



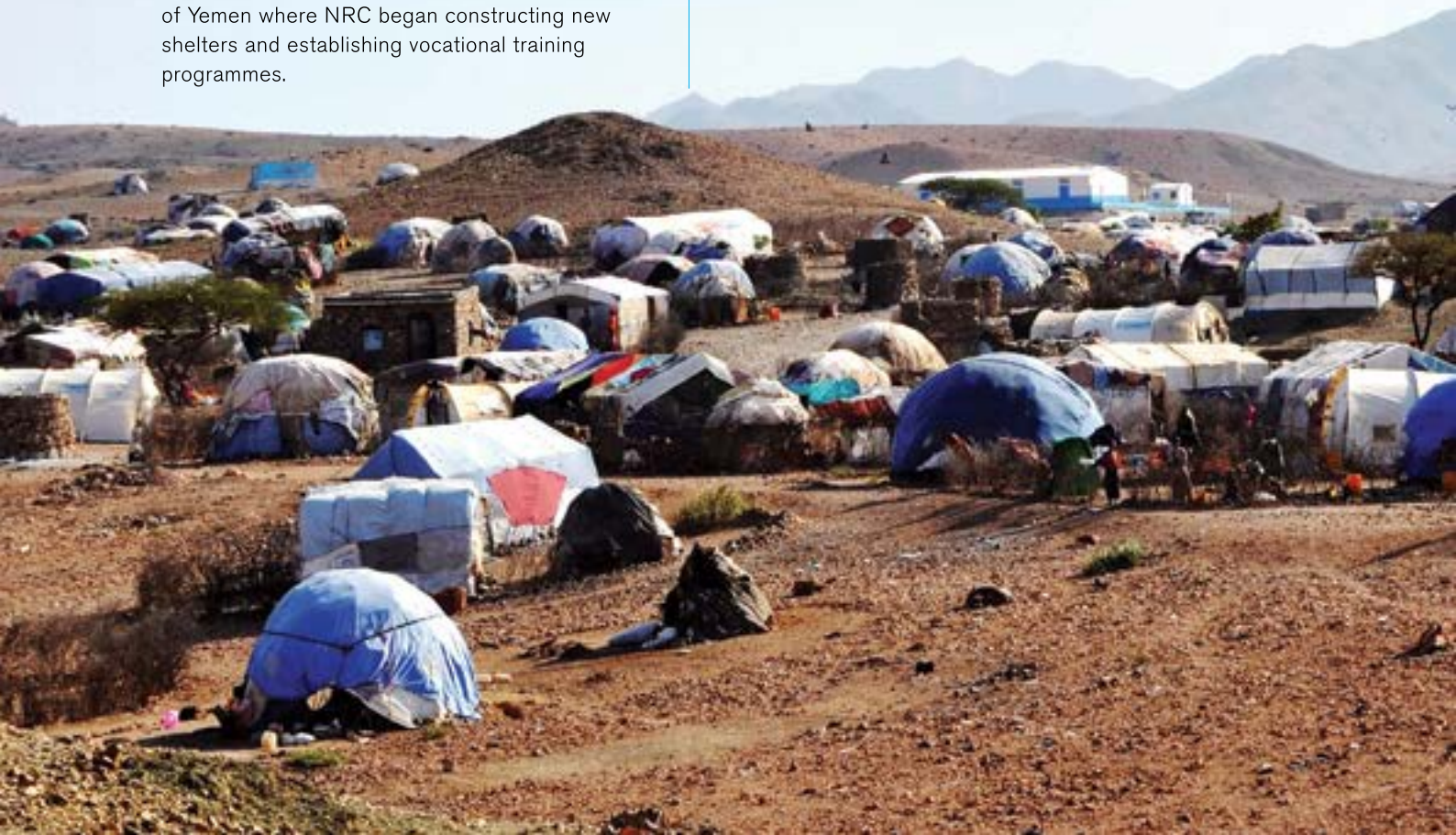
NORWEGIAN  
REFUGEE COUNCIL

# HORN OF AFRICA AND YEMEN

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

## 2013 AT A GLANCE

- More than one million people living in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Yemen received assistance from NRC in 2013. Despite persistent challenges within the operational context, there was an increase in the level of support to beneficiaries compared to 2012.
- Displacement remained a major concern as people continued to leave their homes to seek safer environments to live in, or refrained from returning due to ongoing protracted conflicts in their home areas and countries.
- NRC was the first Norwegian organisation to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the African Union. This is expected to help enhance access to complex situations in African countries where the AU has influence.
- In Djibouti, NRC began to respond to shelter and water, sanitation and hygiene needs in Ali Addeh refugee camp starting in April 2013.
- In Eritrea, NRC began operations providing critical support to the education in Anseba, Central, Gash Barka, Northern, Southern and Southern Red Sea zones.
- A new field office was opened in Harradh, north of Yemen where NRC began constructing new shelters and establishing vocational training programmes.
- A field office was opened in Gambella region of Ethiopia to support construction of family latrines and provision of transitional shelters to South Sudanese refugees.
- NRC continued to advocate for safe, dignified and voluntary returns for Somali refugees living in Kenya and was actively involved in discussions with the governments of Kenya and Somalia together with UNHCR on the issues of durable solutions.
- NRC expanded its humanitarian response in Somalia into Baidoa, Dhobley and Dollow in South Central, in response to the growing IDP needs and in preparation for possible refugee returns.
- NRC stepped up its cash programmes supporting peoples' livelihood in the region and advocated for strengthening money transfer capacities.
- The regional strategy for 2013 to 2015 was revised in line with the organisational direction aimed at delivering quality and targeted humanitarian services to displaced and vulnerable.



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Front cover and inside pages: Ali Addeh refugee camp in Djibouti hosts 16,778 refugees and 2,774 asylum seekers mostly from Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia. (Photo: NRC/Christian Jepsen)

Back cover photo: Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya (Photo: Alfredo Durante)

Back cover inside page: Photos of beneficiaries living in the Horn of Africa and Yemen. (Photos: Christian Jepsen, Even Tomte, Nashon Tado, Nuguse Tsehaye, Rocco Nuri)

# FOREWORD

BY THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

*Dear friends,*

It gives me great pleasure to share with you the 2013 Annual Report for Horn of Africa and Yemen. NRC is privileged to be among the highly respected organisations assisting the most vulnerable people. This is for no reason other than commitment to our mission to provide assistance, protection and durable solutions to refugees and internally displaced persons.

The regional programme has expanded immensely over the past 7 years, from offices only in Somalia and a budget of less than USD 2 million in 2006 to conducting large-scale operations in 6 countries, with 25 field offices and more than 2,000 national and incentive staff and a funding base of USD 66 million.

In 2013 the regional programme began new operations in Djibouti to respond to the growing refugee situation. A light foot-print programme was also established in Eritrea in collaboration with the Eritrean government. As is the practice for all programme start-ups NRC utilises its experienced staff within the region to establish and maintain these new operations.

The humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa and Yemen region continues to be dictated by conflict, drought and food insecurity. This has to date resulted in nearly 1 million Somali refugees living in Ethiopia, Yemen, Kenya, Djibouti, Eritrea, Tanzania and Uganda and over 1.1 million IDPs in Somalia.

Yemen has 545,000 people who are internally displaced mainly due to conflict, and in Tigray region of Ethiopia there are more than 71,000 Eritrean refugees. Refugees from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and many other African countries affected by conflict have found refuge in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti and safer locations elsewhere.

The insecurity in the region and particularly in Somalia and Yemen has been a main cause for concern. NRC teams working in the field continue to face hostile environments, often threatening their personal safety and security. Fresh and large-scale conflict erupted in South Sudan in December 2013, resulting in deaths, destruction of property and displacement of people from their homes.

As Africa's youngest nation, South Sudan will now join the Horn of Africa Programme starting in 2014, and NRC will be taking up a unique challenge of steering humanitarian programmes in a complex environment with a long history of displacement, yet showing high potential for reconstruction. The regional programme continues to make efforts to ensure that security is top on the agenda and adequate measures are taken to enhance safety during humanitarian interventions.

Jan Egeland joined NRC as the new Secretary General, effectively taking charge of the organisation's global operations and programmes across countries and continents in



Photo: NRC/Christian Jepsen

2013. In a video conference held with the staff during the regional strategy workshop, Jan emphasised the need to remain closer to refugees by prioritising access, risk management and durable solutions.

The organisation made significant progress in building strategic partnerships with the Africa Union (AU) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to effectively respond to the humanitarian challenges that the



*Supporting the nationwide education campaign for children and youth in Somalia: NRC Regional Director Hassan Khaire and Secretary General Jan Egeland participated in classroom sessions at 20th December School in Mogadishu, Somalia.*

region continues to face. We hope that the signed Memorandum of Understanding with AU on 19th February 2013 will help to provide more access to complex humanitarian situations in the region where the AU has direct or secondary access.

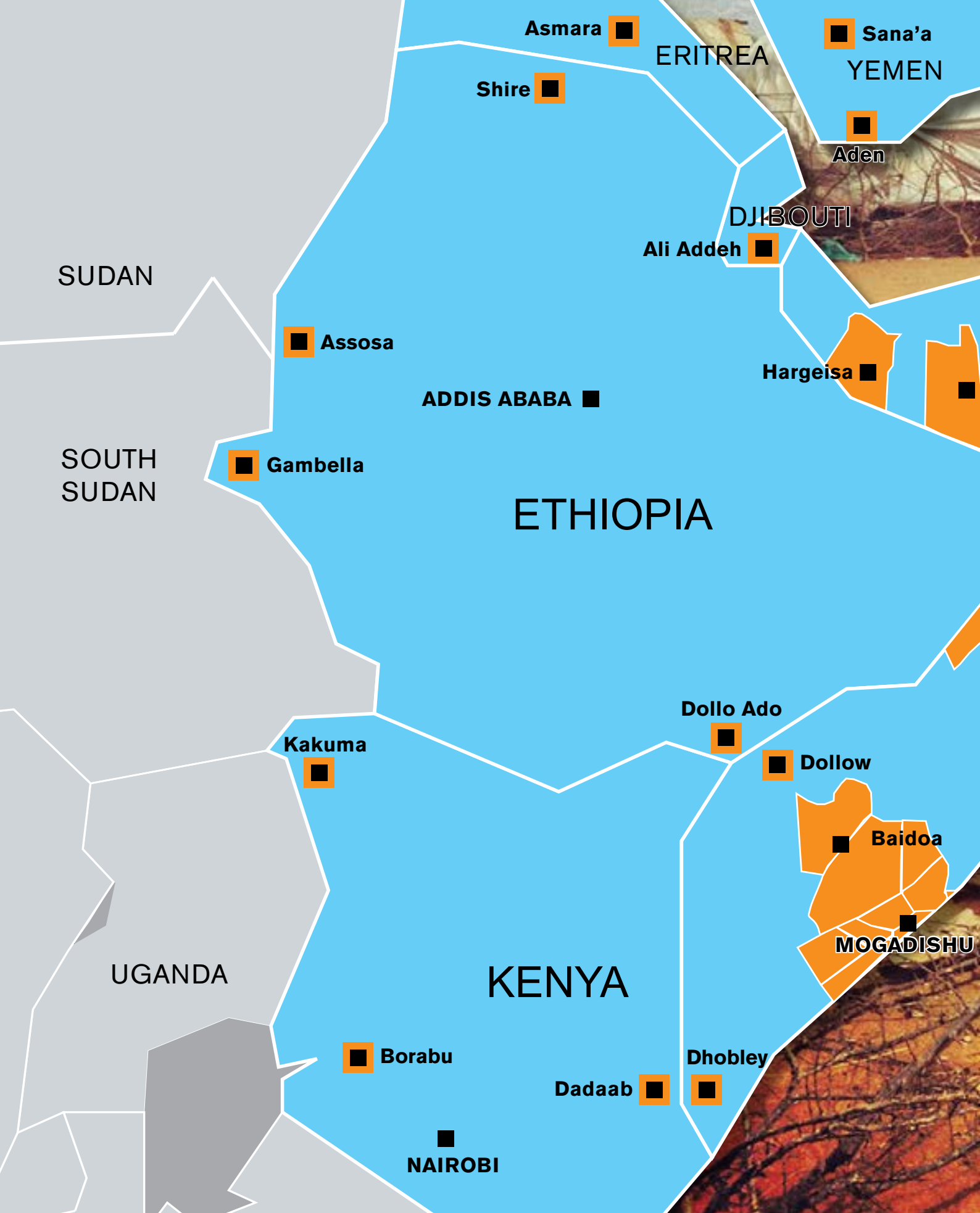
In 2013, several country programmes have developed consortia with international and local organisations to join hands and collaborate to assist

the needy. These partnerships provide excellent opportunities to complement and supplement the skills and experiences of various organisations as well as opportunity to learn from each other.

These are merely highlights, please take time to read through the whole report to get insights into the deeper issues and also have a look at our website, [www.nrc.no](http://www.nrc.no), for additional information. The work of NRC would not be possible without

the support of our staff, programme partners and donors. Therefore, I thank you all and hope we will continue to move forward together and support one another as we provide assistance to the most vulnerable people.

**Hassan Khaire**  
Regional Director  
NRC Horn of Africa and Yemen



Asmara

Sana'a

ERITREA

YEMEN

Shire

Aden

DJIBOUTI

Ali Addeh

SUDAN

Assosa

Hargeisa

ADDIS ABABA

SOUTH SUDAN

Gambella

ETHIOPIA

Dollo Ado

Kakuma

Dollow

Baidoa

UGANDA

KENYA

MOGADISHU

Borabu

Dhobley

Dadaab

NAIROBI



## **NRC HORN OF AFRICA AND YEMEN**

- Field operations 2013
- 1,500 incentive staff
- 550 employees
- 25 field offices

# REGIONAL STRATEGY 2013 - 2015

**The regional programme's 3-year strategy outlines a progressive plan to enhance protection and promote the rights of displaced people in humanitarian need by improving living conditions and seeking durable solutions. It builds on experiences and lessons from NRC's sixty-seven years of global humanitarian practice and ten years in the Horn of Africa. The strategy sets priorities and guides implementation of humanitarian activities in line with NRC Core Competencies, leading towards quality service delivery, meaningful and long-term solutions to human displacement and focus on accountability.**

The five countries of the Horn of Africa and Yemen region, including Eritrea host more than 2 million internally displaced persons and more than 1.2 million refugees. The main factors contributing to displacement include political or resource-based conflict, harsh climatic conditions and environmental crises such as droughts. These often result into food scarcity, contribute to insecurity and create unfavourable circumstances forcing communities to abandon their homes to seek refuge in alternative settlements.

Guided by the 2013-2015 strategy, NRC aims to reach more people affected by displacement than in previous years, by providing assistance through its core programming and strengthening protection, advocacy, gender and environmental conservation.

NRC continues to incorporate more participatory and community-based approaches involving improved assessment methods, informed beneficiary selection, implementation of result-driven programme strategies and community-driven reconstruction programmes.

## Cross-border operations

The regional programme is strengthening its information systems that collect and present information within humanitarian networks in order to maintain updated and realistic appraisals of cross-border operations. This process also includes providing support to Help Desks established on both sides of the Kenya-Somalia border. NRC opened a field office in Dhobley, Somalia as part of efforts to strengthen cross-border activities and to be prepared to assist returnees.

Due to the quick-changing nature of the political and conflict context in the region, NRC will maintain the capacity to scale up and respond in a timely manner to emergency situations and needs of affected populations. Further, NRC will inform programming for durable solutions based on its understanding of the regional context as well as specific challenges.

Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado

*NRC focuses on quality service delivery, accountability and long-term solutions to human displacement.*







## Complaints systems strengthened

Apart from ongoing accountability initiatives across all programmes in the region, the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit supported the adoption of standardised Complaints, Response and Feedback Mechanism (CRFM) into programmes in Somaliland,

Shire in Ethiopia, Dadaab in Kenya and Yemen. This process involved developing and rolling out a regional guidance document and tools to support implementation of CRFM in addition to documenting useful operational appraisals on implementation.

## NRC Worldwide

- NRC was established in 1946 to assist refugees in Europe in the aftermath of the Second World War, which lasted from 1939 to 1945
- Today, NRC provides global humanitarian assistance, protection and durable solutions to refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees and host communities
- NRC has more than 4,000 employees in 23 countries worldwide and is Norway's largest independent international non-governmental organisation
- The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), established in 1998 by NRC, is the leading international body monitoring internal displacement worldwide
- The Norwegian Capacity to International Operations (NORCAP), operated by NRC is the world's most frequently used emergency standby roster by the UN.

## DURABLE SOLUTIONS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

**Somalia remained one of the world's most challenging environments to deliver humanitarian assistance in 2013. The complex dynamics of conflict and clan related insecurity continued to drive displacement, disrupt livelihoods and create emergency needs. Despite some improvements in the overall security situation, armed conflict fuelled by militias and unidentified groupings looking for means to control strategic locations and available resources remained a constant threat to humanitarian work.**



*Children living in South Central Somalia are most vulnerable to emergency situations*



Photo: NRC/Mutuku Muema

A campaign which aims to enable 1 million children and youth in Somalia to exercise their right to education was initiated by the Somalia Ministry of Education in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund, NRC and other humanitarian partners. The campaign entitled 'Education is Light, Go-To-School' covers Puntland, Somaliland and South Central Somalia, and aims to build resilience among Somalia's children and youth to counter the shocks caused by drought and other emergencies by equipping the learners with vital knowledge. The programme also aims to recruit and train 2,000 teachers and impact positively on the learning outcomes. Somalia has one of the world's lowest enrolment rates for primary school aged children whereby only 42 % of children are in school.

Since 2004, NRC has expanded its programme from a small operation in Somaliland to implementing large projects across Somalia. NRC has 9 offices in Somalia with expansion aimed at getting closer to displaced and vulnerable populations. NRC has transformed to maintain its relevance, focusing on new operational approaches and access strategies, from humanitarian to early recovery, cross-border programming and working through consortium partnerships.

A total of 420,000 beneficiaries were assisted in Somalia in 2013 through the efforts of 268 national and international staff and with a budget of USD 33.64 million.

Photo: NRC/Badar Abdulkadir



*Launching solar-powered water pumping innovation.*



*6,800 learners completed the Alternative Basic Education programme in 2013.*

## South Central Somalia

As part of NRC's ambition to be as close to beneficiaries as possible, new field offices were established in Dhobley located in Juba Hoose region near Kenya-Somalia border, Dollow in Gedo Region near Ethiopia-Somalia border and Baidoa, Bay region. Shelter initiatives provided 6,586 IDP households with appropriate transitional shelters in Dollow, Mogadishu and Baidoa. NRC engaged in land tenure advocacy succeeding in securing land for more than 3,352 families in the targeted locations. In Mogadishu, the failed relocation of IDPs from the town's centre to alternative locations continued to bar vulnerable populations from securing durable solutions. NRC will continue to advocate for land tenure rights for IDPs in 2014.

NRC continued to maintain its capacity to respond to cyclical shocks in the country. 14,012 emergency assistance package kits were provided to flood-affected populations and other emergencies in targeted areas including Mogadishu, Middle Shabelle, Gedo and Baidoa. NRC provided transport and return packages (shelter rehabilitation, livelihood support and non-food items) to 100 households wishing to return from Mogadishu to their places of origin in Baidoa.

NRC supported various education programmes in South Central whereby 6,800 Alternative Basic Education learners passed their final exams and progressed to the next academic level. In conjunction with the Directorate of Education and community committees, 12 schools in Baidoa, Dollow and Mogadishu were identified for

school construction support, which benefitted a total of 3,330 school children.

Sixty youth received vocational and life skills training under the Youth Education Programme in Mogadishu. NRC provided technical training on classroom management to 300 teachers and supported them with monthly incentives. In an innovative approach to building local capacities, NRC supported the recruitment and secondment of 10 highly qualified technical advisors from the Somali Diaspora to the Directorate of Education to support the development of educational policies and strategies.

NRC replaced mechanised water distribution systems with solar-powered systems in South Central Somalia operating 4 boreholes in Baidoa and Mogadishu (Zona-K). Each of the new installations has the capacity to pump at least 90,000 litres of water a day. The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programme increased access to safe water to 31,643 IDPs and at the same time reduced walking distances to water collection points significantly reducing the burden on 71% of women. The cost of water to the IDPs reduced from 3,000 Somali Shillings per 20 Litres to about 300 Somali Shillings. This was achieved thanks to reduction of operational and maintenance costs by replacing diesel-powered submersible pumps with those that operate using solar energy.

Sanitation and hygiene promotion activities reached 45,729 IDPs in Baidoa and Rajo in Mogadishu



*A beneficiary of NRC business skill training.*

Photo: NRC/Badar Abdiheadir

through construction of 740 communal latrines and soap distribution. Hygiene promotion campaigns were organised during World Water Day on 22nd of March and Global Hand Washing Day on 15th of October. NRC piloted 400 household water treatment kits to Boondheere and Xamar Jajab IDPs recording positive results of improvement in water quality for 83% of the targeted beneficiaries. 12,500 IDPs in Banadir Region (Xamar, Jajab, Boondheere and Waberi districts) benefitted from chlorination exercise conducted on 50 shallow wells.

NRC constructed 99 child-friendly latrines equipped with hand washing facilities benefitting 16,018 learners in 20 schools. Rehabilitation of 8 water sources through construction of water reservoirs and distribution of 10,000 bars of soap was conducted as part of hygiene promotion. To enhance sustainability, NRC supported the formation of school hygiene clubs with hygiene focal points.

NRC supported livelihoods building and restoration in South Central by providing agricultural inputs to 1,902 households (1,502 in Lower Shabelle and 400 in Baidoa). 249 households in Matabaan in Hiran and Baidoa benefitted from a restocking programme, each household receiving 10 goats or sheep. As part of this programme, 40 households in Baidoa were involved in poultry rearing projects and 250 female headed households in Baidoa and 500 households in Mogadishu acquired business skills and agricultural inputs. 1,550 households in Baidoa benefitted from cash transfer programmes. Working with a network of 25 local partners NRC was able to monitor population movements, displacement and protection issues.

## Puntland

NRC assisted more than 49,000 people in Puntland through shelter, livelihood support, water, sanitation, hygiene and emergency response to a tropical storm. Shelter projects covered Bossaso, Garowe and Galkayo and involved construction of permanent shelters for 283 households in Halaboqad, Galkayo. In addition, 1,797 households in Bari-Bossaso, Jawle, Garowe, Agaran, Galkayo, Margaga and Beledweyne received shelter made from corrugated galvanised iron sheets. Land had been allocated to households by the government of Puntland and through temporary agreement between the local municipality and land owners.

With support from Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NRC implemented an information, counselling and capacity building project focusing on Housing, Land and Property issues in Puntland. The overall strategy applied in 2013 was to increase awareness on rights related to housing, land and property, build the capacity of key stakeholders involved in land issues, such as government officials, landowners, IDP committee members and elders, as well as increase NRC's expertise on HLP in the region. Through funding from the Common Humanitarian Fund, NRC conducted a return pilot assisting voluntary returnees from Galkayo to urban areas of Mogadishu.

More than 1,200 households living in camps for internally displaced persons across Puntland were able to access new latrines built to promote hygiene and sanitation around the camps. Other activities aimed at provision of clean water benefitted 40 households in Garowe. NRC distributed more than 4,000 sanitation tools and conducted hygiene promotion trainings in Galkayo IDP settlements as well as radio broadcasts sensitising the public in Bossaso on proper hygiene and sanitation standards.

1,400 households received cash for livelihood support in Bossaso and Garowe. 850 of this group received small-scale business start-up and management training, and 550 received farming support and vocational training certified by the Ministry of Education. An additional 1,200 households received fuel efficient stoves. Beneficiaries were also equipped with environmental awareness and hygiene skills.



Photo: NRC/Badar Abdulkadir

*More than 380,000 people received Water, Sanitation and Hygiene assistance from NRC. In 2014, NRC will continue to strengthen its WASH core competency and make clean water more accessible to IDPs.*

A tropical storm made landfall on the coastal areas of Puntland on 10 December causing widespread damage, and resulting in the Puntland administration to declare a state of emergency. In coordination with partners, NRC mounted an emergency response for 2,525 households, who were supported with shelter and non-food item kits containing timber, plastic sheeting, ropes and solar lamps. NRC also erected 20 solar street lighting poles were erected in Bossaso.

## Somaliland

NRC completed construction of permanent shelters for 75 households in Burao and transitional shelters for additional 1,860 households. Construction of classrooms was implemented in partnership with the European Commission and Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Hygiene trainings were conducted to improve awareness and capacity of local populations to maintain proper sanitation within their surroundings. A total of 668 latrines were constructed, 1,916 water tanks installed and put into use and 832 sanitation kits

provided to beneficiaries. With support from Swedish International Development Agency, NRC established an ICLA team in Somaliland focusing on Housing Land and Property issues and stepped up monitoring of returns while working closely with other field offices.

## The way forward

Somalia is undergoing a period of political and social transition and recent security and political developments present new opportunities for deeper and broader international engagement in the country to support steps towards a sustainable future. Following the signature of the Tripartite Agreement between the Governments of Kenya and Somalia and the UNHCR, in November 2013, it is expected that return dialogue will continue to dominate the discourse on South Central Somalia as UNHCR and humanitarian partners prepare for increased cross-border movements. NRC is strategically positioned on key return routes and in return locations in Somalia to support returnees with assistance to achieve durable solutions. Raising awareness of Housing, Land and Property issues will be key in securing sustainable futures.

## ASSISTING REFUGEES DISPLACED BY CONFLICT

**Ethiopia borders countries that are facing significant political, social and environmental challenges leading to a substantial increase in the number of refugees in the country. At the end of 2013, Ethiopia hosted over 427,000 refugees, the overwhelming majority of who are Somalis, Eritreans, South Sudanese and Sudanese. Arrival figures from Eritrea remained high, and fighting that broke out in South Sudan on 15 December resulted in a sharp rise in arrivals in Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz regions. NRC assisted a total of 81,950 women, men and children across Ethiopia in 2013. Out of these 75,510 received shelter assistance, 4,833 benefited from education programmes and 1,607 received water provision, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion services.**

### Dollo Ado

Located at the basin of River Ganelle in the south east of Ethiopia's Liben Region, the Dollo Ado refugee complex consists of 42,099 refugee households sheltered within five camps (Buramino, Hiloweyn, Kobe, Melkadida and Bokolmanyu). NRC established presence in Ethiopia in 2011 to respond to needs of Somali refugees in Dollo Ado. The Dollo Ado programme provides shelter and education through vocational training and alternative basic education.



Photo: NRC/Washon Tado



Photo: NRC/Samia Hussein Mohamed



*NRC provides shelter and supports resilience and livelihood initiatives among refugees in Dollo Ado.*



Photo: NRC/Washon Tado

NRC's enhanced emergency education response reaches beneficiaries through equitable, quality and accessible education and improved teaching and school management capacity. With the Youth Education Pack (YEP) NRC assisted 600 beneficiaries in Kobe and Hiloweyn camps. Under the shelter component, NRC assisted more than 50,000 beneficiaries by providing emergency shelter. Over the years NRC has built more than 10,000 emergency shelters, about 8,000 transitional shelters and several communal infrastructures including schools, markets, slaughter houses and local administration offices.

## **Tigray Region**

The NRC programme in Shire improved the quality of life of Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers through provision of durable solutions and an opportunity to live a dignified life.



Photo: NRC/Nuguse Tsehayye

*The Youth Education Pack equips youth with practical skills that can positively transform their lives and their communities.*

Programmatic interventions included facilitating access to education for youth, providing child protection support, constructing permanent shelters and hygiene and sanitation facilities in the three camps of Adi Harush, Mai-Aini and newly opened Hitsatse. This support further built the beneficiaries' capacity to be confident, skilled and independent in their lives.

In 2013, learners in Adi Harush and Mai-Aini acquired useful skills in construction, metallurgy, electrics and electronics, garment making, food preparation and furniture making with 121 out of the total of 480 learners being female. NRC also constructed 450 permanent shelters, 200 latrines and 200 bathing spaces in Hitsatse, in addition to shelters for unaccompanied children.



## Benishangul-Gumuz Region

Refugees continued to cross the border into Ethiopia as a result of the worsening conflict situation in Blue Nile and Upper Nile states of Sudan and South Sudan. Between July and September, over 2,000 new arrivals had been relocated to the new site of Ashura. NRC played key role in the establishment of Ashura transit site located 4 Kilometres from Sherkole. This site will become the 4th refugee camp in the Assosa area. Based on a request from the Administration of Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) and UNHCR, NRC committed to build 350 shelters at the new camp once the camp is officially declared as a refugee camp.

A total of 750 refugees and 150 members of the host community received training in small-scale farming and received agricultural tools and seeds as part of the start-up kits.

## Gambella Region

NRC established operations in Gambella focusing on construction of family latrines and provision of transitional shelters with support from the Assosa field office in Benishangul-Gumuz Region, response to the unprecedented influx of refugees from South Sudan into Gambella's Okugo, Raad and Pugnido camps.

## The way forward

NRC's strategy in Ethiopia will focus on reaching more beneficiaries in need of humanitarian assistance. NRC will further diversify and reinforce the programme approach by integrating new core competencies such as livelihood activities. In Dollo Ado, NRC plans to expand and incorporate water, sanitation and hygiene and food security programming, supporting both refugees and host communities



Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado

## PROMOTING EQUALITY IN EDUCATION

**Silas Gebresilassie** teaches metalwork at NRC's Youth Education Pack centre in Adi Harush, Ethiopia. She feels proud when she sees her former students making a difference within their communities by putting the skills that they have acquired into use.

Silas, who holds a degree in Manufacturing Technology from Adama University, believes the notion that girls cannot excel in traditionally male-dominated fields of expertise like metal handling, electrical installation and construction is outdated and needs to change. "Given the opportunity and support, girls can become better in male-dominated fields due to their patience, multi-tasking abilities, sensitivity to cleanliness, safety awareness and sharp intuition", she notes.

She is raising awareness among young girls through dialogue sessions during course registration and conducting home visits to encourage girls to widen their specialisation options. Thanks to her efforts, girls are beginning to show interest in pursuing non-traditional courses. In 2013, 6 girls enrolled in electrical and electronics classes and successfully completed the courses. She hopes to continue inspiring more girls to break away from the norm and discover their talents while challenging social beliefs that serve to reinforce the stereotypes that women and girls are weak and incapable.

## PLANS FOR VOLUNTARY RETURNS

**For many years, Kenya has been host to the largest refugee community in the world, providing shelter, safety and new opportunities to survivors of armed violence in Somalia. While the steady stream of refugees into Kenya was triggered by the fall of the Mohamed Siad Barre regime in 1991, the famine of 2011 aggravated the humanitarian situation significantly, leading to displacement and deaths of thousands of people.**

In 2013, the insecurity in Somalia continued to pose serious hurdles to ongoing efforts to establish stability and reverse the dire humanitarian situation that had already pushed hundreds of thousands of Somali nationals into neighbouring countries in search of safety. The result had been a large population of refugees finding refuge in two of the most complex refugee camps in Africa, Dadaab and Kakuma. As of December 2013, there were more than 408,283 refugees in Dadaab and 122,556 refugees in Kakuma.

The future prospects for refugees in Kenya remained a main concern for NRC following appeals by the Kenyan government to repatriate more than half a million

Somali refugees, currently living in the Dadaab refugee complex, to safe areas of southern Somalia. A Tripartite Agreement was signed on 10 November 2013 and a working committee comprising of the Governments of Kenya and Somalia and UN agencies was established to discuss voluntary refugee repatriation.

### Dadaab, Garissa County

In partnership with World Food Programme, NRC took the lead in managing the General Food Distribution to refugees in the new Ifo 2 Camp in Dadaab. In June 2013, a food distribution point was established in Kambioos, which reduced walking distances to reach food distribution centres in Hagadera, benefitting women and children in particular. In response to water needs, NRC set up a hybrid wind and solar powered system in Dadaab to supply water to refugees and host communities in Hagadera Camp.

An Information, Communication and Technology project titled 'Access to Technology' helped empower learners to imagine and realise their full potential by connecting them to greater opportunities for education, employment and entrepreneurship. Through a partnership with Microsoft and Hewlett Packard, 32 computers were distributed to primary schools in 2013 to help teachers maintain student enrolment

*Eighteen-year-old Rukia from Somalia is learning computer skills at Ifo Secondary School, along with another 300 students. "I am excited to know more about the relationship between computer science and medicine", she told us.*

*Her dream is to be a medical doctor with expertise in IT so that "I can simply look into a screen and find out what's wrong with my patients."*



Photo: UNHCR/Rocco Nuri

Photo: NRC/Nashom Tado





*New arrivals in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya receive their first meal.*

and performance standards. Computer laboratories were set up in secondary schools, equipped with workstations to facilitate teaching of computer studies for more than 145 students enrolled in information technology classes.

### **Kakuma, Turkana County**

NRC took the lead in the provision of sanitation and hygiene promotion in Kakuma in August 2013. More than 126,400 people have benefited from Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and other activities implemented in the camp. NRC constructed a total of 3,173 family hold and communal latrines. This increased the family held latrine coverage from 55 to 59 per cent.

NRC constructed 24 classrooms under a shelter project aimed to decongest existing learning spaces to an average of 60 pupils per each designated space. NRC started General Food Distribution in April 2013 and provided food rations. Provided twice each month to an average of 52,852 beneficiaries.

Under the livelihood and environmental conservation programme, more than 1 million tree seedlings were distributed to refugees and the local Turkana community for planting. Firewood was distributed six times to the whole population at 10Kg per person per distribution while 5,000 energy saving stoves were produced and distributed mainly to new arrivals.



Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado

Refugees participate in production of mud bricks for construction of houses in Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Youth and the general population were encouraged to grow vegetables for their nutrition and livelihoods. 10 shallow wells were established from which youth draw water to irrigate their group vegetable gardens.

### **Borabu, Nyamira County**

Partnering with the Ministry of State for Special Programmes, NRC focused its humanitarian intervention on shelter construction and peace building initiatives. 250 people from the communities who had been displaced following the post-election skirmishes received permanent shelter. The communities of Kisii and Kipsigis engaged in dialogue, with NRC mediation, and made efforts to forge better relationships based on mutual cooperation, tolerance and peaceful coexistence.



Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado



*Controlled firewood distribution, ensures that refugees are provided with means to cook their food and environmental conservation is sustained.*

Photo: NRC/Washington Tado



Photo: NRC/Washington Tado

## Way forward

In 2014, NRC will focus on impact oriented programmes and integrated approaches that lead to the expanded attainment of durable solutions. In the face of increased refugee returns in 2014, NRC will continue to advocate for the voluntary, safe and dignified return of Somali refugees, and strengthen cross-border programme synergies with operations in South and Central Somalia. In this way, NRC will start up an Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance project in Dadaab to provide refugees with crucial information and counselling on the return process, security, available services, procedures, documentation and rights. Expansion will be a big focus of the Kenya programme in 2014, as NRC plans to increasingly target beneficiaries outside of camp settlements, with host community programming in Turkana and Garissa and urban programming. NRC will support World Food Programme in the exploration of alternative and complementary cash and voucher food access programming.

## RESPONSE TO INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

**With a population of 25 million, Yemen is faced with a number of challenges, grappling with large-scale poverty, violence and insecurity in the most marginalised areas. The situation is aggravated by the difficulty in accessing vulnerable and displaced people, as well as limited or dwindling funding and land ownership challenges. Yemen also has an internally displaced population of 545,000 people and insecurity continues to hinder returns to their villages of origin.**

In addition to internal challenges, thousands of migrants remained stranded in Yemen, especially across the northern and southern corridors with Harradh town recording the highest number at close to 25,000 irregular and mixed migrants. However, the influx of African migrants arriving in Yemen fell by 25% as of June 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. Between January and June 2013, 46,417 people made the perilous journey across the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden compared to 56,146 during the same time in 2012. Five migrants died or went missing in the Red Sea in 2013 as compared to 43 in 2012 and 131 in 2011.



Photo: NRC/Aden

Governments in the region intensified efforts to discourage irregular migration with Somaliland putting plans to stiffen penalties for human trafficking and Ethiopia introducing check-points in Jijiga, Dire Dawa and Dawelle to intercept migrants heading to Yemen. A six-month National Dialogue Conference was held in Sana'a, aiming to address grievances in the South and Sa'ada, lay the foundation for a new constitutional dispensation, develop a state-building strategy and tackle issues of transitional justice and human rights.

### Aden, Abyan and Lahj Governorates

Following return of almost all IDPs from Abyan to their homes, NRC began to scale up interventions to support the returnees to integrate. In 2013, NRC implemented activities in four core competencies; food security, shelter, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and Education.

Working with local partner Nahada Makers Organization, NRC established a Youth Education Pack (YEP) centre hosting 150 learners with a composition of 70% IDPs and 30% learners from host community.



Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado

The YEP intervention was highly appreciated by communities and local authorities as a relevant support mechanisms to involve youth in positive activities and income generation.

NRC also implemented cash assistance, livelihood and nutrition interventions. The programme benefitted 400 vulnerable households with unconditional cash and reached 1,700 households with conditional cash,

nutritional awareness sensitisation and livelihood support by way of livelihoods training and start-up input support. To contribute to the recovery of the local market and to empower the beneficiaries, the programme adopted a cash transfer programming approach. The food security programme included a resilience-building component providing community leaders with training on management of community projects and coordination of humanitarian aid.



*Children from Al Madab IDP settlement in Harradh, Yemen.*



Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado

Children fetching water from a borehole in Al Madab settlement in Harradh, Yemen.

NRC focused its shelter rehabilitation activities around Zinjibar District of Abyan and intervened in the 9 most affected villages, reaching a total of 1,609 households. While the rehabilitation activities targeted vulnerable urban households, the

transitional shelter project benefited the marginalised rural returnees. In total, 774 transitional shelter units were constructed in 2013. The shelter model introduced by NRC was developed and approved by the cluster and used as a standard unit for



Photo: UNHCR/Amira Al Sharif

## “THIS IS OUR LAND”

In July 2013, hostilities in Abyan began to subside and life slowly returned to normal in the Southern Yemeni province where fighting caused major displacement in 2011 and 2012. More than 100,000 displaced people returned to their homes after living in temporary shelters in neighbouring provinces.

Fifty-year-old Nimah Saleh Mohammed was one of the IDPs who returned to Al-Kawd in Abyan: “Together with my grand-children, we returned only because this is our land, our home. Otherwise, we wouldn’t have as there is no electricity or running water and we don’t have access to many services. Displaced in Aden, we were not comfortable so far away from home.”



transitional shelter across the country, after slight modifications. NRC also distributed 1,224 sanitation kits and conducted mass hygiene campaigns in Khanfar District.

## Hajja Governorate

According to the IDP Executive Unit, there were an estimated 119,652 IDPs in Hajjah Governorate by the end of 2013. Most of the IDPs had fled fighting between Al-Houthis and Salafists, hostilities and tribal clashes that affected the three Hajjah districts, namely Kushar, Mustaba and Washhah.

The initial plan to construct shelters in Al Mazraq IDP camp was changed following difficulty to access the camp around Hajja and Saada due to conflict. Working with local partners in Hajja, NRC started construction of transitional shelters for 1,276 IDPs living with host communities in Harradh. NRC secured access to land owned by local landlords following months of dialogue, and strengthened capacity of local NGO partners during the project implementation through on-site training, and ensured beneficiaries continued to be part of the construction process.

## Way forward

Funding has been secured for early recovery and resilience interventions that will reach 3,225 households directly with livelihood recovery and 300 people with capacity building in resilience strategies. Future focus will be to support the communities to become self-reliant through local food production and income improvement. The programme will continue to contribute to the recovery of local markets and the economy.

In 2014, NRC will focus on complementary interventions of shelter and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in both south and north Yemen. This is mainly driven by the fact that water scarcity is Yemen's most threatening problem. In addition to the construction of transitional shelters, rehabilitation of shelters and return shelter package assistance, NRC is intending to rehabilitate water networks, implement rainwater harvesting schemes, rehabilitate water wells and boreholes, support the introduction of the efficient drip irrigation technology and undertake water conservation awareness campaigns. Plans to establish two additional YEP centers in 2014 to accommodate 300 more learners have also been developed.



*3,225 households to benefit through livelihood recovery and resilience capacity building programme in 2014.*

Photo: NRC/Washon Taob

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO A HIDDEN CRISIS

**Djibouti's refugee crisis is one of Africa's 'silent' humanitarian situations. The country has limited resources and as more refugees cross the border to settle in Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl refugee camps, the capacity of the country to respond is stretched due to limited resources.**

In 2013, NRC set up a field office in Ali Sabieh, Djibouti and conducted a vulnerability profiling exercise to determine the humanitarian needs and consider practical approaches to providing sustainable solutions. The assessment showed that 90% of refugees rely on food aid, and lack alternative means of livelihood. Only 31% of the entire refugee population can read and write and 60% have access to latrines. Land is owned by the government and refugees are not able to obtain title deeds due to their status.

### Ali Addeh refugee camp

Ali Addeh refugee camp hosts 21,432 persons of which 16,778 (87%) are refugees and 2,774 (13%) are asylum seekers. Most refugees come from Somalia, fleeing the protracted conflict and recurring violence. The refugees live under harsh conditions characterised by poor shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene and lack of health facilities. Women and girls have also reported cases of sexual and gender based violence while in the camp.



*These refugees from Somalia had just spent their first night at Ali Addeh refugee camp in Djibouti when NRC visited their new home.*

Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado

## SUPPORTING LIVELIHOODS AND LOCAL CAPACITIES

**Eritrea is host to 4,861 refugees, the majority of whom (4,670) are from Somalia, with the rest consisting of Ethiopians, Sudanese and South Sudanese.**

Eritrea faces significant challenges in provision of equitable access to education for children and youth. Only 49.6% of school aged children (7-11 years old) are enrolled in elementary schools. Most affected are people living in rural and remote areas, such as nomadic populations who constitute 20 to 30% of the total population. The most pressing challenges are linked to weak infrastructure such as poor roads, lack of electricity and lack of proper housing.

NRC officially began its humanitarian operations in Eritrea in October 2013, providing humanitarian support in 6 zones, namely Anseba, Central, Gash Barka, Northern, Southern Red Sea and Southern. In order to support quality education, an ambitious project was launched in 2013 to install solar power systems in 6 rural schools identified for the installation.

With support from the European Commission, NRC assisted 10,659 people in Ali Addeh and 1,684 in Holl-Holl. NRC constructed 2 hybrid shelters under a pilot programme and 133 family latrines in Ali Addeh and 20 in Holl-Holl. 2,720 hygiene kits, 149 sanitation tools, 300 shelter kits and 600 non-food items were also distributed. NRC assisted 48 vulnerable families of the host community in Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl, strengthening harmony and coexistence between the refugees and the host community.

### Way forward

In 2014, NRC will provide more humanitarian assistance to Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl refugee camp as well as strengthen its strategic engagements with ONARS (National Coordination Office for Refugees and Affected Populations), UNHCR and other partners. In consultation with UNHCR, NRC will initiate discussions with the municipality and Ministry of Interior on the challenges facing refugees.

*12,343 refugees in Ali Addeh and Holl-Holl camps received Water, Sanitation and Hygiene assistance provided by NRC.*

*Photo: NRC/Hamse Abdirahman Yusuf*



*Photo: NRC/Melechizedek Mailie*

## *I sacrificed everything for my family's safety*

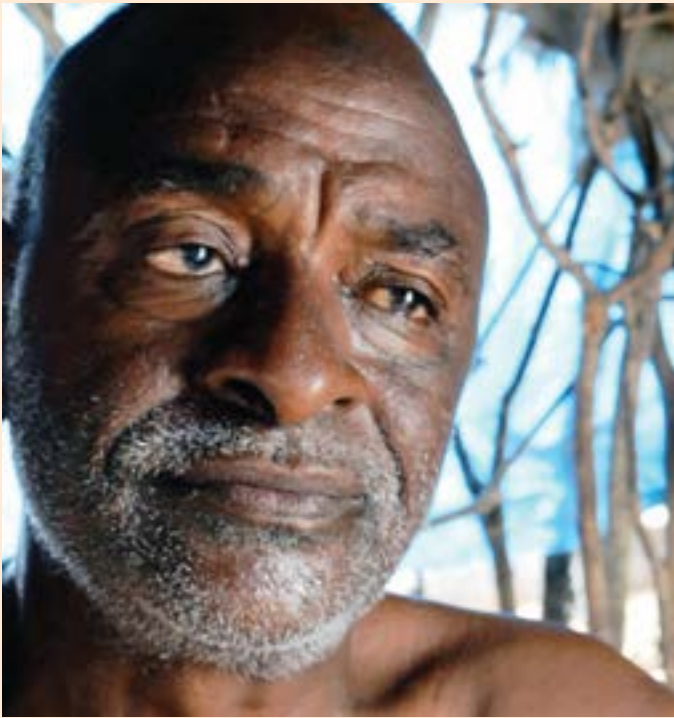


Photo: NRC/Washington Tado

**DJIBOUTI: Mohamed Awale Abdi**, a 65 year old man living with his wife and children in Ali Addeh refugee camp in Djibouti, barely escaped the explosion of violence in Mogadishu, Somalia, following the fall of the Siad Barre regime in the early nineties:

*"My crisis began in March 1992 as I was playing a game of table tennis at the front garden of my house in Mogadishu. Several armed gunmen stormed into the compound and started firing bullets at anyone in sight. I was shot twice in the abdomen and once in the thigh and fell down in a lot of pain, thinking that I was most likely going to die.*

*Later I lost consciousness and when I came about I remember seeing a dog standing next to me licking my wounds. I could not move, my whole body was paralysed. I could only hear sounds as some young boys found out that I was still alive and started calling for help. The boys were shouting "this man has been shot, he is bleeding to death" as they carried me from where I was lying down.*

*The good helpers put me in the shade under a tree and began nursing my wounds to stop the bleeding and prevent infection from spreading. They slaughtered a goat for me to eat in order to regain some energy and took some fat from the slaughtered animal and used to disinfect the wounds. Attempts to carry me inside any house within the vicinity of Maddiina area proved futile, as constant shelling and bombing of homes continued, so I spent most of the time under the trees reeling in pain and agony.*

*Attempting to escape the volatile situation, I was transported on a donkey to a place called Jalax, which is a remote area on the outskirts of Hamar town. From there I was taken to Bossaso in the North and to Burao where I spent a few weeks before heading for Hargeisa. Miraculously, instead of succumbing to my gross and severe injuries I was getting better and better. However, I believe some bullets are still lodged somewhere inside my body, although I recall from Mogadishu that people tried to remove them by cutting my flesh.*

*My biggest source of strength has been my wife Amina, who has stayed with me throughout my suffering, helping to protect our family from harm and seeking safer locations where we can go. This is how I ended up in Djibouti, by traveling from Hargeisa to Loya Addo at the border and onwards to Djibouti capital where we were transferred to Section 5 of Ali Addeh Refugee Camp by ONARS (National Office for Assistance to Refugees and Affected People)."*

In 2013, NRC established a field office in Ali Sabieh and began providing humanitarian assistance to refugees living in Ali Addeh Refugee Camp through site planning, shelter construction, water distribution and sanitation and hygiene promotion. 3,000 refugees received various forms of assistance including provision of non-food items, sanitary items, shelter kits, solar-powered lamp and family latrines.

## Refugees taking the lead in food production

**ETHIOPIA: Maalim Mustaf**, aged 43, was among the first refugees to arrive at Hiloweyn back in 2011 and currently lives in the camp with his wife and child. The Dollo Ado Refugee Camp hosted some 142,000 refugees by the end of 2011 and the number has since increased to 150,000 in 2013.

He is a member of Hiloweyn Farmers Association, a group of about 100 refugees and host community members who have started a farming project, growing vegetables, onions and tomatoes.

*“Having saved enough money to purchase a generator, we have adopted an irrigation system that channels water from a nearby river to the farm, ensuring that crops have adequate water from the planting to harvesting period”, says Mustaf.*

A harvest of onions generates a yield of about 25 to 30 bags, which the farmers prepare and package for transport to the local market at Nagele. From the income earned, Mustaf is able to feed his family, pay for his child's schooling and put aside a little savings for a rainy day. He encourages other people in Hiloweyn to join the project and improve their livelihood.

The main challenges encountered by the farmers are erratic climatic conditions, such as heavy rain, which hampers access to farms and causes humid



Photo: NRC/Mashon Tado

conditions unfavourable for onion storage. Coming to their rescue, NRC has been constructing culturally and environmentally appropriate shelters in Hiloweyn using bamboo and corrugated galvanised iron sheets. While the shelters provide privacy and protection for the refugees, they are also used to store the food harvests acquired from the farming activity. Meanwhile, Mustaf and his team are ready to begin the next cycle of farming by preparing the land for planting season.

NRC began its humanitarian work in Hiloweyn Refugee Camp located in Dollo Ado, Ethiopia in 2011 to respond to the emergency shelter needs of newly arrived Somali refugees and later began to provide youth education as expansion into other refugee camps progressed.

## “East or West, home is best”



Photo: NRC/John Saisi

**KENYA: Paul Nyatogo** was one of the survivors of Kenya's Post-Election Violence of 2007 and 2008, whose property was destroyed during the tribal and political confrontations that left more than one thousand people dead. *“There was widespread violence, houses were burnt down, people killed or maimed and women were raped”,* Paul recalls.

In January 2013, the Norwegian Refugee Council received a request from the Ministry of State for Special Programs to offer shelter support to 50 households of approximately 25 people.

# PEOPLE'S VOICES

These people had been affected during the Post Election Violence in Borabu District of Nyamira County and in immediate need of shelters. Paul was among the 50 vulnerable families who benefited from the NRC shelter assistance programme, funded by the Government of Kenya.

*"Initially we were skeptical about the new building technology introduced by NRC, but after the first shelter was completed we were surprised to find it strong and stable. By the time 50 shelters were completed everyone was smiling and showing anticipation towards owning their new homes. Working closely with the beneficiaries, NRC ensured that all the houses were completed in less than 3 months", he says.*

*"The unique characteristic of the NRC construction approach is that it includes training of artisans and local community members to enable them to carry out preparation of soil material, handling cement and apply construction techniques. I have fully participated in all the phases of the project. Because community members have began embracing the new brick construction technique, there will be a reduction in environment degradation, as there is no need to burn bricks inside a kiln", says Paul.*

The new house constructed by NRC has provided Paul and his family, together with 49 other households, with decent shelter protecting them from harsh weather conditions and ensuring that they can live in peace and dignity.

## *"My business has grown, my life has changed"*

**SOMALIA: Cosob Eash**, a 30 year old mother of two children, manages a retail business selling household items and groceries in Bossaso town. She was one of the trainees who acquired business and entrepreneurship skills offered by NRC under the Rapid Livelihood Building Project. The project aims at improving food security by providing small-scale business grants, business trainings and nutrition awareness.

*"When I look back to 1998 when I was fleeing with my family from war, starvation and drought in Qalafe, Ethiopia, I feel thankful for this opportunity and encourage other refugees to take interest in livelihood building programmes. From the time I first opened this shop, my life and that of my family has greatly changed due to my improved income. In one day I earn an average of 5,880 Somali Shillings (equivalent of 5.5 US Dollars). Thanks to the training, I have also learnt good customer relation skills and time management", she says.*



The Rapid Livelihood Building Project involves providing practical training where the learners are able to acquire skills that enable them to integrate within their communities and adopt ways that can earn them a living. Hundreds of refugees and IDPs have benefitted from this project, receiving training and equipment in order to start their own small-scale businesses. Others benefit from farming and irrigation assistance with support from Puntland Ministry of Agriculture.

Photo: NRC/Said Jibril

## “Shelter, health and livelihood opportunities”

**YEMEN:** In June 2013, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) and NRC's Yemen team visited Al Madab Settlement for Internally Displaced Persons in Harradh District of Hajja Governorate in Yemen. A discussion forum was held with the IDP community to understand the underlying issues affecting their displacement and what could be done to meet their most pressing needs and form the basis for NRC's future actions.

*“Our main concern is to have better shelter for our families, including more space for construction of sheds for our donkeys and goats. Most households are headed by women or the elderly and this adds to their vulnerability to harsh climatic conditions. Other critical concerns are lack of adequate access to health services and lack of opportunities to earn a living”,* said one of the members.

Due to lack of opportunities to become economically productive, most of the able-bodied men and women remain idle and spend their days sleeping or loitering around the villages. Except for a few IDPs who keep

goats that can be sold for income, or donkeys that can be hired for water trucking, most rely exclusively on hand-outs from well-wishers and food rations provided by World Food Programme.

There is serious concern about the deteriorating security situation in Sa'ada Governorate bordering Saudi Arabia, particularly in the Al Malaheedh area from where most of them originate. In October, armed conflict between Al Houthis and Salafists escalated resulting in more displacement and hindering access to affected families. An intentions survey conducted showed that most of them were unwilling to return to Sa'ada due to the volatile situation and loss of property. There is also concern about the issue of human smuggling and human trafficking that has been rampant in Harradh District.

NRC urges humanitarian partners to join efforts to strengthen capacity of local and national governments to help put a stop to the fighting in the north of Yemen and establish measures to resolve the problem of mixed migration.



Photo: NRC/Nashorn Tado

# NRC CORE COMPETENCIES

NRC's efforts to save lives, alleviate suffering and promote durable solutions are programmed around 5 Core Competencies: Education, Food Security, Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA), Shelter and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). All NRC efforts are guided by its vision "Rights respected, people protected" and remain grounded in the Humanitarian Principles of Humanity, Neutrality, Independence and Impartiality.

In 2014, NRC will better integrate its Core Competency programming and provide all beneficiaries with more comprehensive and multi-sectoral assistance and service packages. NRC will expand geographically where needs are identified and improve impact in existing areas of interventions.

## Education

The NRC education programme ensures that children and youth affected by displacement, including returnees, acquire education to fulfill their potential. Its main pillars focus on reducing barriers

to basic inclusive education, providing relevant quality inclusive basic education and enhancing livelihood opportunities. Through education programmes, NRC continues to work with government structures to build capacity and support government initiatives aimed at providing sustainable education.



Photo: NRC/Christian Jepsen





Photo: NRC/Hannah Aychiluhem

NRC's education programme focuses on integrated support mechanism for learners by using catch-up and alternative education approaches, expanding learning spaces and creating enabling learning environments through construction and rehabilitation. The programme promoted delivery of quality and relevant education through curriculum development, capacity building of teaching staff, as well as strengthening of community participation and ownership through capacity building and involvement of community education committees.

Youth make up a majority of the target population in the Horn of Africa and Yemen, and often fall between the cracks in humanitarian response. NRC's Youth Education Pack (YEP) offers young people training in literacy, numeracy and vocational skills, and small-scale business support to enable them to become self-reliant.

## Food Security

The regional Horn of Africa and Yemen Food Security Programme has scaled-up and diversified its Food Security programming. The response strategy aims to respond to primary needs, livelihoods recovery and resilience needs of vulnerable populations, through the building of community asset bases, and the capacity of communities to improve resilience and emergency preparedness.

In 2013, the programme embraced technology by using electronic cash transfer via mobile phones in Somalia and by using a "bar code" system, for improved recipient identification, when transferring cash to beneficiaries in Yemen.

NRC will continue to scale-up its Food Security programme in 2014, to include starting new operations within the Horn of Africa such as in Ethiopia and Djibouti.

Food Security will play an instrumental role in NRC's resilience programming as livelihood recovery is at the core of the resilience strategy and a priority for the wider humanitarian community. NRC's resilience approach will enhance delivery of integrated programming and allow maximisation of impact, translating into better assistance to beneficiaries. Other areas of focus include market understanding, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptability.

## Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA)

NRC started up its fifth core competency, ICLA, in Somalia in 2013. The main objective for ICLA is the attainment of a durable solution whether voluntary return, resettlement, or local integration and that people affected by displacement in Somalia are able to claim and exercise their rights.

ICLA is a new program for NRC in Somalia and there are very few agencies focusing on HLP in the region. This is despite the recognition that land issues are among the root causes of conflict within Somalia and needs to be addressed in order to attain durable

solutions. NRC is therefore taking a lead in addressing land and property issues with the aim of promoting a common approach among stakeholders. This in turn will benefit both the host and displaced communities in Somalia, whether they would like to integrate locally or return to their place of origin.

NRC is scaling up its ICLA program in 2014, both in terms of geographical coverage and activities. In addition to all areas of Somalia, ICLA is likely to start-up in other NRC programme countries in the Horn of Africa, including Dadaab, Kenya. ICLA will play an instrumental role in NRC's cross-border programmes, especially in terms of information sharing and return assistance and monitoring. NRC will continue to focus on awareness, but will also initiate legal assistance on HLP, including collaborative dispute resolution. Moreover, in 2014 ICLA will work closely with NRC Shelter to promote security of tenure through tenure documentation and advocacy. Research on women's access to HLP rights, causes of land disputes and general mapping of HLP issues will also be important to expand our understanding of these complex issues. The acquired knowledge will feed into the context specific HLP trainings to be conducted in 2014, which will also be provided to Shelter and Protection Cluster members.



Photo: NRC/Badar Abulkadir



Photo: NRC/Bantar Abulkadir

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

WASH activities in the Horn of Africa and Yemen are guided by strategy of increased water access, in quantity and quality. Interventions also focus on sanitation and hygiene promotion activities, improved public health status and living conditions. To ensure sustainability of WASH inputs, NRC also invests in capacity building of the beneficiaries in operation and maintenance of water systems.

The focus for 2013 ensured that persons affected by displacement were being protected from health risks associated with unsafe and inadequate water in addition to unsafe disposal of human and solid waste. Secondly, WASH activities strived to maintain a sufficient supply of adequate and safe domestic water, provide appropriate sanitation facilities and services in order to promote safe hygiene practices.

Looking forward, NRC will invest in strengthening its capacity to respond to emergencies related to sanitation and hygiene in the region while positioning the programme to remain at the forefront in policy formulation, advocacy and project implementation, including better coordination with partners and other actors. NRC will review its approach to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene to determine its relevance in the changing environment and emerging scenarios, particularly relating to the anticipated returns of Somali refugees, as well as potential new IDPs and refugees as a result of conflict in South Sudan.

## Shelter

Building on earlier successes and growth, the region adopted a shelter strategy to guide its future programme expansion and directions. It hinges on timely and appropriate emergency response, continued assistance to IDPs and refugees in stabilised settlements and camps, durable shelter solutions for returnees and those integrating, including the integration of Housing, Land and Property issues and maximisation of livelihoods opportunities inherent in shelter programmes.

In a measure aimed at sharing information in the mission and improving cross-sectoral learning, NRC has developed shelter implementation guidelines, and profiling of the various shelter typologies used by NRC in the region.

As before, NRC continues its leadership on shelter development matters for refugees and IDPs in the region, often supporting cluster coordination and authorities in developing and testing shelter solutions for refugees and IDPs.

NRC will continue implementation of the shelter strategy to guide the development of all shelter projects. Replication and scaling up of cash and voucher transfer-based programming in shelter delivery, even if only in limited aspects of the shelter implementation process will be a focus in 2014, building on the lessons learnt from the pilot in Yemen.



Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado



*The Resilience Programming Model (RPM) aims to enhance the capacities of vulnerable communities in the Horn of Africa and Yemen to resist and recover from cyclical shocks and stresses of conflict, environmental and economic crises*

Photo: NRC/Nashon Tado

## FOCUS ON RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING

**Learning from communities in the Horn of Africa and Yemen as well as past experiences, NRC is building programmes that support livelihoods and ensure that vulnerable populations are able to protect themselves from extreme conditions that often result into deaths and displacement.**

Over the years, the Horn of Africa has borne the brunt of severe drought, food crisis and conflict, civil unrest, clan and tribal war, cattle rustling and other forms of confrontation over resources. Limited access to affected areas has resulted in insufficient or lack of humanitarian assistance, which compounds the vulnerability of affected populations. In some of these scenarios, affected households find themselves confronted by more than one crisis at a time and are forced to consider drastic measures in order to survive.

A new model known as 'Reaching Resilience' aims at building capacity of vulnerable groups in Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptability and Poverty Reduction leading to an improvement of their resilience. The model was developed in 2013 by the European Commission, Wageningen University, CARE Netherlands and the French agency known as Emergency, Rehabilitation and Development. Lastly, the Livelihood Sustainable Framework ensures integrated programming for a holistic response to the needs.

According to the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, resilience of a community in respect to potential hazardous events is determined by the degree to which the community has the necessary resources and is capable of organising itself both prior to and during times of need. The Horn of Africa and Yemen programme has designed its Resilience Programming Model (RPM) based on approaches, concepts and frameworks that respond effectively to people's needs from individual, household, community, national and regional level.

The main objective of the resilience model is to enhance the capacities of vulnerable communities in the region to resist and recover from cyclical shocks and stresses of conflict, environmental and economic crises and to improve their resilience. The RPM represents a flexible and innovative methodology that supports grassroots initiatives in sectors covering livelihood, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) using a community driven approach.

Unlike traditional approaches to disaster management, the approach of Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD) breaks away from the norm and responds to immediate life-saving necessities of households as well as long-term recovery needs at the same time. The approach is being implemented in Somalia and Yemen, where different vulnerable groups have needs that cut across relief, recovery and development.

The implementation of NRC's Resilience Programming Model prioritises community consultation to understanding their livelihood systems, needs, history including shocks and mitigation strategies and risk landscapes, early warning systems and response mechanisms. Response implementation is based on outputs from community consultation and aim at

maximising the available resources within projects and communities in order to respond effectively to the needs. The resilience model also incorporates learning and knowledge aiming at understanding how to respond to emergencies and ways to increase the knowledge base of NRC on resilience programming to better assist targeted communities.

NRC is supporting social protection mechanisms through programmes that target vulnerable populations and aim to address both the immediate and medium to long-term needs, through a combination of livelihood recovery approaches that include the use of Cash Transfer Programming for food access improvement and livelihood asset creation and training to build response capacity among vulnerable populations.

In Somalia's South and Central Region, NRC successfully launched a 4-year resilience programme, funded by DfID, known as "Building Resilient Communities in Somalia (BRCiS)" along with four partners. Lessons learnt from this project will serve as future reference point for resilience programming among disaster-affected populations in Africa and the rest of the world. In 2014, NRC will pilot a three-year integrated recovery programme supporting populations affected by conflict in the north and south of Yemen.



Photo: NRC/Mashon Tado

# NRC AND PARTNERS

## African Union

The Norwegian Refugee Council signed a partnership agreement with the African Union (AU) in 2013 in efforts to increase interventions in conflict-affected areas in Africa and promote distribution of humanitarian aid. During the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding held in February 2013, NRC was represented by Toril Brekke, the Acting Secretary General at the time.

The partnership makes NRC the first Norwegian organisation to have this type of strategic partnership with the African Union. This also marks a milestone for the organisation as a great asset in enhancing access to displaced persons in complex humanitarian situations in the AU member States and other areas in Africa where the AU has direct or secondary access. This will also help NRC to share information on IDPs and refugees and promote programme security and advocacy.

Together, the AU and NRC demonstrated their commitment to gather evidence and develop practical tools to guide effective programming based on principles and standards laid out in the Kampala Convention for the

**“The partnership marks a milestone for NRC and serves as a great asset in enhancing access to displaced persons in complex humanitarian situations”**

protection of internally displaced persons. In addition, NRC and AU agreed to work together to strengthen the rights of displaced populations in AU member States, including supporting the implementation of the Kampala Convention.

## Intergovernmental Authority on Development

A formal process aimed at building alliances between NRC and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) was initiated in 2013. This partnership will enhance resilience to disasters among vulnerable communities in the Horn of Africa by providing robust livelihoods and early warnings when hazards such as droughts threaten them.

## United Nations and humanitarian partners

NORCAP is a standby roster operated by the Emergency Response Department of the Norwegian Refugee Council with a mandate to strengthen the United Nations (UN) and other international mechanisms through the rapid deployment of professional and experienced personnel.

Altogether, 23 experts were deployed to Somalia and border areas in Ethiopia and Kenya in 2013 – as well as to Somalia

offices based in Nairobi – where they supported protection, coordination and education activities of eight different UN agencies. Given the Horn’s susceptibility to droughts, NORCAP has prioritised supporting disaster risk reduction efforts in the region.

NORCAP has partner agreements with 13 UN organisations and has begun developing an agreement with United Nations Environmental Programme in line with the increased focus on disaster risk reduction. NRC also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the World Health Organisation in April 2013 covering the next five years, with a focus on support to the Health Cluster.



Left to right: Dr. Aisha Abdullahi, African Union Commissioner for Political Affairs, Ms. Toril Brekke, NRC Acting Secretary General, H.E Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mr. Hassan Khaire, NRC Regional Director for Horn of Africa and Yemen.

Photo: NRC/Christian Jepsen



*Secretary General of NRC, Jan Egeland and H.E. Eng. Mahboub Maalim, the Executive Secretary of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) signing a Memorandum of Understanding.*



*NRC conducted inter-agency field missions to Zona-K in Mogadishu supporting site planning for the settlement.*

Photo: NRC/Mustafa Abubakar

## **Intergovernmental Authority on Development**

A formal process aimed at building alliances between NRC and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) was initiated in 2013, leading to the signing of a partnership agreement. The Executive Secretary of IGAD, H.E. Eng. Mahboub Maalim, and Secretary General of NRC, Jan Egeland, signed the Memorandum of Understanding in Djibouti.

The population on the Horn of Africa is faced with a host of challenges, such as droughts, conflicts, climate change, poor social services and limited government capacities. These issues have made communities increasingly vulnerable. NRC has 1,700 relief workers, operating in all the member countries of IGAD.

NRC and IGAD formalised their efforts to address these causes of vulnerability among displaced people in order to link relief to long-term development and resilience among vulnerable communities. NRC and IGAD will work together making vulnerable communities in the Horn of Africa more resilient to disasters by promoting robust livelihoods and early warnings when hazards such as droughts and storms threaten them.

# OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS 2013

LOCATION	OPERATIONAL DETAILS	ITEMS PROVIDED	PEOPLE REACHED
<b>ASSOSA</b>	Learners enrolled in NRC supported schools	-	60
	Beneficiaries of income-generating assistance	-	1,018
	Shelters for families		11,134
	Teachers trained	-	34
<b>DOLO ADO</b>	Shelters for families	2,000	10,000
	Students enrolled in NRC supported schools	-	2,240
	Teachers trained	-	105
<b>SHIRE</b>	Shelters for families	935	4,675
	Classrooms constructed	2	90
	Latrines constructed	624	3,120
	Sanitation and hygiene kits distributed	1,352	6,760
	Teachers trained	-	21
<b>DADAAB</b>	Shelters for families	762	3,810
	Latrines constructed or rehabilitated	1,768	8,840
	Teachers trained	-	32
	Classrooms constructed or rehabilitated	10	450
	Non-food item kits distributed	-	23,931
	People reached with emergency food rations	-	158,496
	People reached with water supply	-	157,226
	Learners enrolled in NRC supported schools	-	3,181
<b>BORABU</b>	Shelters for families	50	250
<b>KAKUMA</b>	Latrines constructed	3,293	16,465
	People reached with emergency food ration	-	18,202
	People reached with hygiene promotion training	-	177
	People reached with non-food item kits	-	1,812
	Energy saving stoves distributed	5,017	25,085
<b>PUNTLAND</b>	Shelters for families	3,137	18,822
	Classrooms constructed	3	135
	Students enrolled in NRC supported schools	-	2,580
	Latrines constructed	388	2,328
	Sanitation or hygiene NFI kits	1,921	11,526





LOCATION	OPERATIONAL DETAILS	ITEMS PROVIDED	PEOPLE REACHED
	People reached with NFI kits	-	10,783
	Girls enrolled who finished grade eight	-	1,605
	People who received income-generating assistance	-	1,150
	Teachers trained	-	302
	People reached with counselling	-	39
<b>SOMALILAND</b>	Shelters for families	1,960	11,760
	Classrooms constructed	46	2,070
	Students enrolled in NRC supported schools	-	4,029
	Teachers trained	-	247
	Latrines constructed	778	4,668
	Hygiene and sanitation kits distributed	9,240	55,440
	Non-food item kits distributed	-	37,791
	People receiving income-generating assistance	-	7,314
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	Shelters for families	5,623	33,738
	Students enrolled in NRC-supported schools	-	1,690
	Latrines constructed	1,443	8,658
	People reached with non-food item kits	-	24,671
	Teachers trained	-	189
	Households supported to return home	65	390
	People reached with sanitation and hygiene kits	53,684	322,104
<b>DJIBOUTI</b>	Latrines constructed	150	706
	Shelter kits distributed	300	1,683
	Non-food item kits distributed	620	3,291
	Hygiene kits distributed	2,775	4,405
<b>YEMEN</b>	Shelter for families	2,280	13,536
	Latrines constructed	554	5,540
	People reached with hygiene promotion	-	41,094
	Learners enrolled in NRC supported schools	-	450
	People reached with nutrition and livelihood assistance	-	1,200
	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</b>		<b>1,093,148</b>

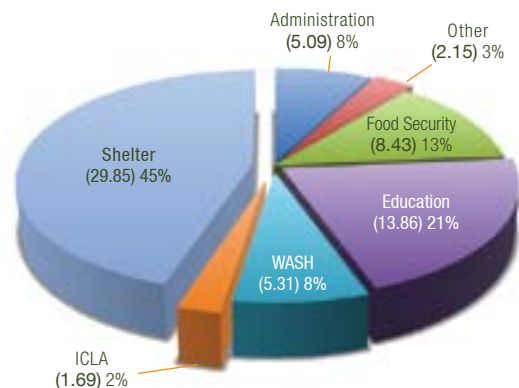
\* Beneficiaries are registered according to the different services received; those who received assistance in more than one sector have been counted twice e.g. shelter and education

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

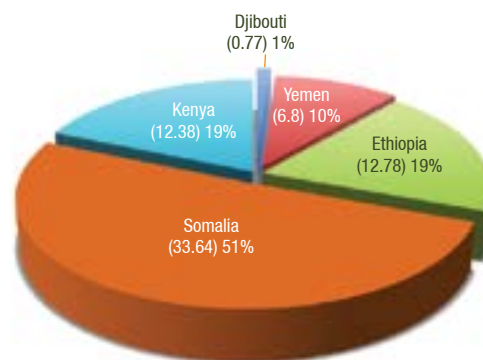
NRC was able to secure a total funding of 66.37 million US Dollars in 2013 for the Horn of Africa and Yemen. The overall financial situation in the region remained optimistic as NRC continued to proactively engage with its strategic as well as non-traditional donors, by strengthening partnerships and increasing engagement along longer-term programming. The focus was on quality, accountability, innovative programming and improved information sharing with donors. NRC continued to enjoy a strong position within the region in terms of programming in the midst of changing environments particularly in Somalia, Kenya and Yemen, calling for innovation to ensure continuity in accessing funding. While big donations provided opportunities to reach more beneficiaries, smaller donations played a critical role in supporting innovative projects, pilots and filling specific gaps. The lack of donor prioritisation for Djibouti has obliged the regional programme to become more proactive in fundraising and seeking opportunities.

The main finance priorities for 2014 will concentrate on rolling out new accountability tools, including Electronic Budget Proposal Overview, Electronic Budget Monitoring System and Agresso. Additionally, internal audits, capacity building and training, revision of finance handbooks and enhancing self-sufficiency within country offices remain areas of primary concern. Other priorities include increasing engagement with strategic partners including United Nations High Commission for Refugees and other UN agencies, further strengthening partnerships with donors and widening the scope to include possibilities of corporate funding opportunities.

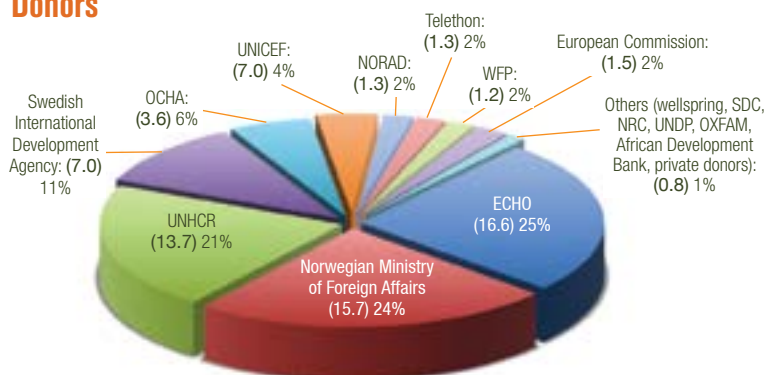
## Core Competencies



## Countries



## Donors



## Funding (in million USD)

COUNTRY	2012	2013
SOMALIA	27.48	33.64
KENYA	12.44	12.38
ETHIOPIA	10.15	12.78
YEMEN	2.38	6.80
DJIBOUTI	-	0.77
TOTAL	52.45	66.37





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