



2021

IOM SOMALIA

PROGRAMMATIC

OVERVIEW

## IOM SOMALIA

# 2021 OVERVIEW

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Photo: Foresight/IOM

# 1/ IOM SOMALIA

Established in 2006, IOM Somalia has set a strong record on the delivery of frontline services to crisis-affected populations, while steadily developing models and partnerships for longer term recovery and migration governance.

For the past 15 years, IOM Somalia has committed itself to the principle of humane and dignified treatment of crisis-affected populations in an ever-changing environment, while strengthening partnerships for improved resilience, recovery, and migration governance.

To address the overall migration challenges in Somalia, IOM works closely with the Federal Government of Somalia, regional authorities, the United Nations (UN), donors, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and civil society by implementing programme through three pillars: (1) Emergency and Post-Crisis, (2) Transition and Recovery, (3) Migration Governance and Development

With over 330 staff, IOM Somalia operates from its main office in Mogadishu, eight field offices and eight satellite offices, as well as the Nairobi Support Office in Kenya

## SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

Emergency and post-crisis

Transition and Recovery

Migration Governance and Development

### IOM SOMALIA'S GOAL 2021 to 2024:

To contribute to a stronger, more resilient Somalia through an effective and principles approach to migration, displacement, peace building and the development of strategic partnerships.

## Emergency and Post-Crisis

### Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

IOM improves the living conditions and protection of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in sites and settlements and ensures equitable access to services and assistance of all persons in need in the regions of Kismayo, Dollow and Baidoa. IOM is the co-lead of the CCCM Cluster in Somalia.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Adequate access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) is essential to prevent dehydration and reduce the risk of water-related diseases such as diarrhea, cholera and other potential outbreaks. IOM Somalia WASH programme focuses on the immediate provision of WASH services to affected populations across Somalia whilst IOM works closely with the Government to identify sustainable water solutions to address acute water needs in the country.

### Health

IOM delivers and promotes accessible, equitable and comprehensive, preventive and curative health programmes which contributes towards the physical, mental and social well-being of migrants, enabling them and host communities to achieve social and economic development. IOM aims to deliver basic health care services for migrants and mobile populations who face many obstacles in accessing essential health care services due to the recurrent drought and continuous conflict.

### Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

IOM Somalia Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) strives to provide localized, up-to-date information on the basic needs of the target population, cross-border mobility, displacement figures and trends in drought affected areas.

### Shelter and Non-Food Items (S-NFI)

Depending on the affected community's vulnerabilities, assets, capacities, and preferences, IOM provides identified populations with transitional shelters or more permanent structures through in-kind and/or cash-based intervention.

### Durable Solutions

IOM designs its interventions to enhance progress towards durable solutions and shift the paradigm from aid-agency driven modalities to one where the Government and community co-design and lead their nationally aligned and owned programming. IOM's activities: promote long-term solutions for returnees and IDPs; increased social cohesion; improved government capacities to lead on durable solutions at Federal Member States and district levels in urban and peri-urban areas.



Photo: Foresight/IOM

## Transition and Recovery

### Community Stabilization

IOM's Community Stabilization programme addresses the multifaceted drivers of instability caused by conflict and climate change to support communities and the Somali Government to restore peace and lay the foundations for a longer term, sustainable recovery. IOM does so by designing and implementing activities that restore trust horizontally between communities – meaning rebuilding the social contract between conflicting groups – and vertically between communities and government authorities in newly recovered and displacement affected areas.

### Disengagement, Disassociation, Reintegration and Reconciliation (DDRR)

IOM works with marginalized youth at risk in Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) and social cohesion and supports the Federal Government of Somalia's National Programme for the Treatment and Handling of Disengaged Combatants.

## Migration, Governance and Development

### Immigration and Border Management (IBM)

IOM supports the Government of Somalia in promoting safe and orderly migration, securing borders and building the capacity of immigration officials.

### Labour Mobility and Human Development (LHD)

IOM promotes pathways of labour migration, enhancing coordination for diaspora engagement, strengthening institutional capacity, and mitigating the drivers of irregular migration.

### Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA)

IOM provides technical expertise in areas of migration policy, administrative and operational practices, procedures for countering human trafficking and smuggling, and direct assistance to migrants.

# IOM'S PRESENCE IN SOMALIA IN 2021

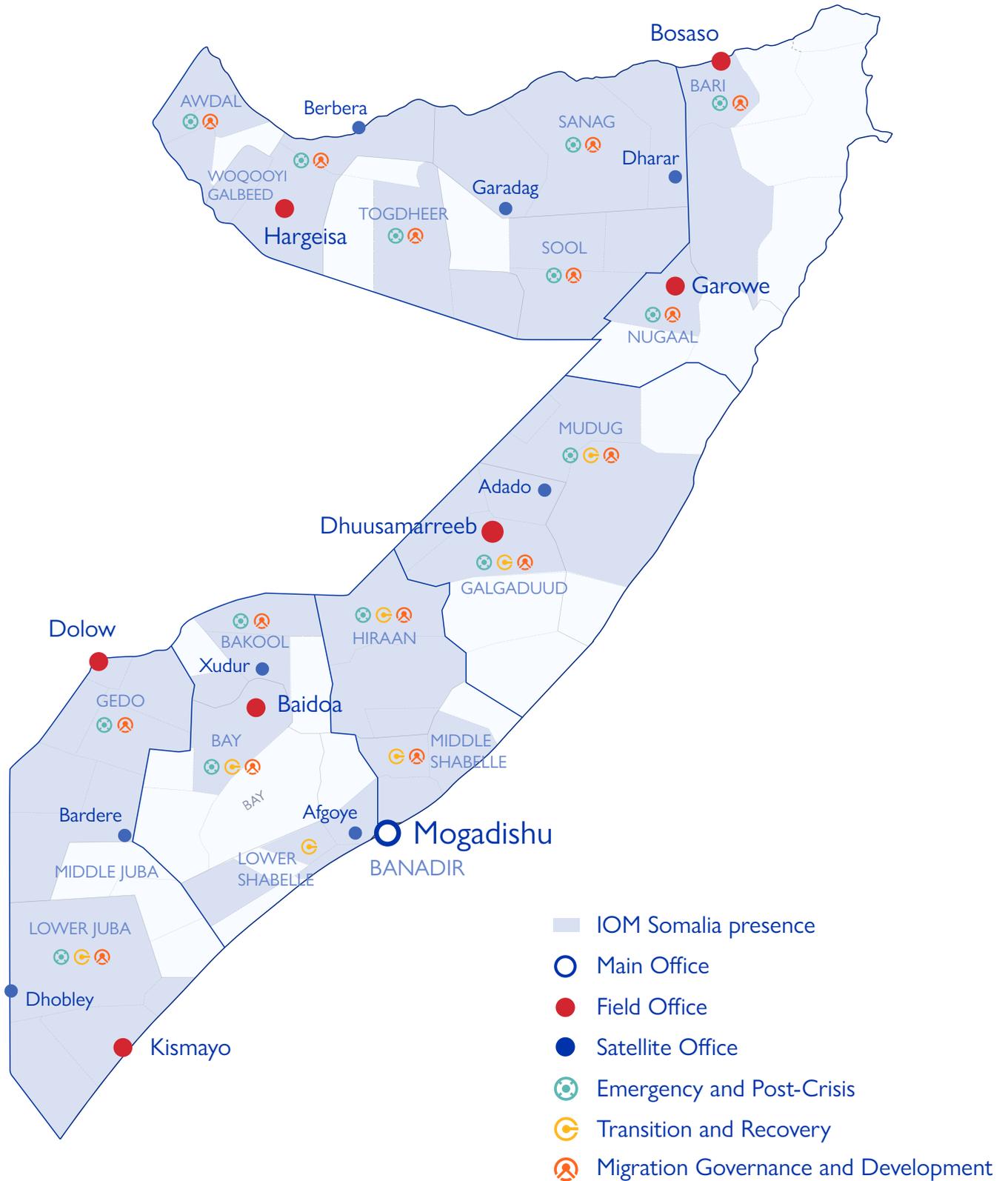




Photo: Claudia Rosel/IOM

## CRISIS AND MIGRATORY CONTEXT

Somalia has one of the most complex migration landscapes in the world. Recurrent climatic shocks have been devastating for Somali communities and continue to drive displacement, while ongoing conflict impacts protection and human rights, reduces resilience and hinders access to basic services, especially for mobile populations.

Somalia is a key source transit and, to some extent, destination country for migrants in the East and Horn of Africa. Every year, thousands of migrants make hazardous journeys along regional migration routes and are exposed to severe protection risks and human rights violations. Somalia represents the main

transit country for migrants from Ethiopia en route to Yemen and the Gulf States. While the numbers of those departing to the Arabian Peninsula remains high, there are also Ethiopian migrants who decide to settle and earn a living in Somaliland and Puntland.

Furthermore, the large Somali diaspora continues to play a critical role in sustaining and rebuilding the country through remittances, humanitarian assistance and direct participation in recovery efforts as many have returned to their homeland in the past years.

### MAIN FEATURES OF THE CRISIS IN SOMALIA

**7.7M** in need of humanitarian assistance\*



REASON FOR DISPLACEMENT →

**2.9M**  
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)



**NATURAL HAZARDS**

Somalia remains prone to natural hazards, including floods and droughts, and will experience further climatic shocks in the next years



**ARMED CONFLICT**

Diverse non-state armed actors of which Al-Shabaab is the most immediate threat



**SOCIO-ECONOMIC**

Very high rates of poverty and severe constraints on basic services

**2,400+ IDP sites** across the country

**GBV** - Prevalent GBV disproportionately affecting women, girls and IDPs

\* Humanitarian Response Plan 2022

# 2/ HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

In 2021, the humanitarian situation remained critical. Climatic shocks, ongoing conflict, the COVID-19 pandemic, political tensions, the locust invasion and poor access to basic services and livelihood opportunities left 5.9 million people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. These crises also forced people to move. In 2021, conflict and insecurity displaced 544,000 people, while drought and floods uprooted over 307,100 from their homes (source: [PRMN](#)). There were 2.9 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) living in precarious conditions across the country, of whom 2.2 million required urgent humanitarian support. The humanitarian situation was further exacerbated in the second half of 2021 as severe water shortages were reported in much of the country.

In 2021, the funding to respond to humanitarian and long-term recovery needs in Somalia remained low. Humanitarian partners struggled to meet the basic needs of those in need. Despite funding constraints, IOM adapted its programming and continued its operations, to the extent possible, to reach mobile and vulnerable populations.

## Humanitarian Response Plan for Somalia 2021

### Somalia: worst drought affected country in the Horn of Africa

At the end of 2021 drought conditions were reported in two thirds of the country following the third consecutive below-average rainy season. The drought rapidly deteriorated, and the Federal Government of Somalia declared a state of emergency on 23 November 2021. More than 3.2 million people in 66 out of the country's 74 districts were affected by the end of December 2021, including 169,000 people who were displaced in search of food, water and pasture for their animals.

IOM scaled up its efforts and reprogrammed part of its activities to prevent a humanitarian disaster and meet the most urgent needs of affected communities.

# 2/ MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

 **413 IDP SITES** supported by IOM in Baidoa (200), Kismayo (112), and Dolow (101)

 **281,527 MOVEMENTS** TRACKED from January to December 2021

 **262,785 INDIVIDUALS** assisted with **SAFE WATER** from new and rehabilitated boreholes and shallow wells

 **431 WOMEN** and **345 MEN** affected by conflict supported through rehabilitation centres

 **167 RETURNEES** assisted with **IN-KIND** and **CASH SUPPORT** for individual micro business start-up

 **329,371 INDIVIDUALS** assisted with **CONSULTATIONS**

 **2,759 INDIVIDUALS** assisted through cash based interventions

 **6 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE** completed and benefiting **32,000 INDIVIDUALS**

 **34 SOMALI DIASPORA EXPERTS** assigned to institutions

 **22 BORDER POSTS** supported 10 airports, 5 seaports, 7 land posts

 **18,956 MIGRANTS** assisted at **3 MIGRANT RESPONSE CENTRES**

# HIGHLIGHTS OPERATIONS 2021

IOM Somalia continued to support the Federal Government of Somalia, guided by the National Development Plan to respond to the needs of mobile populations and Somali communities. The activities and achievements of 2021 are to the credit of the hundreds of IOM Somalia staff members that have worked tirelessly together with government counterparts and humanitarian partners.

## Addressing Somalia's Climate Change Emergency

Somalia is on the front line of climate change with seasonal patterns becoming more unpredictable each year. Recurring drought, floods, and food insecurity have continued to devastate the lives of millions of Somalis, amplifying pre-existing vulnerabilities and leaving them with no time to recover in between shocks. These climatic events are acting as a threat multiplier by exacerbating competition between communities over grazing land and water resources, inducing displacement and the recruitment of youth by armed actors.

Furthermore, Somalia is impacted by environmental degradation, including deforestation, overgrazing, soil erosion and desertification, which is further exacerbated by unsustainable agricultural and pastoral practices. All these factors are making the survival of rural and vulnerable communities more difficult each year.

To ensure that Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), migrants, communities in hard-to-reach locations, returnees and vulnerable populations are better prepared to the impacts of climate change and prevent further displacement, IOM integrated climate mitigation and adaptation approaches in most of its projects in 2021. These environmental approaches aimed to address cross-cutting humanitarian and development needs aggravated by recurrent floods and drought.

The interventions in 2021 cut across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDPN), addressing both the immediate effects of natural hazards through life-saving support, while at the same time implementing longer-term projects that can contribute to increasing the resilience of communities to climate change.

IOM implemented preparatory interventions to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards. Through the Anticipatory Action programme, funded by the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), IOM was able to contribute to the reduction of drought-related displacement through the rehabilitation of 20 existing wells and the drilling of two new boreholes in five strategic locations, including Gedo, Lower Juba, Mudug, Sanaag, and Togdheere, prior to an expected drought. The early intervention benefited 70,000 IDPs from riverine and nomadic communities.

To increase resilience to natural hazards in Somalia, IOM also mainstreamed Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) mechanisms within the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and durable solutions programming. Activities included the construction of disaster resilient infrastructure such as flood-proof sanitation facilities to reduce flooding risks. In addition, reforestation



### STORY: Women Bringing Peace and Combatting Climate Change in Somalia

“When there are community clean-ups at the beach or other areas, people come out and join,” says Sahra, a woman from Adale who is also part of the women’s group that is organizing the cleaning activity. “Everyone greets each other, people share conversations, and the community grows closer.”

In 2021, IOM Somalia, in collaboration with UNEP, launched a report on climate-induced displacement. The research aimed at providing recommendations for policy makers and practitioners on climate change adaptation to contribute to finding durable solutions approaches to protracted displacement in cities.



[DOWNLOAD THE REPORT](#)



Photo: Tobin Jones/IOM

activities in displacement sites took place, particularly around IOM-rehabilitated boreholes in arid regions which will contribute to preventing flooding and soil erosion.

As part of its capacity building support to the Federal Government of Somalia, IOM, in collaboration with UNEP, launched a report on climate-induced displacement. The research aimed at providing recommendations for policy makers and practitioners on climate change adaptation to contribute to finding durable solutions approaches to protracted displacement in cities.

Furthermore, IOM worked with communities affected by conflict to identify and implement environmental interventions such as community clean-ups, tree planting and waste management activities. Bringing communities with historical grievances together to jointly address crucial environmental and climatic

challenges can foster social cohesion and peace, reducing the risk of violent conflict and preventing further displacement.

IOM also continued to provide climate-smart and community-based reintegration to migrant returnees through agroforestry, beekeeping, and capacity building activities.

Finally, IOM provided renewable and sustainable energy to enhance people's access to safe drinking water as well as to provide an alternative and reliable solution to operationalize Somalia's border points. Unreliable and unsteady power makes it challenging to track movements across border points, resulting in increased security risks and critical interruptions in immigration flows. In 2021, IOM installed 502 solar panels across 15 border points in Somalia and trained 30 people to ensure its maintenance.



### **VIDEO: IOM's Anticipatory Action**

In Somalia, over 7 million people don't have access to clean and safe water. The CERF-funded, IOM's Anticipatory Action project seeks to prevent and reduce humanitarian crisis before they take place by bringing water to those who need it most.

Photos: Hamza Osman/IOM

## Women and Youth at the Forefront of their Recovery

IOM aims to address critical gaps related to challenges faced by women and youth in Somalia. In 2021, IOM designed and implemented activities to promote the well-being of women and youth while empowering them as agents of change in their communities. The activities contributed to peacebuilding and recovery efforts.

### Women Participation Project

To improve conditions of women living in displacement sites, IOM carried out a series of activities through the [Women Participation Project \(WPP\)](#). The project aims to positively change the role of women in areas of displacement, by empowering them to have a more active role in camp life and thus ensuring their voices are heard and programmes meet their needs.

IOM organized training and community dialogues with community leaders, including women, to discuss topics concerning women's participation in camp life, rights, leadership, and governance skills. These sessions intended to change the perception of male towards women in a male-dominated environment and contributed to increase the overall well-being of women living in sites. They also created safe spaces that allow women and girls to speak openly about their challenges, while simultaneously contributing to advocate for their rights. Some of the dialogues were accompanied by face-to-face training of Camp Management Committee (CMC) members to discuss how they can support this essential campaign.

IOM also continued to support the development and growth of small businesses run by Women's Group members. This included supporting businesses in the Women's Market in Dollow with grants of USD 120 per person and providing the materials for the weaving of mats, which were subsequently sold in the local market. Training and materials were also provided in other craft techniques to support women in accessing livelihood opportunities, particularly in tie dye technique and weaving.

### Skill Training for Vulnerable Youth

In partnership with local skills training institutions, IOM rolled out a six-month skills training course for vulnerable youth residing in IDP sites and impoverished areas of Kismayo and Baidoa. Through the training sessions, IOM aimed to provide the youth with skills in solar electricity, plumbing, construction and tailoring. The training was complemented by career





Photo: Rikka Tupaz/IOM

counselling and orientation support. While acquiring the practical and theoretical skills related to the training selected, students remarkably improved their literacy and numeracy skills. The programme represented a life-changing opportunity for most of the students as they did not have the prospect or could not further their education. Almost half of them engaged in gainful jobs after finishing the programme, where they are applying the new skills, and said they feel “more hopeful and determined to succeed.”

**172 Youth benefited from the technical and vocational training programme in Baidoa and Kismayo.**

### 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

IOM staff celebrated the 16 days of activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) with communities impacted by conflict and displacement. Theatre performances, traditional dances, motivational speeches and focus group discussions took place across displacement sites and rehabilitation centres in Baidoa, Kismayo and Dollow.

The activities aimed to engage women and men in discussions about GBV. Together, the participants spoke about the violence faced by women and girls, particularly in displacement sites and impoverished areas, and what can be done to mitigate it.

For many women, it was their first time attending a discussion related to GBV and sharing their grievances with a big group.

### Women lead on Reconciliation and Peace Processes

IOM continued to foster women networks at local level to promote peace in areas who have historically been in conflict. IOM supported existent women’s groups to lead community initiatives and connect women across clan and political divisions to support each other and their communities in towns such as Marka (Lower Shabelle), Xeerale, Afgooye, and Adale (Galmudug). Activities included community clean-ups, tree planting and establishing a Women Networking Group (WNG) in Marka to strengthen safety and security and build and cultivate linkages between the WNG and the Marka District Peace and Safety Committee (DPSC).

**“Initially I was ignorant about sharing my story and I was gripped by fear objections and experienced discrimination, but the formation of the women networking group and the mobilization they provided in Marka, and nearby villages enabled us women to come out of their homes and share our stories.”**

*Women participant*



### **STORY: Somali Women Reconnect after Decades of Conflict**

“The mediation talks allowed us to sincerely air our grievances from both sides and this has led us to wipe out our differences,” explained Xalwo. “Our small tea meetings are priceless, so it’s important that our two groups reconcile.”



### **STORY: Ending Gender-Based Violence in Somalia**

For many women, it was their first time attending a discussion related to GBV and sharing their grievances with a big group. IOM staff felt their enthusiasm throughout the campaign as they created a bond with one another while speaking up about their concerns.

## Arts, Sports and Culture for Peace and Togetherness

IOM is progressively introducing arts, sports and cultural activities across its programmes to foster social cohesion, facilitate reintegration, and advance towards peace, especially among conflict-affected communities, returnees and IDP populations.

To facilitate a culturally sensitive reintegration of women and men formerly associated with extremist groups, IOM implemented culturally familiar social activities that facilitated a safe space for expression and story sharing, contributing to the psychosocial well-being of the participants and community cohesion. IOM, together with local artists and its implementing partners in Kismayo and Baidoa co-designed and implemented poetry workshops, Somali traditional storytelling gatherings, mural painting activities, and sport games. IOM also organized a cultural heritage event, where participants and community members from diverse groups came together to present their unique cultural traditions, foods, arts, and dances.

In Buufow and Janaale towns of Marka District, IOM conducted an interactive theatre aimed to strengthen engagement and establish connections among communities historically divided. Community theater is an effective way to communicate sensitive issues and presents the community members with the opportunity to engage and be a part of the theater performance. Interactive theater is also a powerful way of putting across messages with the aim of stimulating community action to address identified problems and issues and to provide a platform for people to express.

Furthermore, in Dollow, IOM under the Women Participation Programme supported the Women Committee to organize a one-week football tournament in the IDP site of Kabasa, attended by over 2,000 people. The tournament idea came from the women themselves as they maintained it would distract youth from the dangers of drug use and association with extremist groups. It was contested by eight different football teams made up of young men from Kabasa. The women managed the tournament throughout, making regular speeches to the teams, and handing out the final trophy.



**“Culture gives us a sense of belonging and brings people together. The plays and the traditional dance performances we’ve seen today were a good reminder that despite our differences we are still one big community. These elements bring us closer.”**

*Participant of the workshop.*

**“We have learnt today from the interactive theater the importance of solving minor or domestic conflicts with your neighbors in a peaceful way before the matter escalates. We know that peaceful coexistence starts from your own home or family residence, so please adhere to today’s teachings.”**

*Janaale town Administrator.*



### POETRY CONNECTING PEOPLE IN SOMALIA

“Our poetry is intimately connected with people’s daily lives. Communication with one another and messages become powerful when conveyed through poems. Traditionally, even messages for peace and for conflict resolution are recited as poetry. Moreover, poetry has a capacity to heal emotional traumas.” **Poetry project participant.**

[LINK TO THE POETRY BOOKLET](#)



## WOMEN PLAY GREATER ROLE, THANKS TO SPORT INITIATIVE

Doolow – It has been eight years since Gani had to make the hard decision to abandon her hometown in south-central Somalia. The 43-year-old mother could not bear to see her teenage daughters grow up knowing only conflict.

“There was persistent conflict at that time; my family decided to come here for security reasons,” says Gani, who headed with her family to the large Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) site at Kabasa, Doolow, in the southern Gedo region.

For most of the women and girls living in Kabasa, the daily routine is housework and caring for the children. Gani knows this too well. For the past eight years, washing clothes, cooking, and fetching water was all she knew.

This changed the day in 2019 when the Women’s Participation Project (WPP) arrived in her community. Since then, Gani and other women have been busy with a wide range of community activities. “The project has improved the participation of women in the sites,” Gani says. “It has built a strong bond between women and other community members, leading to a sense of collective caring without leaving anyone behind.”

### Football Match for Togetherness

Acknowledging the importance of social cohesion, Gani and other women organized a brainstorming session to decide on potential activities to bring site residents together. Hosting a football tournament was one idea that was well received by the group. The women thought it would not only promote integration between community members of different IDP sites, but it would also provide alternative outlets for the youth at risk and exposed to criminal activities and violence.

The women met on a weekly basis with sports officials in the district as well as youth leaders, to organize the tournament and select the football clubs that would compete. “There were 14 active football clubs in the IDP sites, but the women managed to select eight of them without creating conflict among the players,” says Liban Abdullahi Bihi, IOM Field Assistant.

However, not everyone understood why women were coordinating a sports event. IOM arranged discussions with elders and other community leaders to address concerns.

“This was a unique activity because it challenged a common gender bias,” says Liban.

Eight football teams of young men from Kabasa and Qansaxley displacement sites in Doolow played a one-week tournament in front of 2,000 fans made up of IDPs and host community members. “The football tournament meant everything to the youth living in the sites,” says Ismail, an IDP youth leader. “It was a source of interaction in the community, and a way to prevent misuse of drugs and insecurity.”

IOM provided sportswear and equipment, trophies, transport allowances for district sports officials, as well as refreshments for the teams and organizers before the match. Women also celebrated throughout by singing traditional songs and handed the trophy to the winners. For Gani, the tournament in August was an opportunity to show others that women can also be leaders in the community and contribute to stability.

“The project had demonstrated the ability of women and girls to lead and coordinate with male counterparts, as well as promoting peace and harmony within the community,” said Hassan.

Now, Gani dreams about a different future for the women and girls of her community. A future where they can be “independent economically and take part in major leadership positions in society”.

There is still a long way to go for Gani to fulfill her dream. Gender inequalities are deeply rooted in Somali society and women and girls continue to face barriers to access education, economic resources, and leadership roles. Moreover, discrimination against women and gender-based violence (GBV) is widespread, particularly in displacement settings. According to the United Nations Population Fund, 98 per cent of women aged 15 to 49 have undergone female gender mutilation. The prevalence rate of early marriage in Sub-Saharan Africa – more specifically in Somalia – is one of the highest in the world, according to a United Nations Children’s Fund report.

[Read full story](#)



Photo: Foresight/IOM

## Durable Solutions to Displacement

### Baidoa Relocation - Phase II

In 2019, the Southwest State authorities and the Baidoa municipality recognized the need for a city extension within the Baidoa urban plan to improve the living conditions of displaced affected households. This relocation project in Baidoa was a unique multi-sectoral integrated approach, in which IOM worked closely across its different departments.

With an increasing number of IDP's in need of humanitarian assistance and recognizing the critical challenge to sustainable durable solutions, IOM and key actors from the humanitarian and development sectors supported Southwest State authorities and the Baidoa municipality to develop a new public site called Barwaaqo 2.

The site development was completed in 2019 and the new site included new roads, streetlights, a school, two police stations, a health centre, latrines, and sustainable water systems. A total of 1,000 families were relocated to the new site in June and July 2019. In March 2021, IOM completed the second phase of the project and relocated another 1,009 displaced families. Each family received cash assistance and a plot of land to build their new shelters.



Photos: Foresight/IOM



### [STORY: Finding Durable Solutions to Somalia's Internal Displacement](#)

"What I love about living here is that this land belongs to us; we can build whatever we want, we have our own toilets and access to free water," Barlin, relocated mother.



### [VIDEO: Baidoa Relocation, One Year Later](#)



### [VIDEO: Barwaaqo and the HDPN](#)

## Danwadaag Durable Solutions Consortium

The Danwadaag Durable Solutions Consortium aims to enhance progress towards durable solutions and (re)integration for targeted displacement affected communities (DAC) in South West State, Banadir and Jubaland regions. A three-and-a-half-year programme running until March 2022, Danwadaag is led by IOM and implemented in collaboration with other humanitarian partners.

In 2021, IOM through the Danwadaag Durable Solutions Consortium seconded 17 positions to key ministries to further forge the building of a conducive environment for durable solutions in Somalia. In line with this, the consortium supported the Federal Government of Somalia in the development of the [National Durable Solutions Strategy](#) and together with other actors pushed for the first eviction moratorium to be put in place. Danwadaag also supported, developed and reviewed three community action plans feeding into district priorities to increase the inclusiveness and responsiveness of decision-making processes in favour of the most vulnerable.

Danwadaag continued to supply water to a total of 49,983 individuals through boreholes and shallow wells. Towards the end of 2021 all the water infrastructure was handed over to the Government and communities trained to maintain these. A further 25,139 individuals were supported with non-sustainable access to water and sanitation services, such as emergency latrines, hygiene kits, and water trucking in response to COVID-19 and the emerging drought.

9,900 individuals continued to be assisted towards greater self-reliance with diverse on-going livelihoods activities, ranging from Self-Help Groups to business skills training, Small and Medium Enterprise support, Technical and Vocational and Education Training.

47,632 individuals were prevented from forced evictions through a range of interventions. The activities included seconding technical injections to government eviction task forces, legal aid services and counselling, mediation of land disputes, and leveraging infrastructure against longer lease agreements in negotiations with private landowners.

For 11,826 individuals, the consortium secured longer land tenure, including 2,287 households for whom the Consortium arranged land title deeds for the plots where they were resettled to.

32,759 individuals were treated at health centres and Mother and Child clinics built through the Consortium as well as through mobile health outreach. Danwadaag also worked to prepare the replication of the Barwaqo relocation site success in additional sites in Baidoa and Kismayo in 2022.

## Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster

IOM is the co-chair of the CCCM Cluster in Somalia. In 2021, CCCM partners focused on delivering the following core objectives to IDPs living in IDP sites: strengthening safe access to multi-sectorial services at site level through improved site management and coordination; improving living conditions of displaced people through site development, care and maintenance and decongestion initiatives; and strengthening community self-management and access to information for displaced populations.

In 2021, the CCCM cluster held a total of 19 trainings and workshops for CCCM partners while achieving a new high in active CCCM partners with a total of 18 operating agencies. In 2021, a total 1,043 IDPs sites were supported by CCCM partners across Somalia.





Photo: Claudia Rosel/IOM

## COVID-19 Response

Throughout 2021, IOM supported the Ministry of Health COVID-19 response at National and Federal level through coordination meetings and projects aimed to detect, prevent, and mitigate the impact of the disease. The activities included donation of essential equipment, including breathing circuits, oxygen face masks, oxygen cylinders, wheelchairs, intubation kits, infra-red thermometers, protective footwear, face masks and hand sanitizers. The donations reached displaced persons, migrants and vulnerable communities through hospitals, health centres, points of entry such as airports and land posts and the Migrant Response Centres (MRCs) across the whole country. IOM also trained hygiene promoters, including returnees and displaced persons, to raise awareness on COVID-19 to the wider community.

In January, IOM donated digital equipment to the Federal Ministry of Health in Somalia to support the introduction of telemedicine into Somalia's healthcare system ([press note here](#)). Especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, telemedicine could be a solution for Somali health facilities to diagnose and treat patients. The introduction of telemedicine into Somalia's health system aimed to help local medical professionals access a growing online, digital and video-based reference "library" of diagnostic expertise within Somalia and beyond its borders. Several hospitals and health clinics in Somalia were equipped

to strengthen their capacity to provide healthcare services through remote diagnosis and treatment.

In July, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, IOM and a diaspora expert from the MIDA programme finalized the first draft of the COVID-19 Standard Operative Procedures (SOPs) in Dhobley. The SOPs intended to serve as a reference document to ensure the consistency of procedures used to manage COVID-19 cases at the Dhobley point of entry, located in the border with Kenya.

During the second half of the year, IOM supported the Ministry of Health COVAX vaccination campaign aimed to increase the COVID-19 vaccine uptake in Somaliland and South West State. A total of 2,324 individuals received a shot of COVAX vaccines. The campaign also included community mobilization and sensitization of communities, printing of information materials, airing of messages through radio and TV.

IOM also established, supported and operationalized two COVID-19 isolation centres in Dhobley and Baidoa through seconded health workers and medical supplies. In the centre, health workers conducted screening, testing, admission as well as management of confirmed COVID cases.



**[VIDEO: Hygiene Promoters: Saida](#)**



**[VIDEO: Hygiene Promoters: Isse](#)**



**[VIDEO: Hygiene Promoters: Digaale](#)**

# Matching Grant Mechanism through Community Planning

IOM introduced the Matching Grant Mechanism under the Daryeel programme, an innovative approach with the goal of increasing trust, peace and stability amongst conflict-affected communities whilst decreasing their dependency on aid.

The Matching Grant Mechanism supports communities to carry out fundraising initiatives that are important to them in partnership with the local government, enhancing collective action and interdependency. It was first piloted in Balanbale district, Galmudug State. The population in the area identified four community projects that were needed in the community and organized a digital fundraising campaign to raise funds to make them a reality. The projects included an ambulance and firefighting truck that would benefit a whole district of 16,000 households, two primary schools that would benefit a cluster of 10 and 12 villages respectively, and a borehole that would benefit a cluster of 12 villages.

The community used the online platform [Sokaab](#) and spread the campaign thanks to social media and word of mouth in Somalia and abroad. Through the online platform, the community had four active fundraising campaigns as of

December 2021. It is expected to have the projects completed by the second half of 2022.

Only community projects that had a sound sustainability plan were eligible for the Matching Grant. To ensure the approach's long-term sustainability and increase autonomy of communities, IOM trained them on procurement processes, and will support them until the projects are completed. The process intends to allow communities to acquire skills to identify, fundraise and implement their own projects in the future.

Thanks to the success of the project in Balanbale, IOM is expecting to expand the Matching Grant Mechanism to another five districts in Galmudug, as well as other districts in South West State in 2022.

The project increased collective action, ownership, and interdependence among communities' members who have historically been divided, all of which enhanced vertical trust between the local government and their constituents, as well as horizontal trust among community members.

**Let's build bridges between Somali communities**

Support a project now and contribute to building a better tomorrow.

The Matching Grant entails a funding scheme where communities collectively identify a priority that benefits an area in the form of an infrastructure, goods, or services, and for which the community wants to fundraise collectively. IOM trains communities on fundraising, and assists them in opening a community bank account, and linking that to an online fundraising and accountability platform to enable financial contributions from Somalia and beyond, including diasporas. Once communities have reached the fundraising goal, IOM matches that grant based on an agreed ratio determined by a set criterion. In essence, the more diverse the contributing communities, the larger the scope of the project, and the more the project contributes to peace and stability, the higher the matching grant ratio.



**[VIDEO: Learn more about the Matching Grant Mechanism](#)**



## Addressing Conflict through Community Dialogues

In 2021, IOM continued to support the local authorities to promote peace and reduce the risk of violent conflict across the country. IOM facilitated government-led mediation and reconciliation efforts between groups residing in districts along Galmudug's Western Corridor, bordering Ethiopia. The mediation efforts were attended by people from diverse groups and generated a space for inclusive dialogue and political participation in a region that has suffered from years of neglect and violent conflict.

IOM also organized debates for reconciliation with men and women affected by conflict and their communities. Encouraging constructive discussion about important socio-economic and socio-cultural aspects of daily life among community members in Somalia positively influences on the process of social cohesion and overall contributes to creating spaces for reconciliation and understanding among people coming from different backgrounds and experiences.

## Cash-based Interventions

IOM has been increasingly exploring and implementing cash transfer programming in Somalia, especially under the shelter and community stabilization portfolios. IOM led the shift from in-kind assistance to cash-based interventions in 2019 by laying the foundation of modus operandi and advocating for the shift at cluster level. Overall, the shift has an impact beyond direct beneficiaries, injecting capital in markets and supporting the local economy.

In 2021, IOM supported displaced communities living in informal sites to enhance their living conditions through cash-based interventions. The conditional cash received for transitional shelter construction, allowed individuals who used to live in vulnerable and precarious conditions to upgrade or build new, more safe and stable shelters with an average lifespan of five to seven years, thereby improving their living standards. As a result, 200 transitional shelters were constructed, benefiting 1,383 displaced families living in displacement sites in Baidoa. IOM engineers provided technical training on shelter construction techniques allowing

the individuals to build their shelters according to their own preferences and including feedback from women and girls. The cash was provided through mobile money and the community negotiated directly with the vendors to buy locally available items to be used in the construction. These activities represented a capital injection of USD 200,000 into the local economy and were done after community consultations that assessed the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable.

Throughout the year, IOM reached a total of 64,200 individuals with cash-based interventions. For instance, following the devastating impact of Cyclone Gati at the end of 2020, IOM provided 1,500 IDP households in Bossaso with e-cash for purchasing crucial Non-Food Items (NFI). Through this approach, there was a capital injection of USD 150,000 into the local economy through four vendors previously identified by IOM. The intervention supported the IDPs to upgrade their shelters and buy crucial items such as blankets, sleeping mats, kitchen sets, solar lamps, jerry cans, etc. whilst stimulating the economy after the cyclone.



### **STORY: Recovering from Strongest Storm Ever Recorded in the Horn of Africa**

As part of recovery efforts and to meet the urgent needs of some of these families, in March 2021 IOM provided 1,500 families with USD 100 each to buy items from local shops that would enable them to rebuild their shelters. This was the first assistance they received since the cyclone occurred. "We still have a lot of urgent needs," Kalson implores. "Our buul is very damaged, and I hope to send my children to school soon. But at least now we can sleep and eat safely."



Photo: Claudia Rosel/IOM

## Assisting Vulnerable Migrants

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and as a result of movement restrictions, many Somali migrants become stranded around the world. The impact of COVID-19 on local economies, coupled with a widespread xenophobic and discriminatory narrative against migrants, created obstacles for these individuals to access essential services, including health, water and food. IOM assisted 115 Somali migrants to safely return to Somalia from countries like Libya and Sudan. These returns were facilitated through IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR), and Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) Assistance programmes.

Mobility restrictions remained largely unchanged in the Horn of Africa throughout 2021. However, the closure of borders and spread of COVID-19 did not discourage thousands of migrants, mainly from Ethiopia to continue embarking onto dangerous irregular migration journeys across the Eastern Migration Corridor. These populations remained highly

vulnerable as they often relayed on smugglers to facilitate their travel through a harsh environment where they are exposed to severe protection risks, including psychical abuses and extortion. Many migrants never made it to their destinations and remained stranded without possibilities of continuing their journey or returning. IOM estimated that around [5,500 people](#) were stranded in and around Borama, Bossaso, Burao and Hargeisa by the end of 2021. IOM facilitated the voluntary return of 344 stranded Ethiopian women, men and unaccompanied migrant children return to their communities of origin.

Through its Migration Response Centres (MRCs) in Hargeisa, and Bossaso, IOM also continued to provide life-saving support to vulnerable and stranded migrants. In 2021, 18,956 women, men and children were reached with health assistance, information, psychosocial support and basic items such as food, water and clothes.



### [STORY: Hazards Abound, but Migrants Risk Horn of Africa Route for a Better Life](#)

"A lack of regular migration pathways and the complex realities in a region where many suffer from the worst effects of conflict and climate change continue to force people to embark on this perilous journey that cuts through deserts, the sea and war-torn Yemen," Richard Danziger, IOM's Chief of Mission.



### [VIDEO: Horn of Africa Migrants Risk Everything Along Eastern Migration Route](#)

Leaving Ethiopia and Somalia in search of a better future, every year thousands of migrants make their way across the Eastern Migration Corridor, one of the world's busiest migration routes.

# Diaspora for Development

**34 SOMALI DIASPORA EXPERTS** assigned to institutions

**50 LOCAL PROFESSIONALS** assigned to institutions

**56 INTERNS** ASSIGNED to institutions

## Migration for Development in Africa programme

Since 2008, IOM has implemented the Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) programme in Somalia through the engagement of Somali diaspora on short term assignments to transfer their skills and strengthen the capacity of Federal Member State institutions.

To enhance the sustainability of knowledge transfer, IOM implements a capacity building model that pairs the diaspora experts with local professionals. Through this mentorship, young and recently graduated Somalis gain valuable work experience, explore a career path and have a competitive edge in the job market.

## Development of Somalia's National Diaspora Policy (LHD)

In July 2021, IOM supported the Department of Diaspora Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to kick start the development of Somalia's National Diaspora Policy, a significant step towards the sustainable development of the country. The policy will be the first diaspora engagement framework in the country that acknowledges the potential of the Somali diaspora to contribute to the country's socio-economic development.

Read more on the [press note here](#).



Dr. Tasnim, a Somali diaspora laboratory scientist from London, stands with the veterinarian students she is teaching at the Somali National University. © IOM/Spotlight 2021

Dr. Mubarak is a Somali diaspora doctor from the UK contributing to Baidoa's health system through the MIDA programme. © IOM/Spotlight 2021

Dr Mohamed Farah Good is a professor from the US who also felt the need to bring his expertise back home, something that was possible thanks to the MIDA programme. © IOM/Spotlight 2020



## STORY: Development in Somalia Comes from the Heart

"It was always my dream to support the future of the country and provide the technical know-how as an engineer from the experience I gained working in London. It is the least I can do for my country," said diaspora expert Engineer Aliyow.



## STORY: Diaspora Pediatrician Trying to Reduce Deaths

"Some areas can be dangerous, but we realized that the country needs its best people to return," says Dr Ubah, who is working in the women and pediatric department of Banadir Hospital in Mogadishu.



Photo: Foresight/IOM

## Data Collection and Analysis to Inform Programming

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) team continued to collect, analyse, and disseminate up-to-date reports to inform and improve humanitarian responses across the country.

DTM teams monitored cross-border movements in seven Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) located across Somalia's borders. With the information collected, DTM published a weekly flow monitoring dashboard through the registration of migrants crossing border points and surveys. All FMP reports can be found [here](#).

The Secretariat of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement requested support in organizing consultations with IDP and host community members to inform the Panel's work and build on the Panel's workstreams. DTM, together with other aid organizations, collected information

from 35 individuals, including IDPs and people from host communities, residing across the country to learn more about their situation, needs and expectations for the future. The joint report can be found [here](#).

In 2020, DTM conducted tracking mechanism across 5 regions, including Juba Hoose, Shabelle Dhexe, Hiraan, Awdal and Gedo and in seven districts, including Afmadow, Balcad, Belet Weyne, Borama, Doolow, Jowhar and Kismayo. The exercise aimed at improving the understanding of the main needs of IDP populations and enhancing information management in fluid displacement situations, thereby enhancing evidence-based and timely prioritization in the delivery of humanitarian assistance in riverine areas along the Juba and Shabelle Rivers in Somalia. The resulting report was published in 2021: [Multi-Sectorial Location Assessment \(MSLA\)](#).



Photo: Claudia Rosel/IOM

For more detailed information on IOM Somalia 2021 activities, please download our bi-monthly updates:

[IOM Somalia External Update - January & February 2021](#)

[IOM Somalia External Update - March & April 2021](#)

[IOM Somalia External Update - May & June 2021](#)

[IOM Somalia External Update - July & August 2021](#)

[IOM Somalia External Update - September & October 2021](#)

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## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS





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