displaced Somalis to secure land tenure
- monitor evictions and provide tailored assistance to people affected by evictions



116,696 people reached in 2024 ▼

Livelihoods and food security

Protracted conflict and political instability over decades have led to the displacement of people, the destruction of infrastructure, and the disruption of livelihoods and agricultural activities, resulting in increased food insecurity in Somalia. Our teams:

- make lifesaving cash transfers (conditional and unconditional) to families so they can purchase food and household goods
- establish and strengthen social protection programmes to provide a safety net to vulnerable populations
- support communities' environmental conservation activities, like providing solar energy for irrigation
- support communities in prioritisation of key needs and invest in critical infrastructure such as farm-to-market roads, soil protection, water harvesting structures and solarised irrigation channels
- provide smallholder farmers with access to improved seeds, fertilisers and irrigation systems to increase yields
- provide livelihood training to empower farmers and other community members with new skills (for instance, farmers are trained to tackle diseases that can damage their crops)
- promote vocational training and business development programmes to equip the population with the skills needed for employment



22,816 people reached in 2024 ▼

Protection from violence

We work to protect those most at risk in Somalia and support communities' right to freedom from violence, coercion and deliberate deprivation. Our teams:

- do first-line response using protection desks in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach areas.
- through the protection and solutions monitoring network (PSMN), together with

our partners, conduct monitoring, reporting of displacements and protection incidents

- engage communities through awareness and sensitisation on protection risks, threats and vulnerabilities
- identify child protection and GBV-related risks and refer to service providers
- provision of individual protection assistance through cash transfer to individuals and households facing protection issues or at risk of facing protection concerns
- monitor population movements including returns in specific locations such as transit sites, IDP settlements, border crossings, and temporary locations
- identification, documentation and referral of protection-related cases to service providers
- issue flash alerts for massive displacement and hotspot areas affected by conflicts, droughts and floods
- ensure well-coordinated, effective and principled preparedness actions and responses, joint protection analysis for the protection cluster at the national and sub-national levels



36,472 people reached in 2024 ▼

Shelter and settlements

We provide shelter and access to essential infrastructure and non-food items to internally displaced people, refugees and vulnerable host communities in Somalia. Our teams:

- construct and rehabilitate temporary/emergency, transitional and permanent shelters through cash and in-kind modalities and adopting owner-driven approaches whenever feasible
- distribute non-food items (NFIs) through cash and in-kind approaches
- prepare site/settlement plans and conduct training on site/settlement planning
- construct and rehabilitate essential infrastructure, for instance roads, community centres, markets, schools etc.
- co-chair the national shelter cluster at country level and regional cluster coordination groups



200,776 people reached in 2024 ▼

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Lack of access to safe water and sanitation is a major driver of humanitarian needs in Somalia. Our teams:

- construct household and community latrines including school sanitation facilities
- construct and rehabilitate water systems for drinking water
- promote sanitation and hygiene awareness
- train communities in how to use and maintain hygiene facilities and waste management systems

Our donors

We are grateful for the generous support from our donors:

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- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- UN-Habitat
- Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)

- European Union (EU)
- Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)
- Federal Government of Somalia
- World Bank (WB)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
- German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ)
- King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center
- Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau (KfW)
- Education Cannot Wait (ECW)
- Danish International Development Agency (Danida)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- The LEGO Foundation
- Wellspring
- Mindfulness
- GloDollar
- Stellar Development

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