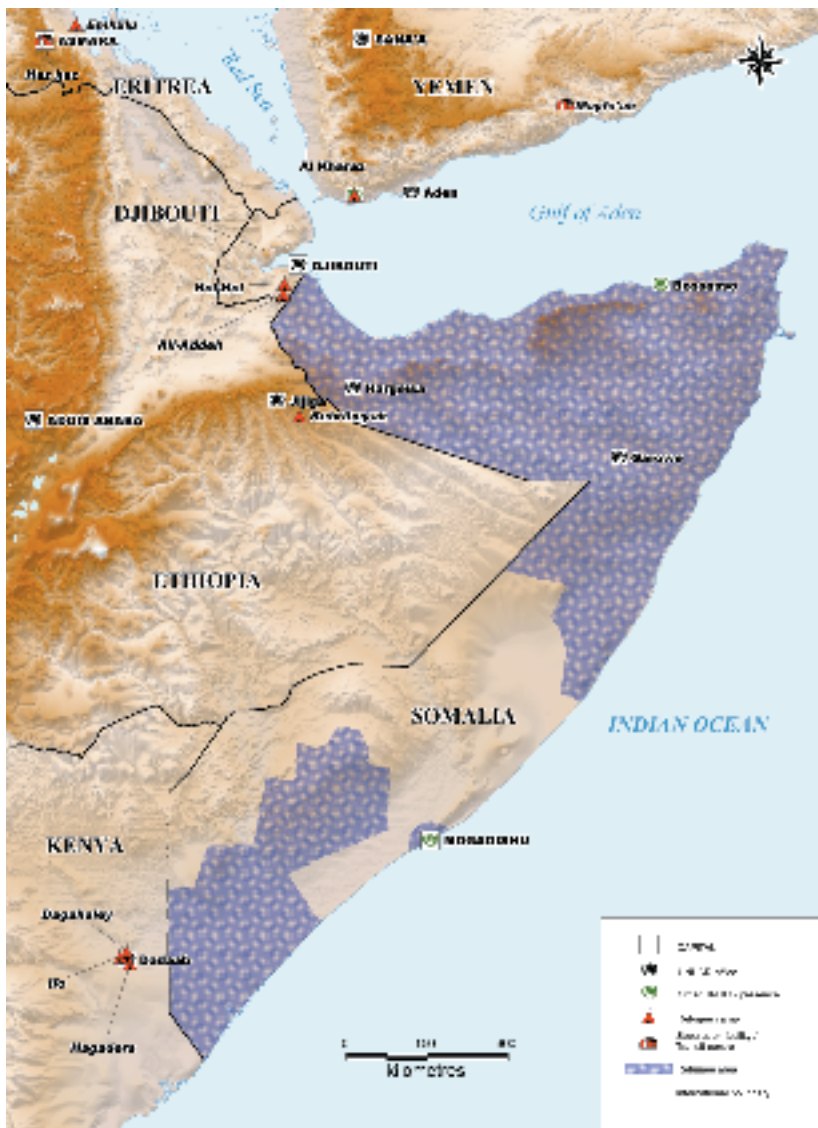


Somalia



- UNHCR's projects provided basic services and assistance to over 400,000 returnees in *Somaliland*, *Puntland* and southern and central Somalia.
- UNHCR designed a programme for protection, assistance and durable solutions for IDPs to be implemented in 2006 as part of the collaborative approach to internal displacement.

Working environment

The context

The working environment remained complex and fraught with insecurity, particularly in central and southern Somalia. In June 2005, the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) returned to Somalia from exile in Kenya. The Prime Minister and the President established a temporary seat of government in Jowhar in southern Somalia due to the security situation, while the Speaker and some Members of Parliament relocated to Mogadishu. Of the various state-building matters still on the table, it is important to highlight two issues which remain unresolved: the relocation of the TFG and the deployment of foreign forces in support of the peace process.

The TFG could not establish its authority on the ground and struggled to bring peace and stability to the country. The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Somalia worked towards fostering dialogue among the TFG leaders, the development of a national reconciliation plan and an agreement on security and stabilization.

By the end of the year, the humanitarian situation in Somalia had drastically deteriorated due to the severe drought, and was further compounded by localized conflicts over resources. Approximately 1.7 million Somalis were in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. In addition, some 400,000 IDPs were in need of assistance and protection. The December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami resulted in more hardship for vulnerable communities, many of whom had to be moved to already overcrowded urban centres.

Main objectives

UNHCR's main objectives in Somalia were to attain durable solutions for Somali refugees through voluntary repatriation to safe areas in the North-West (*Somaliland*) and North-East (*Puntland*), and through facilitated repatriation to central and southern Somalia, as well as subsequent reintegration; provide international protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers whilst simultaneously pursuing durable solutions; and contribute to the collaborative UN efforts to improve the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Impact

- Over 11,900 refugees were repatriated to *Somaliland* and 356 to *Puntland*.

In 2005, Somalia remained one of the least developed countries in the world. An estimated 43 per cent of the population was living below the extreme poverty line and 71 per cent was malnourished. The country is not expected to reach any of the Millennium Development Goal targets by 2015, with the notable exception of that on HIV/AIDS.

Constraints

Refugee return was seriously constrained by poor local absorption capacity and the lack of basic services. Overall, UNHCR's and other agencies' reintegration programmes were insufficient to meet the needs of returnees, who found it very difficult to establish sustainable livelihoods. Development agencies and local authorities lacked the human or material resources to ensure the sustainable reintegration of returnees and IDPs. The drought further weakened the absorption capacity of the country.

It was not possible to establish a refugee status determination (RSD) procedure in *Puntland* despite the arrival of the first UNHCR international staff member in March, as the authorities could not appoint a counterpart to UNHCR or provide a framework for protection in line with international standards. As a result, the number of asylum-seekers could not be determined. Meanwhile, human trafficking continued on a significant scale through Bossaso, including that of potential asylum-seekers. The establishment of

an RSD system in the region remains a priority for UNHCR's operations in 2006.

Humanitarian access in central and southern Somalia remained one of the main constraints on any expansion of the UNHCR reintegration programme, as well as on an effective protection response for IDPs. In addition, piracy off the southern Somalia coast caused a substantial delay in the delivery of humanitarian supplies, forcing the international community to seek alternative routes.

Funding

Although donor response to UNHCR's programme in Somalia was very good (92.5 per cent of the requirements were funded), the overall budget was, as in previous years, set at a very low level compared to the needs. Faced with budgetary constraints, UNHCR in Somalia often had to carry out its activities with a degree of circumspection in order to avoid raising expectations among beneficiaries and authorities. Funding cuts in the second half of the year resulted in the reduction of some reintegration activities in the North. The modest budget, and the insufficient human resources, especially in Nairobi, *Puntland* and Mogadishu, affected UNHCR's ability to provide protection. Currently, there are only four international protection staff in the whole of Somalia: two protection officers in *Somaliland* and Nairobi and two UNV protection staff in *Somaliland* and *Puntland*.

Persons of concern					
Type of population	Origin	Total in country	Of whom UNHCR assisted	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
IDPs		400,000	-	-	-
Returnees	From Djibouti	7,700	7,700	50	-
	From Ethiopia	4,100	4,100	65	57

Note: Over one million people have returned home, with or without UNHCR assistance, since the early 1990s. In 2005, UNHCR assisted many of those who returned before 2005 who are not included in the statistics above. UNHCR also assisted 2,500 out of 5,000 Ethiopian migrants in *Puntland*.

Budget, income and expenditure (USD) Annual and supplementary programme budgets					
	Final budget	Income from contributions ¹	Other funds available ²	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual programme	7,083,418	4,989,159	1,542,614	6,531,773	6,531,773
Supplementary programme ³	1,422,370	1,017,919	283,915	1,301,834	1,301,834
Total	8,505,788	6,007,078	1,826,529	7,833,607	7,833,607

¹ Includes income from contributions earmarked at the country level.

² Includes allocations by UNHCR from unearmarked or broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

³ The supplementary programme figures apply to the Supplementary Appeal for the Indian Ocean Earthquake - Tsunami Emergency.

Note: The supplementary programme budget does not include a 7 per cent support cost that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.

Achievements and impact

Protection and solutions

Some 12,000 Somali refugees returned home in 2005 from Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Yemen and other countries. Since the early 1990s, over one million Somalis have returned home, with no major back-flows despite the economic difficulties and the dire humanitarian situation. UNHCR also provided protection and assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers in *Somaliland*; in *Puntland*, the Office monitored the situation of migrants in Bossasso, with a view to identifying those in need of international protection.

UNHCR contributed to the development of the UN communication strategy for the eradication of female genital mutilation and pursued HIV/AIDS prevention, as well as care and support activities to ensure the inclusion of and access by returnees, urban refugees and other vulnerable persons of concern in *Somaliland*, in line with the UN Country Team priorities. The Office also deployed a senior staff member to the UN Country Team to devise a strategy to address the needs of internally displaced people, which has since been adopted by the wider international humanitarian community and has become a planning tool for working with and for IDPs in Somalia.

In the context of the preparatory project for a Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) for Somali refugees and returnees, gaps analyses and consultations with a wide range of national and regional stakeholders were completed and the final draft of the CPA document was being finalized by year's end.

Activities and assistance

UNHCR implemented 45 quick-impact projects in areas of return (13 projects in *Somaliland*, 25 in *Puntland* and seven in the South). These provided basic services and assistance to some 287,000 returnees in *Somaliland* and to over 114,000 in *Puntland*, Mogadishu, Hiran and Lower Shabelle. A community-based approach was adopted in designing the interventions. In *Somaliland*, UNHCR focused on creating income-generating opportunities for returnees, including through crop production and irrigation systems. Likewise, microcredit schemes and start-up cash grants for small businesses reached more beneficiaries, targeting female-headed households in particular. In *Puntland* and *Somaliland*, UNHCR continued to provide vital health and education infrastructure. Due to improved access, reintegration interventions could be undertaken in Mogadishu, Benadir, Hiran and Merka, focusing on agriculture, animal husbandry, and bread and pastry production.

Community services: In *Somaliland*, UNHCR built and equipped a social welfare centre for refugees in Hargeisa and provided children with recreational materials. The Office also rehabilitated a community centre in Loyado, benefiting over 5,000 inhabitants. An HIV/AIDS awareness committee was established and refugees participated in national consultations on strategies to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. In *Puntland*, UNHCR increased community awareness of the physical and mental effects of female genital mutilation, reaching over 600 people.

Crop production: In *Somaliland*, UNHCR supplied and distributed 25 water pumps, constructed 1,500 metres of water canals, lined a 1,500-metre long canal, developed 33 shallow wells, and conducted training on flood protection and farming techniques. The Office distributed seeds and tools and established three demonstration farms for the introduction of new farming techniques and seed varieties. UNHCR conducted a cadastral survey of over 700 farms and ensured that farmers obtained title deeds in the Abaarso area. UNHCR's crop production activities benefited over 7,000 returnees in the Awdal region. In *Puntland*, the Office set up two farming projects and provided tools and agricultural inputs to 400 returnees and trained them on farming techniques. In the South, some 18,000 individuals from farming communities benefited from crop production initiatives.

Domestic needs and household support: UNHCR supported vulnerable returnees in *Puntland* and, with the UN Country Team, assisted some 2,500 Ethiopian migrants in Bossasso. To support sustainable return, UNHCR provided all returnees with a repatriation package consisting of a nine-month food ration (supplied by WFP), basic household items and a transportation grant of USD 40 to 50 for onward travel to their final destinations.

Education: In *Somaliland*, UNHCR constructed 22 classrooms, three schools and other infrastructure, provided equipment and school materials, and trained teachers and community education committee members. The Office also collaborated with WFP's school feeding programme in the Awdal region by building and equipping dining halls and kitchens. In collaboration with UNDP, part of Hargeisa University was converted into the Civil Services Training Institute to build the authorities' capacity. UNHCR also provided business training and provided income generation training materials. Vocational training classes in carpentry, masonry, auto-mechanics, tailoring, computers, and management were offered to 190 adolescents and young adults. At least 80 per cent of those who completed the courses were able to use the equipment at their vocational training centre to produce items for sale and thus cover their basic needs. In *Puntland*, the Office rehabilitated and



In the aftermath of the Indian Ocean Tsunami, a man prays on what is left of the mosque in Hafun village, North-West Somalia, one of the worst-hit areas in the country. UNHCR / B. Heger

expanded three primary schools and procured a generator for a secondary school in Garowe, benefiting over 3,000 children. As a follow-up to the 2004 initiative entitled *Together for Girls*, individual support (school fees, uniforms and textbooks) was provided to over 700 vulnerable returnee girls to ensure school attendance.

Forestry: To mitigate environmental degradation in *Somaliland*, UNHCR established one nursery and planted and distributed 8,300 fruit and shade tree seedlings.

Health and nutrition: In *Somaliland*, UNHCR supported regional health offices, rehabilitated four mother and child health centres (MCHs) and trained traditional birth attendants and community health workers. The Office also provided drugs and equipment. Outreach activities included a mobile theatre and other health education activities focusing on female genital mutilation, HIV/AIDS and sexually-transmitted diseases, safe motherhood, tuberculosis and malaria prevention. In *Puntland*, UNHCR constructed an MCH in the Mudug region. In all, UNHCR provided health-related services to over 45,000 individuals in the two regions.

Income generation: In *Somaliland*, salt cooperatives were established. UNHCR also provided cash support

for a revolving fund and training for ten women's groups. Eight small businesses were started, offering services such as puncture repairs, hairdressing, baking, bee-keeping and milling, for over 8,000 beneficiaries in *Somaliland*. In *Puntland*, two metal workshops were built and equipment and training provided to 93 people. UNHCR constructed a bakery at an orphanage, thus creating income opportunities for the institution. In the south, poultry rearing, bee-keeping and bakery construction projects were implemented for more than 700 returnees. Training, expert guidance and supervision were provided to ensure sustainability.

Legal assistance: In *Somaliland*, UNHCR provided computer equipment and office supplies to the Refugee Eligibility Committee. The Office delivered five half-day seminars on Refugee Law to law students at the University of Hargeisa and two workshops on peace, reconciliation and conflict resolution. In *Somaliland*, UNHCR made monthly subsistence payments to refugees and assisted over 400 refugees with medical treatment fees. UNHCR also provided HIV/AIDS treatment to at least 12 refugees at the Hargeisa Group Hospital. In *Puntland*, UNHCR built and equipped an RSD centre and a basic reception shelter at Bossasso airport, offering returnees some shade while their arrival formalities were being processed. In addition, the Office continued to conduct

returnee monitoring both directly and through implementing partners.

Operational support (to agencies): UNHCR conducted protection and project monitoring missions in the three operational zones. In *Somaliland* and *Puntland*, training sessions were held for UNHCR's national staff and implementing partners on project management and the use of UNHCR's standards and indicators, so as to increase the capacity of the authorities to participate in reintegration operations.

Sanitation: In *Somaliland*, UNHCR constructed family latrines in returnee villages and provided sanitation training. UNHCR's activities in the South focused on sanitation and the construction of family latrines in IDP and returnee settlements. These interventions benefited some 14,570 returnees and host community members.

Shelter and infrastructure: UNHCR constructed a market place in the Mudug region and the premises of *Puntland's* Ministry of Women Affairs. The market project directly benefited over 3,000 persons, mainly women. In *Somaliland*, 60 km of feeder roads were rehabilitated, benefiting 5,000 returnees and host communities.

Transport and logistics: UNHCR constructed four 'Irish crossings' in the Awdal region to facilitate convoy movements from Ethiopia. Vehicles and equipment were procured for the operation in *Puntland* in order to support the authorities and increase the capacity of the Office.

Water: UNHCR developed two small water supply systems and 10 shallow-wells with hand pumps, and constructed two water reservoirs in *Somaliland*. In *Puntland*, UNHCR completed the drilling of Gardho borehole and started activities in the Karkar region to improve the water supply and sanitation. In southern Somalia, UNHCR completed the rehabilitation of Malishia Canal. These activities directly benefited over 15,000 people.

Organization and implementation

Management

UNHCR's Representation for Somalia remained based in Nairobi. UNHCR staff in Bossasso were redeployed to Garowe in September 2005 in order to consolidate UNHCR's presence in the administrative capital of *Puntland*. However, a small office in Bossasso was maintained due to the increase in Ethiopian migration and the IDP project, which was about to begin. Continued staff shortages forced the office to rely on UNVs and interns.

Working with others

UNHCR remained an active member of the UN Country Team, the Security Management Team for Somalia, the Somalia Aid Coordination Body and its different committees, the Board of the United Nations Common Air Services for Somalia (UNCAS), the Humanitarian Response Group for Somalia, the Tsunami Recovery Development Task Force and other *ad hoc* bodies dealing with the humanitarian and recovery situation in the country. UNHCR participated in the joint needs assessment exercise leading to the *Recovery and Development Plan for Somalia*, and co-chaired, with UNOCHA, the Protection Cluster within the Consolidated Appeal Process. A joint UN IDP strategy was developed by UNHCR, and the Office actively participated in all forums under the cluster approach of the new humanitarian response plan. UNHCR worked with four international and 43 national NGOs as implementing partners. Authorities in the different parts of the country were important counterparts for UNHCR.

Overall assessment

Overall, UNHCR achieved its objectives despite the complexity of the operational environment. Repatriation from Ethiopia was completed and refugees from Djibouti will be repatriated in 2006. Reintegration activities in major areas of return were effective and there was improved access to basic services and income generation opportunities for returnees, their communities and IDPs. However, the need for more such projects far exceeded the capacity of UNHCR and its partners.

UNHCR's activities were in line with beneficiary priorities. Working closely with others, the Office ensured that protection and integration issues became an integral part of the international aid community's agenda for Somalia. However, budgetary constraints faced by development agencies did not allow them to implement returnee programmes on the desired scale.

With completion of return to *Somaliland* from Ethiopia in 2005, and from Djibouti in 2006, UNHCR's reintegration programme in 2006 and 2007 will be consolidated and the Office will shift its focus to *Puntland* and the South. Reintegration activities in *Somaliland* will accordingly be phased down during 2008. UNHCR's presence in Hargeisa should then be transformed into a smaller office focusing on returnee monitoring and protection of asylum-seekers and refugees. UNHCR's strategy must however be linked to the commitment of others, particularly development agencies, to meet the needs of vulnerable communities in a comprehensive way.

While financial constraints continue to hamper larger scale repatriation to *Puntland*, UNHCR plans to follow

the same strategy as for *Somaliland*. The establishment of an international UNHCR presence in *Puntland* in 2005 is expected to enable the Office to carry out its protection mandate for asylum-seekers and refugees and address the needs of organized and spontaneous returnees and internally displaced people in 2006.

As it is impossible to predict with any accuracy when peace will be restored in southern and central Somalia, there is no timeframe for an exit strategy. Meanwhile, UNHCR will continue to build the capacity of the TFG and to promote refugee law and respect for refugees' rights.

Offices

Nairobi (Kenya)

Bosasso
Garowe
Hargeisa
Mogadishu

Partners

Government agencies

Line Ministries related to programme activities
Ministry for Diaspora and Refugee Affairs (southern Somalia)
Ministry of Disarmament and Reconciliation (*Puntland*)
Ministry of Interior (*Somaliland*)
Ministry of International Co-operation (*Puntland*)
Ministry of Planning and Statistics (*Puntland*)
Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (*Somaliland*)
Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs
National Refugee Commission (southern Somalia)

NGOs

Agriculture Development Organization
Al-Falah
ASAL
Bani'Adam Relief and Development Organization
Bilkhayr Community Organization
Cadastral Surveys Limited
Care International
Community Concern Somalia
COSONGO
Danish Refugee Council
Daryeel Humanitarian and Integration Social
Galkayo Education Centre for Peace and Development
Gambool School Administration
Girls Development Association
Halwad Returnees Farming Cooperatives
Hargeisa Reconstruction and Development Organization
HAVOYOCO
Health Unlimited
Help NGO
HIJRA

HIMILO Relief Development Organisation
Hodan Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Organization
Homboboro
Idamaale Relief and Development Organisation
Jariban Women Development Organisation
Kaalmo *Somaliland* Voluntary Organization
KAAALO Relief and Development
Mundeeq Development Organisation
National Relief Organisation
Norwegian Refugee Council
PSAWEN
Ruukani Development Initiative
Sahan Research and Development Organisation
Shafi Social Development Organisation
Shiilaale Rehabilitation and Ecological Concern
Somali Development and Rehabilitation Organization
Somali Reunification Women Union
Somali Women Concern
Somaliland Women's Development Association
SORAC
Togdheer Rehabilitation and Development Organization
United Somali Professional Organization
Vulnerable Children Care Organization

Others

European Commission
FAO
Food Security Analysis Unit
IOM
Somalia Aid Coordination Body
UN Political Office for Somalia
UN/Habitat
UNDP
UNESCO-Peer
UNICEF
UNIFEM
University of Burao
UNOCHA
WFP
WHO

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Prior years' projects
	Annual programme budget	Supplementary programme budget	Total	Annual and supplementary programme budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	2,220,639	206,976	2,427,615	0
Community services	168,947	0	168,947	60,958
Crop production	348,510	0	348,510	42,315
Domestic needs and household support	95,347	592,913	688,260	0
Education	745,578	0	745,578	88,985
Forestry	18,060	0	18,060	0
Health and nutrition	265,749	0	265,749	11,153
Income generation	247,994	0	247,994	23,694
Legal assistance	29,099	0	29,099	14,273
Operational support (to agencies)	553,635	1,100	554,735	99,038
Sanitation	126,214	0	126,214	24,778
Shelter and infrastructure	69,809	301,393	371,202	0
Transport and logistics	172,967	199,452	372,419	1,904
Water	259,773	0	259,773	40,283
Instalments with implementing partners	622,416	0	622,416	(407,381)
Sub-total operational activities	5,944,737	1,301,834	7,246,571	0
Programme support	587,036	0	587,036	0
Total expenditure	6,531,773	1,301,834	7,833,607	0
Cancellation on prior years' expenditure				(121,967)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	2,159,216	0	2,159,216	
Reporting received	(1,536,800)	0	(1,536,800)	
Balance	622,416	0	622,416	
Prior years' report				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Outstanding 1 January				411,843
Reporting received				(407,381)
Refunded to UNHCR				(4,463)
Adjustments				5,093
Balance				5,092